

QA34

No Detriment Policy: Emergency Measures

Classification – *Internal*

DECEMBER 2025



Introduction

A 'no detriment' policy seeks to mitigate against the impact of a set of circumstances, by enabling the University to address situations that could negatively impact individuals or groups of students learning and assessment.

Academic Board is responsible for the implementation of the No Detriment Policy: Emergency Measures when circumstances beyond the University's reasonable control require exceptions and additions to be made to the University's standard Regulations. They are applicable to all University students including those based at Partner Colleges and apprentices. Academic Board will confirm the date when the No Detriment Policy: Emergency Measures will come into effect, and when the period of implementation ends.

About this policy

The 'no detriment' approach is in place for the Subject and Progression and Award Boards to use whenever there is disruption to studies that is unavoidable and significant. Broadly, this means we consider the following points when we make decisions on student academic status:

- when the event(s) happened in relation to when/how students were being taught or assessed
- the effect the event had on a student(s)' ability to study for, or take, an assessment
- any mitigations that were available for students
- any impact on the mark received in the assessment.

We then act to remove negative impacts on the student(s) and ensure they receive their grade, are awarded credit, are provided further opportunities to be assessed and their overall degree progresses fairly whilst maintaining our academic standards and securing the value of the qualifications.

Definitions

Examples of emergency circumstances or crises which may require implementation of the No Detriment Policy: Emergency Measures include:

- University and/or other IT and systems failure and/or downtime
- widespread industrial action
- political and/or civil unrest

- an unforeseeable, extraordinary event which encompasses natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods
- pandemics of infectious diseases such as COVID 19

Principles

In such circumstances the University will take reasonable action to ensure final awards and confirmation of progressing and continuing student status are expedited, whilst maintaining the academic standards and integrity of its awards.

The *No Detriment Policy - Emergency Measures* provides reassurance that where students' academic performance has been negatively impacted by circumstances beyond the University's control, measures are in place to provide mitigation.

The University will support our student body to be successful in their studies during a period of uncertainty by:

- ensuring they have the best opportunity to undertake and gain appropriate learning in their modules and programme.
- ensuring they have the best opportunity for their attainment to be accurately reflected.
- fairness and transparency of process for all students.
- an awareness of the challenging conditions they may be facing at any time and support to mitigate against these.
- providing as much flexibility as possible whilst maintaining degree integrity and the long-term value of each degree.

The University will give due consideration to any specific requirements of Professional, Statutory & Regulatory Bodies (PSRB) when applying any migrations and communicate with individual PSRBs where appropriate.

Oversight and management

When the No Detriment: Emergency Measures policy is to be enforced, Academic Board will receive and approve a full proposal which will define the circumstances arising, the migrations to be applied and a communication plan for students and staff and where appropriate, External Examiners.

The communication plan will be considered and agreed by the University’s Communications Group which will outline the situation and provide clear instructions for staff and students on the mitigations agreed and for the defined period of time.

The oversight of students identified and placed under these emergency measures will be the responsibility of the University’s Students, Quality and Standards Committee working with Faculties and Schools to monitor student progress through the defined situation.

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