

GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS WISHING TO PROTEST ON CAMPUS.

At Royal Holloway, we are committed to the principles of academic freedom and freedom of speech. We work hard to create and foster an inclusive and supportive institutional environment for all students and staff.

We believe exercising legal, and respectful, freedom of speech is the cornerstone of a vibrant and enriching academic community. It underpins our principles of tolerance and understanding, which are essential for the pursuit of knowledge. As part of the legal framework in which the University operates this may include allowing individuals or groups to host events or speakers who may share views that other members of our community don't agree with or discuss topics of which others may have an opposing viewpoint. As a University, we also have a responsibility to provide and maintain a safe, supportive, and respectful environment for our students, staff, and visitors to our campus. The behavioral expectations for students are outlined in our [Student Conduct Regulations](#) and our [Dignity & Respect Policy](#). If students are protesting in a way that could be considered a breach of these regulations, those individuals may be subject to conduct action.

The guidance below summarises some 'dos and don'ts' in relation to student protests on our University campuses. Following this guidance will help to ensure protest activity can be supported and delivered safely for all members of the University and the wider community.

NOTE: *Student Groups ratified with the Students' Union should always follow the established SU Events process.*

If you are arranging or taking part in a protest at Royal Holloway University of London, do:	
✓	Provide at least two weeks' notice of the protest to the University Security team. (securityrhul@royalholloway.ac.uk)
✓	Seek in advance, and follow, all safety, security and locational advice provided to you by the University or Students' Union staff and representatives, which will be provided to organisers one week before the event.
✓	Clearly share and communicate protest and safety information to all participants, including relevant University or Students' Union advice and guidance.
✓	Ensure you leave the area of the protest clear of evidence of the protests including clearing away litter and posters.
If you are arranging or taking part in a protest at Royal Holloway University of London, don't:	
✗	Seek to disrupt other events taking place on campus – for example by preventing speakers from talking, people from attending, or anything designed to prevent the event taking place successfully.
✗	Use intimidating, abusive, or threatening language via communications (including social media), placards, banners, posters, or other means.
✗	Occupy University buildings or disrupt any teaching, events, or University business on campus.
✗	Intentionally, recklessly, or carelessly damage University or other property as part of your protest.
✗	Attach posters or banners to University property without permission.
✗	Undertake any other activities that break the UK law or breach our Student Conduct Regulations.