

LSHTM Student Charter

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is renowned for its research, postgraduate studies and continuing education in public and global health. LSHTM has an international presence and collaborative ethos and is uniquely placed to help shape health policy and translate research findings into tangible impact.

[Mission, Vision and Strategy](#)

Mission

Our mission is to improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

Vision for 2032

Our vision is for a more healthy, sustainable and equitable world for everyone.

This vision will drive our activities as we pursue our overall mission. Our [values](#) underpin our mission and express our expectations of everyone at LSHTM.

Values

Our values demonstrate how we aspire to achieve our mission now and in the future, and what it means to work and study at LSHTM.

Act with integrity

Integrity matters. For it to really count we need to live by what we believe in and prove it again and again, in everything we do. We hold ourselves to rigorous standards, both in our application of the scientific method and in our transparent, honest dealings with people and the world. We need to know where we've come from and stay alive to the impact of the choices we're making today, so we can keep on doing things better in the future. We lead with humility and openness and the ability to listen, learn and constantly improve.

Embrace difference

Our community is our heart. We safeguard it, nurture it and help it grow. We reach out further to embrace the world, seeking out and drawing in difference and diversity: different political perspectives, different cultural backgrounds, different life experiences and disciplines. To take on the challenges of the future, we will embrace all the creativity, imagination and determination our diverse community brings.

Work together

To make the most of our global community we need to work together. Collaboration isn't always easy but it's worth the effort. We are prepared to open our minds, to make room for new approaches, new ways of working and valuable insights that come from new places. We are respectful of one another at all times and mindful of power dynamics. If we can get the balance right and come together to work as equals, we know we can harness the creative potential our community offers.

Create impact

We bring the transformative power of scientific insight and innovation to the day-to-day lives of people around the world, translating research into impact and educating the next generation of public health professionals. We solve difficult problems and unlock new possibilities by getting closer to root causes, working with people on the ground and by always striving to see the bigger picture. We're not afraid to challenge assumptions, to ask awkward questions or reimagine ways of working because that's how you spark new ideas and bring them to life.

Strategy

- [Strategy 2022-27](#) (pdf)

About this Charter

This Student Charter summarises the standards of service which the School expects and aspires to offer students, and the standards of conduct which students should expect and aspire to follow. It is particularly aimed at new students – as we believe that you will benefit most from your study experience at the School by understanding what you can reasonably expect from us, and what in turn is expected of you. We hope that the relationship between the School and all our students will be one of partnership, allowing your studies to be conducted in the context of a supportive and knowledgeable learning community. We also expect all teaching staff to be familiar with the content of this Charter.

Applicability of this Charter

This Charter is intended to apply to students registered for award-bearing LSHTM courses – such as Research Degrees, Master's Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates. It is also intended to be broadly applicable for students registered on shorter non-award-bearing courses or individual modules, although not all elements of the charter will be relevant to such students.

For collaborative programmes, the School will endeavour to work with any partner institutions to ensure that the standards of support they offer and the expectations they set are commensurate with those of the School itself. However, the provisions of partner institutions may take precedence over those which apply internally at LSHTM, particularly where the partner is responsible for admissions or assessment.

Students' Representative Council operates under its own Constitution, and its operations are not specifically covered by this Charter.

At all times...

You can expect the School to:

- be courteous, fair and prompt in our dealings with you
- provide equality of treatment for all regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief
- provide an educational experience that is of a consistently high standard and in line with good academic practice
- provide clear information concerning the level of academic support you will receive (whether via direct teaching, support from a tutor or supervisor, directed learning opportunities, or other modes)
- take all reasonable measures to support and provide services for students with disabilities or other additional needs
- respect your right to confidentiality
- provide you with points of contact, throughout the duration of your studies, in case you have questions or need advice
- protect all the personal information you provide in line with the Data Protection Act and GDPR
- deal with any formal complaints in line with the relevant Complaints Procedure

As a student, you are expected to:

- be courteous, fair and prompt in your dealings with the School and its staff
- be considerate and respectful to our diverse community of students
- be aware of and abide by the regulations, policies and procedures of the School, and any specific to your programme of study
- take responsibility for your own learning, pursue your studies with a positive commitment, do your best and aim high
- let us know if you have a specific access requirement or specific learning needs that we may be able to help with
- communicate with us as required by your programme and inform us of your subject choices
- apply, register, and pay any required fees according to published deadlines
- inform us if your contact details change
- comply with the relevant regulations detailing codes of conduct for students

When you enquire, apply or register...

