

## STUDENT CHARTER

Placing students at the centre of its work, The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama (Central) develops practitioners and researchers who shape the future of theatre and performance across the UK and beyond. Central, as part of the Federal University of London aims to maintain and develop a distinctive ethos as a higher education conservatoire at the crossing-point of higher education, industry and community. This consists of a fluid combination of scholarship and research, industry-related vocational training and research-informed teaching

This charter was developed in collaboration with the Students' Union and approved by the Academic Board of the School and by the Students' Union Development Committee. It is reviewed every year.

Central and the Students' Union are committed to active encouragement of diversity as a basis not only for an enriched learning experience, but also for an enhanced working environment. We work together in the spirit of an open, respectful and equitable partnership to assist each other in achieving a community of creative scholars and practitioners in the field of theatre arts. See the [Equality Schemes](#) page on the website.

### CENTRAL UNDERTAKES TO:

- Ensure that its employees and visiting professionals treat students and colleagues equitably, professionally and respectfully.

### CENTRAL UNDERTAKES TO PROVIDE:

- A safe, supportive and inclusive environment in which to study.
- High standards of teaching, support, advice and guidance.
- Access to activities that will enhance employability and personal development.
- Regular continuing professional development for its staff.
- Support for student participation in academic development and course management, including elections of representatives.
- Access to a range of pastoral [support services](#). Clearly defined access to library, IT, and other facilities.
- Formal and informal opportunities for students to provide feedback (anonymously where practical) on all aspects of their student experience.

### CENTRAL UNDERTAKES TO PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- Stated periods of notice for changes to timetable, cancelled classes, re-scheduling of content.
- Clear deadlines and timeframes - detailed in Course documentation - for feedback on submitted work.
- [Student and Course information](#) detailing: assessment criteria, contact hours, mode of delivery of course, assessment arrangements and regulations, academic guidance and support, [appeals and complaints](#) procedures and professional requirements (where appropriate).
- Course costs, payment options and deadlines, and an estimate of necessary additional costs before enrolment. [Tuition Fee information 2019/20](#).

## STUDENTS UNDERTAKE TO:

- Treat staff, visitors and their fellow students equitably, professionally and respectfully.
- Respect the academic judgement of the institution.
- Attend induction, participate in timetabled classes and attend meetings with tutors.
- Obtain agreement from the School, in advance, for any essential absences.
- Take responsibility for managing their own learning: actively engaging in their course; ensuring they spend sufficient regular time in private study, and participating fully in group learning and assessment activities.
- Submit assessed work by stated deadlines and actively participate in feedback.
- Make prompt payment of tuition fees and any related charges made by the institution.
- Return promptly and in good condition any equipment or learning resources loaned by the institution.
- Support Course Representatives and participate in systems which will lead to improvements in the quality of learning and teaching as detailed in the Student Representation Handbook.
- Respect the physical environment of the institution and behave respectfully towards all members of the School's community and its neighbours as set out in the Student Codes of Conduct.
- Abide by all the School's Health and Safety policy and all other codes and policies.
- Ensure that both practice and research are conducted ethically and adhere to the School's ethics guidance.
- Engage with formal and informal mechanisms for collecting student feedback.
- Undertake the 'Consent Matters' online student module

## THE STUDENTS' UNION UNDERTAKES TO:

- Support all students to ensure they receive equal treatment and are aware of their responsibilities and rights.
- Support student participation in quality enhancement activities
- Provide students with support on academic and welfare problems.
- Represent the interests of students at local and national level.
- Support active student/community engagement, especially as regards combating antisocial behaviour.
- Provide a range of clubs and societies to enhance personal and professional development.

This Charter was approved by the Academic Board on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

Professor Gavin Henderson CBE  
Principal



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Holly Barraclough  
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*This charter is not a legally binding contract and is not intended to define or limit the legal rights and responsibilities of the School, its students or the Students' Union. Where circumstances change outside of the reasonable control of the School (such as changes to the funding arrangements of the School), the School reserves the right to change or cancel parts of, or entire, programmes of study or services at any time without liability, even after students have registered at the School.*