



## Student Code of Conduct - St Anselm's College, Cambridge

### 1. Introduction and Scope

St Anselm's College is founded upon the values of intellectual honesty, mutual respect, and moral seriousness. As a constituent institution operating within the broader academic culture of the United Kingdom, the College adopts a Student Code of Conduct consistent with national expectations established by Universities UK (UUK), the Office for Students (OfS), the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA), and the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA). The Code sets out the standards of behaviour expected of all students and serves as a framework for sustaining a safe, inclusive, and scholarly community.

The Code applies to all students enrolled in programmes of the College, whether undergraduate or postgraduate, full-time or part-time, resident or non-resident. It governs behaviour on College property, within College accommodation, during academic activities, in digital spaces, and when representing the College externally. Students are expected to observe the Code in all circumstances where their conduct may reasonably be interpreted as reflecting upon the College.

The Code is not designed to be punitive, but corrective and educational. Its purpose is to support the moral and intellectual growth of students, ensuring that rights and responsibilities are balanced, and that all members of the community are treated with dignity. The College reserves the right to revise this Code periodically to meet evolving regulatory expectations and best practice.

### 2. Core Principles

#### **Respect for Persons**

Students must treat all members of the College community—staff, peers, visitors, and members of the public—with courtesy, dignity, and consideration. Bullying, harassment, threatening behaviour, discrimination, and abuse—whether direct, online, implied, or by omission—are strictly prohibited.

#### **Academic Integrity**

Honesty in academic work is essential to the College's mission. Students must not engage in plagiarism, collusion, impersonation, data fabrication, breach of examination rules, or any act that undermines academic standards.

### **Responsibility and Self-Governance**

Students are expected to conduct themselves with maturity and self-discipline. This includes respecting the rights of others to study peacefully, the quiet hours within accommodation, and the maintenance of a safe physical and digital environment.

### **Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion**

The College is committed to fostering an environment free from discrimination based on protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. All students must actively support the dignity and rights of others.

### **Safety and Welfare**

Students must refrain from any behaviour that endangers themselves or others, including reckless actions, misuse of substances, unsafe operation of equipment, and disregard of health and safety guidance.

## **3. Academic Conduct**

Students must engage conscientiously with their academic obligations. This includes attending required teaching sessions, submitting work on time, preparing adequately for tutorials or supervisions, and responding promptly to official communications.

Students must follow all examination regulations, including identity confirmation, prohibited materials, and behaviour in the examination room. Breaches will be investigated under the Academic Misconduct Procedure and may lead to annulment of results or termination of studies.

All submitted work must be the student's own, except where group work is explicitly authorised. Ideas, quotations, and data must be correctly referenced. AI-assisted work must conform to the College's AI Use Policy; undeclared or prohibited AI use constitutes academic misconduct.

Students engaged in research must follow ethical approval processes, protect participant confidentiality, report data truthfully, and maintain secure storage of research materials. Misconduct in research is treated with the utmost seriousness.

## **4. Behaviour and Respect Toward Others**

### **Harassment, Bullying, and Hate Speech**

Any behaviour that demeans, intimidates, or targets an individual or group is prohibited. This includes verbal, written, physical, and online forms, and covers discriminatory behaviour based on race, gender, disability, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, age, or any protected characteristic.

### **Sexual Misconduct**

Sexual misconduct—including unwanted sexual advances, coercion, sexual harassment, non-consensual behaviour, or violation of boundaries—is strictly prohibited. The College

follows national sector guidance for handling such cases and ensures trauma-informed procedures.

### **Digital Conduct**

Students must behave responsibly online. Misuse of College networks, cyber-bullying, sharing of harmful or illegal content, unauthorised recording of others, or breaches of privacy will be treated equivalently to in-person misconduct.

### **Public Conduct**

Students representing the College externally (e.g., conferences, placements, public events) must uphold professional standards of decorum. Behaviour that damages the reputation of the College may fall within disciplinary procedures.

## **5. Health, Safety, and Substance Use**

### **General Safety Obligations**

Students must follow safety instructions, fire regulations, laboratory protocols, and emergency procedures. Interference with safety equipment (alarms, extinguishers, access controls) is a serious offence.

