

The use of University Facilities and Rooms for Worship, Celebration or Meditation Policy Statement and Principles

The University of Cambridge is committed in its pursuit of academic excellence to equality of opportunity and to a proactive and inclusive approach to equality, which supports and encourages all under-represented groups, promotes an inclusive culture, and values diversity. The commitment applies to all protected groups and is underpinned by the University's Equal Opportunities Policy and Combined Equality Scheme (CES).

A number of rooms are made available by the University for its students, staff and authorised visitors with the primary purpose of providing a safe, clean and inclusive place for worship, celebration or meditation. No particular group has an exclusive right to use such a room or facility at any time and all users have an equal right to access the facilities.

All users also have the right to raise concerns regarding a room and its use; through Estates Facilities for centrally managed rooms/facilities, or Administration Offices for Departmental accommodation.

The rooms can be used to offer the provision of spiritual and pastoral support by the University Chaplaincy team. Such use will be for staff and students of all faiths and none.

The use of these room and facilities is subject to the principles set out below:

- The facilities, being University buildings, are subject to the same regulations and constraints as any other University building. The use of rooms must be lawful.
- Misuse of any facility by a student or member of staff could lead to disciplinary action.
- Misuse or damage of the facilities may result in a ban from using them.
- No University building is child-proofed. Responsible adults must accompany children at all times if bringing them into any rooms or facilities.
- All users of rooms and facilities must leave them in their original layout and in a clean and tidy condition so that they can be used immediately by others.
- Notices and posters must be placed only on the designated notice boards. If any notices, posters or leaflets left on the premises are in a language other than English, there should also be a translation available in English to ensure that everyone is able to access the information.
- Overnight stays or sleepovers are not permitted unless express permission is given by the University.
- External speakers should be authorised to speak in accordance with the University Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech.
- University staff involved in the safety, maintenance and security of the University estate, are to be allowed access to enable them to carry out their responsibilities. Such staff should be sensitive to the users of the facilities and give notice of events/works whenever possible.
- If users have concerns with regard to any facility, they should contact the person/s designated as the contact for the facility or the premises.

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