

UWCD Student Residential Code of Conduct

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Scope

The *UWCD Student Residential Code of Conduct* is intended to give students guidelines and directions to help them manage their lives in an informed, responsible and healthy way. This document is guided by the [college policies](#) that bear relevance to their well-being and safety while living in the premises. This CoC also applies to UWCD-organised trips outside the campus.

A Caring Lifestyle

We are here to learn from each other and care for ourselves and for each other by adopting and promoting healthy, positive, productive and inspiring lifestyles and behaviours. Our goals and actions are tuned to the core values of UWC to build a peaceful and sustainable future for ourselves and the generations to come. We can achieve them by committing to:

Caring for yourself by

- [Eating](#) healthily with a balanced diet and avoiding unhealthy food beyond special occasions.
- [Staying hydrated](#) by drinking enough water to maintain homeostasis.
- [Sleeping](#) 8-10 hours per 24 hours is the recommendation for teenagers.
- [Maintaining personal hygiene](#): showering, using appropriate hygiene products, washing and changing clothes and bed linens regularly.
- [Exercising](#): For some this will mean high-level sporting activities, but an active lifestyle can be achieved even with short walks etc.
- [Paying attention to one's personal safety](#) in and out of campus includes paying attention to one's surroundings, following instructions and signs where applicable, checking in on time and, when needed, calling the duty phones for help and the College Emergency Phone in case of an emergency.
- Promoting your own emotional wellbeing (learning coping skills by doing yoga, art, writing in a journal or going for a walk, being a [problem solver](#)).

Caring for each other by

- Building and sustaining relationships on trust, respecting each other and celebrating the diversity within the community.
- Respecting roommates, their privacy and property and appreciating small compromises to achieve amity and harmony.
- Helping anyone you notice struggling (academically, physically, emotionally, etc.), inviting them to ask for help or asking for help yourself if the other person may not be safe.
- Using the Common Rooms for socialising taking care of the facilities for a sustainable future for the generations to come.
- Using the kitchens and their facilities with care and in a sustainable way. Being responsible for cleaning after use, a good principle is to leave them better than they were before we used them.
- Using only the bathrooms in your own corridor or room and leaving them ready for the next person to use.
- Using your allocated Laundry Room (Mountainside or Riverside), removing your laundry from machines, dryers and/or drying racks as soon as possible, using the equipment in a sustainable manner without any misuse.
- Using the College property (including movable and immovable items) for their established purpose remembering that they belong to the community. Taking

responsibility for any damage so that it can be rectified and, in the case of negligent use, taking responsibility for the cost.

- Thinking always of how to become more sustainable by reducing, reusing and recycling as much as possible. For example, controlling water and electricity usage will minimise our impact on the environment.

Caring for the wider community and our host country by

- Learning, understanding and respecting the culture of the host country.
- Dressing and behaving in a manner that is respectful of the values, traditions and culture of our host country on and off campus.
- Remembering that each of us is an ambassador of UWCD, expected to behave with dignity and respect in public places and in a manner that does not compromise the reputation of the college. This includes not using public spaces for inappropriate socialisation or intimate physical contacts.

What Happens When Someone Does Not Care for Themselves and/or the Community?

Being a member of the UWCD community is a privilege which comes with both rights and responsibilities.

When we are unable to live our lives in alignment with our values, we will take responsibility for our actions and/or inactions. In such cases, which may have an impact on one or more members of our community, the concerns will be dealt with in a fair manner and on a case by case basis, which may or may not lead to some consequences.

Safeguarding concerns will be dealt with cohesively and comprehensively.

Any serious disciplinary issues may or may not go through the Disciplinary Council. In all cases, the Head of College's decision is final.

We list here a few examples of concerns based on the UWC Student Code of Conduct:

- **Drugs:** As the UWC CoC states: "Consumption, possession and/or distribution of drugs for recreational or other non-medically prescribed purposes are not acceptable." For clarity, this means that there is no room for such incidents in our community. Please be aware that the College will work with the Armenian authorities as needed.
- **Smoking/vaping/possession of tobacco products** will lead to different levels of consequences depending on the severity. Tobacco dependencies are inherently unhealthy.

- **Consumption and possession of alcohol:** Consumption of alcohol is against a healthy lifestyle and contradictory to caring for yourself, regardless of your age, preference or culture. Particularly worrying is binge drinking when the individual tries to get drunk intentionally, putting themselves and potentially others at risk.
 - Being on campus or returning to campus under the influence of alcohol will lead to a test of your blood alcohol content (BAC). The staff member on duty will decide on whether you need to be tested and you will be escorted to the Medical Centre without exception for carrying out the test.
 - A BAC of 0.02% or above will lead to formal consequences with disciplinary actions taken depending on the severity. The severity includes alcohol level in blood, the number of times you were found out under the influence etc.