You can expect the School to:

- provide up-to-date and accurate information and advice on the programmes we offer and how to apply
- provide clear information about any professional accreditation that is linked to specific programmes
- reply to all enquiries about our programmes and about your application and registration with timely, accurate and helpful responses
- enable you to submit an application without undue difficulty and keep you informed of its progress
- consider your application in a fair and consistent manner, and in line with our admissions policies
- provide you with information on the registration process
- give clear and up-to-date information about tuition fees, fee assessment methods, any ancillary fees, and our procedures and deadlines for payment being made
- give general guidance, and pointers to further resources, about potential sources of funding; and about typical living costs if your studies will be based in London (however, the School cannot provide detailed financial advice)
- advise you how to become eligible for the programme of your choice
- issue a confirmation of your registered status
- provide introductory guidance materials, induction sessions or similar leading into the main commencement of your course

As a student, you are expected to:

- make every effort to ensure that you have the information needed to make an informed choice of programme of study
- give us complete and accurate information on your application form and tell us about any personal circumstances (e.g. your health, specific access requirements or other additional needs) which will help us to help you
- be honest throughout the application and registration process
- carefully read all pre-registration or registration-related material we may send you or make available after offering you a place
- familiarise yourself with IT equipment requirements as well as digital skills you need to have to participate in your chosen programme of study
- explore 'taster' materials and make use of induction activities if available for the programme of your choice
- understand and comply with any relevant UK immigration rules if your programme requires attendance in London

When you begin and during the course of your studies...

You can expect the School to:

- provide all necessary information about your programme, study requirements, timetable, options, and the regulations and procedures you must follow
- provide high quality programmes that meet UK expectations on degree standards
- provide a study programme that makes clear what and how you are expected to learn and guides you towards completing this successfully
- provide a range of study opportunities and learning modes across programmes offered by the School
- provide you with learning support from staff (tutors, supervisors, Module Organisers or Programme Directors) in a manner appropriate to your mode of study
- provide you with access to appropriate learning resources and facilities, including IT and library resources, and making use of appropriate technology
- provide appropriate support and resources for personal development, including employability
- provide a safe and secure physical environment for students studying at School premises
- provide access to services relating to student health and welfare
- contact you if staff have any concerns about your ability to manage your studies and to support and advise you accordingly, referring you to more appropriate support within the School if suitable
- give you notice of any significant change to your programme, as soon as reasonably possible

As a student, you are expected to:

- ensure that you read the information provided and seek clarification of anything you do not understand
- be guided by the number of study hours recommended
- be responsible for managing your time so that you submit work by the deadlines to avoid any penalties or delays to your progression
- organise any personal or employment commitments so as not to unduly affect your studies
- participate fully in any required learning activities for your programme and meet any attendance and assessment requirements
- seek advice if you are unhappy with your programme or subject choices
- approach your tutor, supervisor or other appropriate member of staff if you have any particular issues affecting your ability to manage your studies
- take advantage of all learning resources available to you (which may require you to have access to your own further resources, such as a computer with internet access), and abide by any regulations or policies relating to them
- check regularly for any School correspondence sent to you by email
- be respectful of the physical environment when in attendance at School premises or those of any partner organizations
- pay due respect to health and safety, including conducting a risk assessment for any work away from School premises carried out as part of your studies
- consider ethics requirements, and implement them appropriately, in any research work carried out as part of your studies

When you are being assessed...

You can expect the School to:

- provide information on assessment tasks, methods and requirements – including how, when and where assessments will take place; how to enter for exams; relevant past examples of questions or tasks; and how your work will be marked
- make reasonable examination adjustments for students with specific access requirements which neither advantage nor disadvantage them
- ensure that the method of assessment used is appropriate for the programme, tests appropriate learning outcomes, and complies with School policies
- ensure robust procedures are followed for the conduct of assessment and examinations
- ensure that your assessments are marked by suitable Examiners who have been appointed through a formal process
- ensure that your performance is properly evaluated against appropriate marking criteria and in line with the School's assessment policies
- provide feedback on your academic progress (particularly as evidenced in coursework assignments) so as to aid your overall learning and academic performance
- provide you with information on assessment regulations and good academic practice for completing assessments, as well as information on inappropriate practice that may constitute an assessment offence and the consequences of such offences
- use plagiarism detection software at our discretion
- communicate provisional assessment results at appropriate points, with final results to be communicated through appropriate channels after the final meeting of the Board of Examiners

As a student, you are expected to:

- be familiar with, and comply with the regulations and requirements governing the assessment of your programme
- inform us of any specific access requirement or additional need for which we need to try and make adjustments or allowances
- ensure that you are correctly registered for any assessments or examinations you intend to undertake
- be aware of relevant submission dates, prepare submissions carefully and hand in your work on time and according to the methods advised
- know the dates, times and location of any exams, revise carefully and arrive in plenty of time
- follow the code of conduct and all instructions relating to examinations or assessments (such as to avoid any disturbance of other students), including any instructions that may be specific to your particular course, task or location
- follow guidance from the School and any from your specific programme regarding good academic practice, writing, referencing and how to avoid plagiarism
- show a commitment to academic honesty by ensuring that the work you submit is your own and that you acknowledge any use you make of the work of others

When you graduate...

