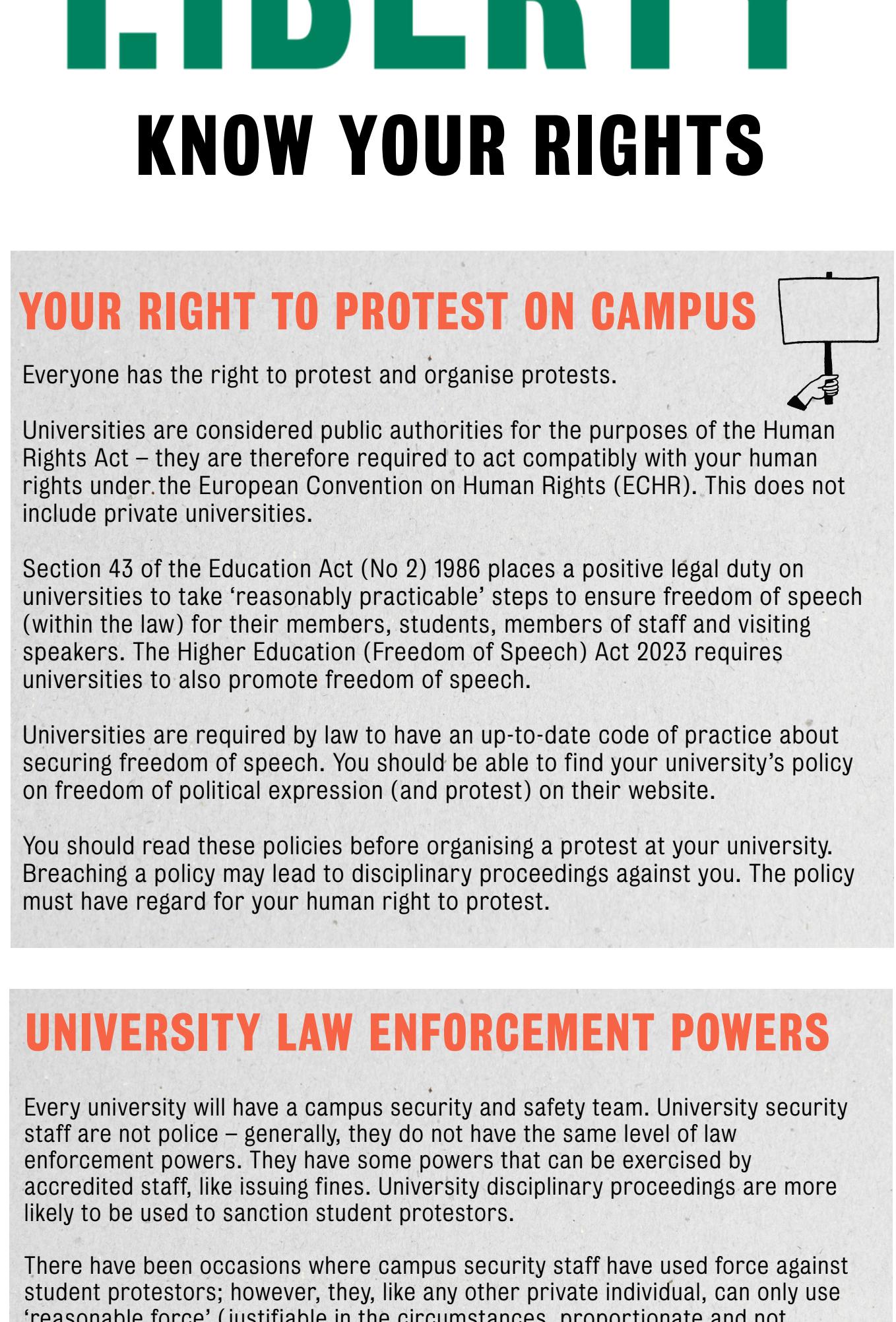
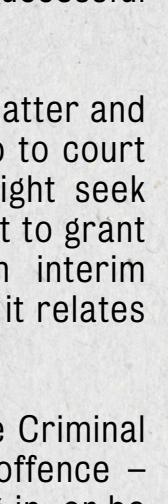


PRACTICAL PROTEST GUIDE: STUDENT EDITION



1. LIBERTY KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

YOUR RIGHT TO PROTEST ON CAMPUS



Everyone has the right to protest and organise protests.

Universities are considered public authorities for the purposes of the Human Rights Act – they are therefore required to act compatibly with your human rights under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). This does not include private universities.

Section 43 of the Education Act (No 2) 1986 places a positive legal duty on universities to take 'reasonably practicable' steps to ensure freedom of speech (within the law) for their members, students, members of staff and visiting speakers. The Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Act 2023 requires universities to also promote freedom of speech.

