

# ITS NOT OK.

## R.E.A.C.H

The R.E.A.C.H. centre ([www.reachsarc.org.uk/](http://www.reachsarc.org.uk/)) helps women and men aged 16 or over who have been raped or sexually assaulted. The centres are staffed by women who are experienced in dealing with the effects of rape and sexual assault. They are happy to help you whether or not you wish to contact the police. If you do decide to report the assault, they can help you do that and act as a contact for you.

## Student Wellbeing

If you would like to access therapy to help you think about the impact that the assault has had on you please contact the Student Wellbeing Service here: ([www.ncl.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/support](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/support)) Please note this service is confidential.

## Report Anonymously

You can just let us know that this has happened. What this means is that we can't respond to you or take it further. What we can do however is collect information from what has happened and from other students, and have this anonymously on our records and future campaigns can come from this to raise awareness. We can also pass it onto the police so that they are aware of any patterns that are occurring e.g. if a number of incidents are happening in the same venue. (link to anonymous form)

## Students' Union Complaint

We would recommend this option for sexual harassment where the incident relates to any Students' Union activity. This would include sports teams, societies, or an event in the Students' Union. (link to complaints procedure at NUSU)

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## Speak to the Welfare and Equality Officer

The Welfare and Equality Officer ([welfare.union@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:welfare.union@ncl.ac.uk)) can talk through the different options with you to help you make your decision if you feel this would be helpful. However, they are not able to give advice; their role is to signpost you in the right direction.

Please note if a serious criminal incident has occurred, they may need to pass that information onto the police. If you wish to be assured of full confidentiality we would recommend R.E.A.C.H as the best option.

## Student Advice Centre

The Student Advice Centre staff ([www.nusu.co.uk/welfare/sac](http://www.nusu.co.uk/welfare/sac)) can also talk through the different options with you, and signpost you in the same way that the Welfare and Equality Officer can.

## Security

Security staff are available 24 hours a day and are your first port of call between the hours of 5pm and 9am weekdays; and 24 hours at weekends. If you are worried about yourself or another student and need some assistance ring security and they will be able to advise you. This would include if you are worried about a fellow students physical or mental health.

They can be contacted on 0191 208 6817 or via e-mail at [security.control@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:security.control@ncl.ac.uk). The location of security is in the ground floor of Barras Building which is staffed 24 hours, 7 days a week, every day of the year (to see location go to [www.ncl.ac.uk/documents/Campus-Map-Print.pdf](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/documents/Campus-Map-Print.pdf))

# ITS NOT OK.

Report and support relating to sexual harassment

# ITS NOT OK.

At Newcastle University and the Students' Union we know that sexual harassment is never OK.

We all have the same right to enjoy our time at university - both students and staff.

**IT'S NOT OK** for anyone to make you feel harassed in any way, which is why we have a Zero Tolerance to Sexual Harassment Policy here at NUSU.

Sexual harassment can include unwanted groping, pinching or smacking of your body, uninvited kisses or bodily contact - but it isn't just physical. Other examples of sexual harassment include wolfwhistling and catcalling, inappropriate sexual comments, and sexually-based insults, jokes, songs or taunts. It can be emotional, verbal, suggestive...anything that makes someone feel uncomfortable.

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## It's certainly not a 'compliment'

It can happen on campus, in your halls, in bars or nightclubs, on public transport or online in Facebook groups or on Twitter. It can be someone you know well or it could be from somebody completely anonymous.

Sexual harassment stems from the belief of some people that they can do or say to someone something which they do not have permission to do, and which disempowers their target.

To use an example, touching someone's bum as they head to the bar for a drink is a statement by the perpetrator that they feel they have a right to touch someone's body without permission.

It is also designed to embarrass the victim and make them feel uncomfortable. It disempowers them.

## IT'S NOT OK.

The University and the Students' Union take all forms of sexual harassment very seriously. You never have to put up with this and there's always someone to talk to - please see the following ways to report or to get support.

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## Student Progress

If the person involved is another student, you could consider taking a complaint against them via the formal university complaints procedure. ([www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/SPS/complaints](http://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/progress/Regulations/SPS/complaints))

If you decide to report the issue to the Student Progress Service, the university will follow disciplinary procedures to explore the issue. This would involve an investigation of the evidence with the alleged perpetrator.

## Speak to the Police

We have a Campus Police Officer called Mo Khan and he has a drop in service at the Student Advice Centre (SAC) at the Students' Union on Tuesdays 12-2pm and at Kings Gate on Thursdays at 12-2pm.

Mo can explain to you what happens if you report this as a crime and can take your information forward from a criminal perspective.

If it is a serious incident we would strongly encourage you to contact the police or R.E.A.C.H.

You also need to be aware that Mo, as a policeman, may decide to take action against a perpetrator against your will, if there is judgement made that others in society may be at risk from the alleged perpetrator.

the police so that they are aware of any patterns that are occurring e.g. if a number of incidents are happening in the same venue. ([link to anonymous form](#))