

Welfare Awareness Topic: Feeling Safe on Campus

Overview – For students to succeed they need to feel safe, healthy, and part of a tolerant and inclusive academic community, and at BPP we want to create an inclusive campus where diversity is celebrated and where Everybody Matters. As a community that is Stronger Together, we must stand together against behaviours that go against our core values of trust and respect, and we want you to speak up if you hear or see something that's not right.

Keeping yourself Safe: Notice when things make you feel uncomfortable and speak out. If you do feel uncomfortable – leave or distance yourself from the situation you are in- your safety is the most important, and you are always within your rights to leave a situation in which you feel unsafe. Reach out if you are worried- discuss with friends, talk to the in-centre customer service team or your tutors, and contact Safeguarding or Learning support.

Keeping others Safe: Be an active bystander- this means being aware of when someone's behaviour is inappropriate and challenging it- signalling to the perpetrator that their behaviour is unacceptable. Safely intervening could mean anything from a disapproving look, interrupting or distracting someone, not laughing at a sexist or a violent joke, talking to a friend about their behaviour in a non-confrontational way, or caring for a friend who's experienced problematic behaviour.

How You Can Intervene Safely:

- **Direct action:** Call out negative behaviour, tell the person to stop or ask the victim if they are OK. Don't aggravate the situation - remain calm and state why something has offended you.
- **Distract:** Indirectly intervene- interrupt, start a conversation with the perpetrator to allow their potential target to move away or have friends intervene. Try distracting or redirecting the situation.
- **Delegate:** If you don't feel safe to speak out, get someone else to step in.
- **Delay:** Wait for the situation to pass, then check in. Act later when you have had time to consider.

If you do not feel comfortable doing this directly, get someone to help you- like a friend, a member of staff, or someone in authority. **Only intervene when it is safe for you to do so, and if it's not; intervene later and get help. In an emergency, call 999.** If you have concerns about your safety or are a victim of crime, don't hesitate to reach out- you will be believed, and you will be taken seriously.

Article/Source

- [Breaking the Silence](#) has more information, advice, and resources on being an Active Bystander.
- [SARI](#) (Stand Against Racism and Inequality) supports victims of any type of hate crime including racist, faith-based, disablist, homophobic, transphobic, age-based or gender-based.
- [Tell MAMA](#) is a secure service that allows people to report any form of Anti-Muslim abuse.
- Visit [Citizens Advice](#) for more information about harassment, discrimination, and steps to take.
- [Galop](#) have support and helplines for anyone in the UK who is LGBT+ and has experienced domestic abuse or hate crime. [The Proud Trust](#) have resources for LGBT+ young people, and advice on staying safe.

Support

If you would like to talk to the safeguarding team about anything you have just read, we will listen without judgement and signpost you to support. If you would like to talk to a member of the Safeguarding Team then please get in touch: safeguarding@bpp.com