If your BAC is between 0.02%-0.05% it is a moderate concern Anything above 0.05% is a serious concern.
 - Refusal to be tested will be considered as a positive test above 0.05% and it is a serious concern.
 - Parents will be informed.
- **Quiet time** rules include respecting the privacy of the corridor members. In particular, the bedrooms are private spaces for sleeping and relaxing and doing one's private work. Therefore,
 - After check-in only students living in that corridor are allowed to be in the corridor.
 - The rooms are not to be used for socialising, for which we have Common Rooms.
 - After check-in none other than the roommates of the particular room should be in any bedroom. This is why the corridors are locked at that time.
- **Academic time** rules include respecting the learning expectations of the college. No students should be in the residences after 8.30 am on an academic day irrespective of whether they have a class or not. Students are only allowed to be back in the residences during lunch break and once their last lesson ends. If the last lesson gets cancelled still you have to stay in the Academic Building and utilise the library or other learning spaces to study. Only exceptions are,
 - If a student is allowed by the doctor or the Head of Residential Life to be in the room under the supervision of the Day Toon Parent
 - Student has forgotten something in the residences and seeks permission from the Day Toon Parent to get it.
- Sexual development is part of growing up. In a multicultural environment in which spaces are shared, the interest of the community necessarily comes ahead of the individual's wishes, which is why the UWC Student Code of Conduct states that **no**

sexual activity should take place on campus or in school-organised activities and trips. The definition of what “sexual activity” means is certainly culturally sensitive, as what some cultures consider acceptable will be taboo in others. With our focus on the community, any display of affection needs to be done in such a way that it does not have a negative impact on others.

- **Bullying and abuse** (whether physical, verbal, sexual, on- or offline) are antithetical to UWC values and have no place in our community even if it is playful.
- **Stealing or borrowing others’ possessions without their consent** is simply not acceptable and, in some cases, can constitute a crime. If the victim and/or their family requests the police involvement, the College will support such requests.
- **Borrowing possessions including money from others with their consent** but not returning them within the agreed time can also in some cases amount to cheating and a criminal breach. If the victim and/or their family requests the police involvement, the College will support such requests.
- **Vandalism** tampering, damaging, obstructing or interfering with access control systems, school property or properties of individuals will have moderate to serious consequences depending on the level of harm or damage caused to the objects or the individuals.
- Any action that is harmful or damaging to others - no tolerance.

Once again, this is a non-exhaustive list, as we do not want to have a Code of Conduct that runs like those of some institutions specifying hair length, clothes types and sizes, etcetera. We want UWCD to be a vibrant, respectful and inclusive community and that can only be achieved by the thoughtful and respectful behaviour of every single member of the community.

Levels of Concern and Consequences

While the list below is in an increasing order of severity, please note that even if a member of a community has a clean track record with no previous concerns, if the incident is severe the consequences will match the severity.

1. A **minor concern** will be followed up with a conversation with the Toon Parent and a verbal warning, which will be recorded internally. Our expectation is that the student will be transparent with their parent/s or guardian/s taking the incident as a learning opportunity and sharing the learning that has taken place.
2. **Repeated minor concerns or a moderate concern** will be addressed with a written warning sent to the student and copied to the parent/s and, when relevant, the NC. This will be added to the student’s personal file.
3. **Repeated moderate concerns or a serious concern**: will be followed with a formal warning letter to the student, parent/s and/or guardian/s and NC as follows:

- a. A **Residential Life Suspension** will be the disciplinary consequence. This can result in you being gated or not able to attend special events (such as the mentor dinners), to have to return home for a period of time or to do community service under supervision to list a few. Such measures are intended to help rectify the behaviour of the individual and, when others have been affected, a restorative component may be expected.
- b. A **Head of College Warning Letter** may also be issued when the College is particularly concerned that a member of our community is behaving in such a way that they are risking losing the privilege of remaining as such. Such letters may also cover the individual's overall engagement to our learning programme and with the community as needed.
- c. Two Residential Life Suspensions will, in most cases, mean a **College Expulsion** with the individual forfeiting the right to remain as a member of the College community.
- d. **Breaches of the Armenian Criminal Code** will lead to a **College Expulsion** and the College will follow Armenian authorities' policies and practices as relevant and may involve the police and any other authority as needed. For example, intentionally causing damage to an individual or group of individuals (for example by slandering or by physically assaulting).
 - i. Please note that the Armenian authorities exchange information in such cases with the authorities of the home country of the individual. For example, if a member of the community engages in illegal drugs and the police is involved, they will forward the report to the home country, which may have significant consequences for the individual concerned.