

## Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program Certification

In common with UK Law, Queen Margaret University does not tolerate drug abuse.

Queen Margaret University enforces drug and alcohol and smoking policies consistent with UK law and will notify any infringement to the appropriate national and local law enforcement agencies.

The UK police have powers to arrest and test anyone they have reason to believe may be under the influence of drugs. Similarly breath testing for alcohol is mandatory for everyone involved in a road traffic accident.

UK schools are fortunate that the National Health Service, with which students will enroll as part of their normal health, promotes and offers information, advice and help specifically for students which can be seen at

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/studenthealth/Pages/Smoking,alcoholanddrugs.aspx>

### Drugs

The legal sanctions for possession and supply of non-prescription, sometimes called recreational, drugs are

<i>Drug class</i>	<i>Possession</i>	<i>Supply</i>
<i>Class A</i>	<i>7 years + fine</i>	<i>Life + fine</i>
<i>Class B</i>	<i>5 years + fine</i>	<i>14 years + fine</i>
<i>Class C</i>	<i>2 years + fine</i>	<i>14 years + fine</i>

The legal penalties can be severe and the university will not look kindly on anyone arrested for drug possession which includes a ban from campus, especially where young or vulnerable persons may have access, and being barred from professional qualifications and dropped from other courses.

Queen Margaret University is aware of the detriment to an individual's health, finances and future which is caused by drug and alcohol and tobacco misuse and dependency. Queen Margaret University's own health service works as part of the National Health Service to support encourage and addicts to recover.

Queen Margaret University advises students to learn about various drugs and their effects using the NHS offers advice and even downloadable apps at

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/drugs/Pages/Drugshome.aspx>

and <http://www.drugscope.org.uk/resources/information-service>

This same site allows students and staff to seek help, which can be anonymously using both web and freephone.

Posters in health and social areas of Queen Margaret University advise students of the dangers of drugs and direct students to NHS support and, local support agencies – all of which are free and offer anonymity.

### Alcohol

The sale and consumption of alcohol, on or off campus, is governed by UK law which sets out four licensing objectives

- ◆ the prevention of crime and disorder,

- ◆ public safety,
- ◆ prevention of public nuisance, and
- ◆ the protection of children from harm.

A bar, pub, restaurant or shop, whether on or off campus

- ◆ may refuse to sell alcohol to anyone who is, or appears to be, under 18 years old
- ◆ must refuse to sell alcohol to anyone who is, or appears to be, already intoxicated

It is a criminal offence both on and off campus

- ◆ to buy or attempt to buy alcohol by or for anyone under 18 year old.
- ◆ To knowingly obtain or attempt to obtain alcohol for consumption on those premises by a person who is drunk. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.
- ◆ for a drunk or disorderly person, without reasonable excuse, to fail to leave relevant premises when requested to do so by a constable or a person to whom s 143(2) applies, or to enter or attempt to enter such premises after that person has requested him not to do so [Stone's 8-19829Y].
- ◆ to behave in a disorderly manner in a public place whilst being drunk. Any person found guilty shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

The UK National Health Service offers practical guidance on safe and unhealthy drinking at <http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/alcohol/Pages/Alcoholhome.aspx>

## Smoking

Queen Margaret University is governed by UK law. It is a criminal offence to

- ◆ to sell cigarettes, tobacco or cigarette papers to anyone under 18,
- ◆ to buy, or attempt to buy cigarettes, tobacco or cigarette papers for anyone under 18,
- ◆ smoke in any enclosed place, public building or on public transport or workplace in the UK.

The UK government is committed to reducing smoking and The National Health Service offers help and support to those who wish to quit smoking.

For information and help about giving up smoking, go to <https://quitnow.smokefree.nhs.uk/>

## Enrolment warning

At enrolment, or immediately afterwards, all loan students will be sent the following at their QMU email address which they are required to use.

*“Queen Margaret University enforces drug policies consistent with UK law and will notify any infringement to the appropriate national and local law enforcement agencies. The penalties in the UK for the possession or supply of drugs are*

Drug class	Possession	Supply
Class A	7 years + fine	Life + fine
Class B	5 years + fine	14 years + fine

Class C	2 years + fine	14 years + fine
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*Furthermore, if you are convicted of a drug related offence you will cease to be eligible for federal student aid for the rest of this, and for all future years unless and until you complete an acceptable drug rehabilitation program and/ pass two unannounced drug tests administered by an acceptable drug rehabilitation program. Such a programme and testing does not exist in the UK. You would therefore be unfunded for the continuance and completion of your degree course and would need to return to the USA where such a rehabilitation programme may be found.”*

*To learn more about possible loss of loan eligibility and rehabilitation, go to*

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2014-15-student-aid-eligibility-drug-worksheet.pdf>