



## Health and Safety Policy Statement

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work, etc., Act, 1974, it is the policy of the University Court of the University of Edinburgh to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health and safety while at work of all employees and students and the safety of authorised visitors and members of the public entering the precincts of the University. The successful implementation of this policy requires the full support and active co-operation of all employees and students of the University.

Guidance on specific matters relating to health and safety at work is published in the University of Edinburgh Health and Safety Policy, 2010. It is the duty of all employees and students to observe those parts of the Health and Safety Policy that are relevant to their own work and to take account of the guidance on health and safety therein.

It is the University Court's Policy, so far as is reasonably practicable:

1. to provide and maintain plant and equipment and systems of work that are safe and without risks to health;
2. to make arrangements for ensuring safety and absence of risks to health in connection with the use, handling, storage and transport of articles and substances;
3. to provide such information, instruction, training and supervision as is necessary to ensure the health and safety at work of employees, students and visitors;
4. to maintain any place of work under the University's control in a condition that is safe and without risks to health and to provide and maintain means of access to and egress from it that are safe and without such risks;
5. to provide and maintain a working environment for employees and students that is safe and without risks to health and is adequate as regards facilities and arrangements for their welfare at work;
6. to provide such protective equipment as is necessary for the health and safety at work of employees and students;
7. to encourage staff to set high standards of health and safety by personal example, in order that students leaving the University should take with them an attitude of mind which accepts good health and safety practice as normal;
8. to monitor the effectiveness of health and safety provisions within the University, in consultation with the appointed Trade Union Safety Representatives, if any;
9. to keep the University Health and Safety Policy under regular review and to duly publish any amendments.

It is equally a duty under the Health and Safety at Work, etc., Act, 1974, for everyone engaged in University activities to exercise responsibility and care in the prevention of injury and ill health to themselves and to others who may be affected by acts and omissions at work. Those who supervise work in laboratories, workshops, practical classrooms and elsewhere, at whatever level, have special obligations to ensure that they do not endanger the health and safety of students, technical staff, cleaners and other colleagues.

No person shall intentionally interfere with, or misuse anything provided by the University in the interests of health, safety or welfare.

Individuals are required to comply with any rules or requirements made under the authority of this Policy.

Government legislation and Approved Codes of Practice in many cases establish the minimum standards for health and safety at work. However, the University recognises that these standards would be best maintained, developed and improved in consultation with persons providing professional, technical and medical advice to the University. Hence, every encouragement will be given to schools to formulate local health and safety policies specific to their needs.

For and on behalf of the University Court  
Director of Corporate Services

## **Review**

This Policy/document produced by the Health and Safety Department in September 2010. A copy of the University Health and Safety Policy can be obtained from your Departmental Office. The Health and Safety Policy (which is published in eight parts) is a detailed guide to health and safety policies and practices in the University and is applicable to all staff, students and visitors.

November 2011

## **Alternative Format**

If you require this document in an alternative format please contact [UHRS@ed.ac.uk](mailto:UHRS@ed.ac.uk) or telephone 0131 650 8127.