You can expect the School to:

- present you with an award which is of international reputation and whose academic standards have been assured through the School's quality assurance mechanisms as well as those of any partner institutions
- ensure broad equivalence of threshold standards across all awards offered by the School which are at the same level, irrespective of their mode of delivery
- where relevant, send you a final Degree, Diploma or Certificate (with a 'Diploma Supplement', including transcript of grades) within six months of the final Exam Board meeting which confirms successful completion of your award
- invite you to a graduation ceremony
- enable you to continue your association with the School after you leave by offering you membership of and the opportunity to participate in the Alumni Association
- keep records of your award and key component grades indefinitely, and inform third parties of your examination results upon your request and authorisation
- observe good practice in providing references

As a former student, you will be:

- expected to accurately represent any award you have received from the School
- invited to maintain your association with the School after you graduate through participation in the Alumni Association

Respecting your views...

You can expect the School to:

- recognise a Students' Representative Council, fulfilling the role of a student union representing the student body, and work with them in support of appropriate activities
- provide for student membership in our committee structure
- facilitate two-way communication between staff and students or student representatives
- be transparent about our decision and policy making by publishing minutes and papers from School-level committee meetings on our website
- give you regular and specific opportunities to provide feedback on the quality of our programmes and support services during the course of your studies
- provide you with information on the actions taken in response to the feedback we receive from student experience surveys or via other channels

As a student, you are expected to:

- consider engaging with the activities of the Students' Representative Council
- consider opportunities to join our committees as a student member
- engage appropriately with our student feedback mechanisms
- behave in a constructive and considerate way when expressing your opinions

If you have concerns or difficulties...

You can expect the School to:

- provide access to advice and information on our procedures should you wish to complain or if you have a problem (this includes any matters such as harassment or grievances)
- treat complaints seriously and fairly, and respect confidentiality at all times
- make sure that, if you complain using the official procedures, you will not be discriminated against because you have complained
- monitor the number of complaints and appeals we receive and their outcomes

As a student, you are expected to:

- try to resolve any problems informally, e.g. through speaking to relevant staff such as your Programme Director, tutor, supervisor or Programme Administrator – and if this is not possible, to let us know before such problems develop into greater difficulties
- not make any malicious or vexatious complaints or allegations
- be fair and reasonable if you are involved in any formal procedures of the School
- follow the procedures closely, and provide relevant key facts and supporting evidence, within the specified timescales

Legal disclaimer

This Student Charter is not to be considered a legally binding contract and is not intended either to define or limit the legal rights and responsibilities of LSHTM, the Students' Representative Council (SRC), or individual students. All students should ensure that they are aware of all documents published by LSHTM and the Students' Representative Council which relate in any way to being a registered student and/or a member of the SRC, including all regulations, policies, procedures, guidelines, registration agreements and course-specific documentation.

Communication and dissemination of this charter

The Student Charter is published on the School website. It is drawn to the attention of students via appropriate means – for example, mentioning and linking to it in pre-admission information and as part of the registration process.

Approval of and revisions to this charter

The Student Charter is reviewed annually by the Head of Registry, or his/her nominated representative(s), in consultation with the Students' Representative Council Executive Committee or their nominated representative(s).

Queries

Students or staff with queries on any aspect of the Student Charter are invited to contact the [Head of Registry](#).

A set of web links to useful documents/organisations/tools, including the detailed regulations, policies and procedures that underlie this Charter, are given below:

[LSHTM Students' Representative Council](#)

[Student Complaints Procedure](#)

[Report + Support](#) - our reporting mechanism if there are any experiences of bullying, harassment, education related concerns, sexual misconduct or hate crime

[Safeguarding Framework](#) - LSHTM has social, moral and legal obligations to safeguard the wellbeing and safety of children and adults involved in any LSHTM activities, whether they are conducted in person or online, in the UK or overseas. The Safeguarding Framework identifies LSHTM policies, procedures and guidelines which are in place to safeguard staff and students, children and adults who participate in or are impacted by our programmes and research, and our commitment to embedding robust Safeguarding practices across our student programmes.

[Regulations, Policies and Procedures](#)

[Quality and Academic Standards](#)

[Library, Archive & Open Research Services](#)

Accessible via LSHTM's intranet once a fully registered student:

[Virtual Student Hub](#)

[Student Support Services](#)

[Registry](#)

[Programme Administration Office](#)

[UK Council for International Student Affairs](#) (an organisation providing support and resources for international students)

[Office of the Independent Adjudicator](#) (an independent ombudsman to which any serious student complaints may be referred if School's internal procedures have been unable to resolve them)

[Alumni](#) (LSHTM's alumni community is made up of more than 30,000 alumni in over 190 countries, there to provide you with a lifelong link to LSHTM and each other)