



office of the
independent
adjudicator

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Public interest cases

The OIA has published a number of case examples showing how different universities have handled complaints and academic appeals from students relating to two issues.

Nine of the cases highlight practice in investigating and following up cases of suspected plagiarism and academic misconduct. This is an area of growing concern in the sector. A further 13 cases look at the responsibilities of students and universities in relation to reasonable adjustments for disability or ill-health.

The selected cases set out expectations on both students and universities. The cases are from 22 universities in England and Wales and demonstrate points of wider public interest to universities, students and the higher education sector.

Commenting on publication, the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education, Rob Behrens, said:

“An important part of the OIA’s mission is to encourage the sharing of good practice. The examples published today are illustrative of wider issues that occur across the sector . Publication can help both universities and students identify factors that the OIA will take into account in reviewing cases. By making this information more widely available the OIA aims to build confidence in the way universities and the OIA deal with complaints. The case examples can also assist in clarifying expectations of students, including the importance of seeking support at the appropriate time.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1. The published cases are from Birkbeck College, University of London, Cardiff Metropolitan University, City University, Cranfield University, London Metropolitan University, London South Bank University, Loughborough University, Oxford Brookes University, Queen Mary University London, University College London, University of Bedfordshire, University of Bristol, Falmouth University, University of Leeds, University of Liverpool , University of Northumbria, The University of Manchester, University of Oxford, University of Salford, University of Wales Trinity St David and Liverpool John Moores University
2. For further information please contact Jane Clarkson, Policy and Communications Manager, by emailing jane.clarkson@oiahe.org.uk or by phone on 0118 959 9813.