Universities are required by law to have an up-to-date code of practice about securing freedom of speech. You should be able to find your university's policy on freedom of political expression (and protest) on their website.

You should read these policies before organising a protest at your university. Breaching a policy may lead to disciplinary proceedings against you. The policy must have regard for your human right to protest.

UNIVERSITY LAW ENFORCEMENT POWERS

Every university will have a campus security and safety team. University security staff are not police – generally, they do not have the same level of law enforcement powers. They have some powers that can be exercised by accredited staff, like issuing fines. University disciplinary proceedings are more likely to be used to sanction student protestors.

There have been occasions where campus security staff have used force against student protestors; however, they, like any other private individual, can only use 'reasonable force' (justifiable in the circumstances, proportionate and not excessive) under Section 3 of the Criminal Law Act 1967, where it is "in the prevention of crime, or in effecting or assisting in the lawful arrest of offenders or suspected offenders." This may apply, for example, if they are carrying out a 'citizen's arrest' under Section 24A of the Police & Criminal Evidence Act 1984 or if they are assisting a police officer during an arrest.

CHALLENGING YOUR UNIVERSITY

If you believe that your protest activity or human rights have been unfairly restricted or that you were discriminated against by your university, you should contact a solicitor specialising in public and human rights law to explore a potential legal challenge.

ENCAMPMENTS AND OCCUPATIONS

THE LAW

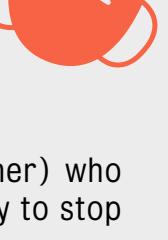
You might hear the word **trespass** thrown around to try and scare students away from organising protests on university land. Trespass itself is not a criminal offence, but rather a civil 'wrong', which could result in legal action being brought by the university in a civil court.

The preferred action for universities to regain possession is usually by seeking a possession order. The other possible civil action is seeking an injunction, which is an order specifically instructing you to do or not do something e.g. to not protest on certain bit of land. It is a contempt of court to knowingly break an injunction, which has a max penalty of a prison sentence. Universities have been successful recently in removing encampments using this route.

If you are served with court papers, do not panic – this is not a criminal matter and there is not an immediate threat of eviction. The university still has to go to court before anything can happen. For a quicker turnaround, universities might seek interim possession order from a Court. This is temporary in nature, meant to grant them possession before the hearing for the full possession. If an interim possession order is granted it is a criminal offence to remain on the land it relates to.

NOTE: Although trespass isn't a criminal offence, Under Section 68 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994, aggravated trespass is a criminal offence – trespass is aggravated if you trespass on land where people are engaging in, or are about to engage in, lawful activity (i.e. day-to-day activities); and do something with the intention of intimidating people from engaging in lawful activity; obstruct lawful activity; or disrupt lawful activity. The senior police officer on the ground can direct you to leave that particular land if they believe you have committed, are committing, or are about to commit aggravated trespass.

COURT PROCEEDINGS: WHAT TO DO



- 1) Speak to a solicitor specialising in protest law as soon as possible.

2) Develop a structure within the protest group for internal decision making and strategy, e.g. who will be liaising with legal representatives, or communicating with the university.

3) Avoid making organisers, leaders, and individuals identifiable.

4) Weigh up the benefits and risks of defending the proceedings, and consider whether there are alternative strategies, locations or actions that your encampment/occupation can pivot towards to maximise your impact and resources.

WHAT SHOULD I BRING WITH ME?

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Write key numbers on your arm (preferably under a sleeve). Include an emergency contact, the number of the Green & Black Cross Protest Support Line (07946541511), and the number of a specialist protest law solicitor who you might want to contact if you are arrested (see the end of this document).

A MOBILE PHONE AND CHARGER

If possible, bring an old phone with essential numbers on it. If arrested, the police have the power to take your phone and search it for evidence. Make sure it is locked with a passcode and switch off any facial and fingerprint unlocking technology.

NOTEBOOK AND PEN

Bring a notepad and pen to keep notes of any issues and the names of police officers, or security staff names you interact with.

WATER AND SNACKS

Bring water and snacks as you may be out for longer than you think (and may be caught in a kettle for several hours).

MEDICATION

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

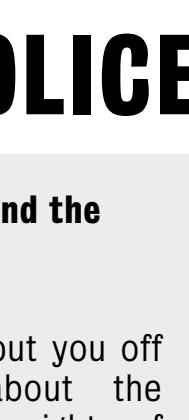
Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

Keep a copy of emergency phone numbers and any medical information that someone may need to know. Keep medication that you may need (preferably in a inhalers or bottle) including inhalers if you are asthmatic.

HOW TO PREPARE

PROTECTING YOUR IDENTITY

If you are concerned about being identified by your university during a protest, you may consider wearing a face mask and non-distinctive clothing to provide some protection, and connect to a personal hotspot rather than university wifi ('eduroam').