### **Alcohol and Controlled Substances**

Moderate, lawful consumption of alcohol is permitted where College policy allows. Excessive drinking, disruptive behaviour, or endangering oneself or others is unacceptable. Possession, use, or distribution of illegal substances is prohibited and may involve external authorities.

### **Mental Health and Support**

Students are encouraged to access welfare services when struggling. Seeking help is never penalised. However, behaviour that endangers the wellbeing of others may be managed through safeguarding procedures.

## **6. Use of College Property and Facilities**

### **Library and Academic Facilities**

Students must respect borrowing regulations, preserve materials, and maintain a quiet environment conducive to study. Damage or theft of library items may incur charges or disciplinary action.

### **Accommodation and Communal Areas**

Students must maintain their living spaces and common areas in a clean, safe, and respectful manner. Noise regulations apply, especially during quiet hours. Tampering with fixtures, equipment, or security systems is forbidden.

### **Digital Resources**

College IT systems must be used responsibly. Unauthorised access, file-sharing, distribution of copyrighted material, attempts to breach security systems, or interference with networks will be treated as misconduct.

### **College Property**

Students must not remove, damage, or misuse College property. Any damage caused by negligence or misconduct may result in charges, fines, or disciplinary action.

## **7. Attendance, Engagement, and Fitness to Study**

### **Attendance Requirements**

Certain programmes or modules may require mandatory attendance. Failure to attend may affect academic standing or visa compliance (for international students).

### **Engagement Expectations**

Students must demonstrate active engagement with academic and pastoral processes, including responding to communications and participating in scheduled evaluations or meetings.

### **Fitness to Study**

Where a student's wellbeing raises concerns about participation in the academic community, the College may invoke "Fitness to Study" procedures, aimed at providing support while ensuring safety and academic continuity.

## **8. Misconduct: Definitions and Procedures**

### **Definition of Misconduct**

Misconduct includes behaviour that breaches this Code or undermines the College's values. It may be academic, behavioural, digital, or criminal in nature.

### **Examples of Misconduct**

- Academic dishonesty
- Harassment, bullying, discrimination
- Violent or threatening behaviour
- Sexual misconduct
- Damage to property
- Theft or fraud
- Substance misuse
- Cyber-misconduct
- Disruption of College activities
- Refusal to comply with lawful instructions from staff

### **Disciplinary Procedure**

The College follows a transparent, fair disciplinary process in line with OIA Good Practice Framework. Students have the right to representation, evidence, and an appeal. Sanctions may include warnings, fines, restrictions, suspension, or expulsion, depending on severity.

### **Criminal Offences**

Where College regulations intersect with criminal law, the College may consult or involve external authorities but will continue to operate its own procedures according to fairness and safety.

## **9. Support, Representation, and Appeals**

### **Student Support**

Welfare officers, tutors, and counselling services are available to support students. Pastoral engagement is encouraged, and seeking help carries no penalty.

### **Representation**

Students may be accompanied in disciplinary or academic procedures by a union representative, adviser, or trusted person.

### **Appeal Rights**

Following most decisions, students may appeal on grounds of procedural irregularity, new evidence, or disproportionate sanction. Appeals follow published timelines and may ultimately be taken to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator.

## **10. Responsibilities in the Wider Community**

### **Civic Responsibility**

As members of an academic community historically embedded within the civic life of Cambridge, students must behave lawfully and courteously within the city and beyond. Anti-social behaviour may result in disciplinary action.

### **Representation of the College**

Students participating in external engagements must uphold the standards of professionalism expected of those representing a UK higher-education institution.

### **Online Presence**

Digital postings that bring the College into disrepute, encourage harm, or violate others' dignity may fall under the Code even when made off-campus.

## **11. Review and Amendment**

The College regularly reviews this Code to ensure its alignment with national standards and best practice. Amendments may be made to comply with new legislation, sector guidance, or institutional priorities. Students will be notified of significant changes, and updated versions will be made available in the Student Handbook and on the College website.