WEATHER APPROPRIATE

Prepare for being outside for longer than expected. If it is warm weather, bring a hat and suncream. If it is cold weather, bring extra layers and gloves. Always bring a waterproof - this is the UK and it can be useful for sitting on should you need.

SAFE AND PREPARED



Bring a face mask, especially if you are at a higher risk of catching infections. If you can, make sure the mask is non-distinctive.

If you are on your period, wear pads instead of tampons as it may be difficult to access a toilet, and keep a spare on you.

INTERACTING WITH THE POLICE

FILMING THE POLICE

You are allowed to film and take pictures of the police (e.g. when observing or intervening in a stop and search or arrest or interactions with the police generally).

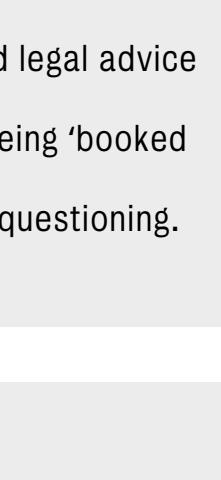
The police have no power to stop you (except in very specific circumstances), but they may try to prevent you through misinformation, abuse of power or intimidation.

The police can only lawfully stop you filming them if your footage/photos are "likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing an act of terrorism". [Section 58A of the Terrorism Act 2000]

Filming someone else and the police:

The police may try to put you off filming by talking about the privacy/data protection rights of the person that is being stopped and searched or arrested.

This does not mean you can't film it. However, you should always ask the person being stopped and searched or arrested if they want you to film them, and then only film/take photographs with their consent.



ANSWERING POLICE QUESTIONS

You do not have to respond to police if they speak to you. The police can't lawfully stop and search you simply for not answering their questions. For international students, you have no legal obligation to disclose your nationality/immigration status to the police, even if you are arrested. But if the police have reason to believe you have been or are taking part in "anti-social behaviour", they can require you to tell them your name and address. It is an offence to refuse or to give false information.

OBSTRUCTING A POLICE OFFICER

It is a criminal offence to "willfully obstruct" a police officer.

This is when you deliberately make it more difficult for the police to carry out their lawful duties. Obstruction could therefore include:

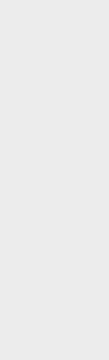
- preventing a police officer from making a lawful arrest/carrying out a lawful stop and search.

However, obstruction would not include:

- preventing/disrupting a police officer carrying out an unlawful stop and search/making an unlawful arrest
- advising someone not to answer police questions, where they have no legal obligation to.

WHAT DO I DO IF I'M ARRESTED?

CONTACT A SOLICITOR



You should talk to a solicitor before:

- being interviewed

- accepting a caution

- deciding how to plead to a charge.

Before you go on a protest, find a solicitor who is an expert on protest law and keep a note of their name and phone number.

See the end of this document for a list of solicitors who offer free help to protesters.

ASK FOR ASSISTANCE

If you require medical assistance, the police must make arrangements for this. You should:

- tell the police as soon as you're arrested
- tell them if you are on medication that you need to take
- tell them if you have a history of mental health problems.

If you are regarded as 'vulnerable' or are under 18, ask for support from an 'appropriate adult'.

If English is not your first language, ask for an interpreter.

DON'T ANSWER QUESTIONS

- Answer "No Comment" to the police at all times until you've had legal advice from a solicitor with special knowledge about protests.

- Don't chat with officers while in a police car or van – or when being 'booked in' at the police station.

- You can say "No Comment" at any time during your arrest and questioning. We advise you to do this until you've spoken to a solicitor.

DON'T ACCEPT A CAUTION

If you are asked to accept a caution, seek advice from a solicitor with expertise in protest law.

A 'caution' is an admission of guilt and stays on your criminal record. There are rules that the police must follow when giving a caution, so you should speak to a solicitor about this as soon as you can.

Green & Black Cross facilitates legal observes and arrested support by sending volunteers to police stations to offer legal and practical support to those who are arrested at protests.

- 07946541511 (Protest Support Line)

- courtsupport@orotonmail.com

- @GBCLegal

Green & Black Cross advises people to report any arrests they witness to the protest support line, and provide as much info as they can - this will help the arrested protester get legal and practical support.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

If you are facing difficulties with your student visa or immigration status following protest activity, you need to seek urgent legal advice from a solicitor specialising in immigration law. You can find out more here:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/#page-section-5

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-protests/

For our full advice and information page on your right to protest at university, visit:

<a href="http://www.libertyhumanrights.org.uk/advice-information/university-pro