

Southampton University Christian Union (Inside Out) Method Statement

From here on in SUCU will refer to Southampton University Christian Union

Introduction

This method statement is intended to cover the club mission activities of the Southampton University Christian Union (here in referred to as 'Inside Out')

Specifically, this Method Statement refers to the Inside Out Event occurring in Bedford Place on Wednesday 31st October 2018.

On this evening, members of SUCU will join together at Central Baptist Church. Here they will go out into the Bedford Place area to talk to the students who are out that evening. The volunteers will seek to offer biscuits to the public and talk to them. The aim is to be a welcoming force in what is a difficult time. The volunteers are not seeking to give physical, mental or emotional support as they do not have the relevant training to provide this service.

This event will follow the process of SUCU's regular Inside Out events held each Friday night in Portswood.

The Purpose and Scope of This Method Statement

The purpose of this Method Statement is

- to protect young people (above the age of 18) and vulnerable adults who receive SUCU's services through 'Inside Out'.
- to provide volunteers with the overarching principles that guide our approach to safeguarding.

This method statement applies to anyone volunteering on behalf of Southampton University Christian Union

This method statement has been drawn up in on the basis of legislation, policy and guidance that seeks to protect young people and vulnerable adults in England. This method statement is in addition to the University of Southampton's Safeguarding Policy which can be found at

<http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/safeguarding.html>

We believe that:

- Young people and vulnerable adults should never experience abuse of any kind
- We have a responsibility to promote the welfare of all young people and vulnerable adults, to keep them safe and to practise in a way that protects them.

We recognise that:

- The welfare of the vulnerable adult is paramount
- All adults, regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation have a right to equal protection from all types of harm or abuse
- Some adults are additionally vulnerable because of the impact of previous experiences, their level of dependency, communication needs or other issues
- Working in partnership with young people, vulnerable adults and other agencies is essential in promoting young people's welfare.

Conduct of Volunteers

Volunteers will take care over language, tone of voice and body language. All volunteers will be briefed in advance of their required conduct, including the potential risks of the evening.

The volunteer force will be based at Central Baptist Church. The volunteers will move around Bedford Place in groups of no less than 4.

Volunteers should be sensitive to the dangers of ridiculing or scapegoating an adult.

Volunteers must always operate in groups of four, to protect each other and any vulnerable members of the public.

If it is deemed that a member of the public needs help getting home, the volunteers will help contact taxis or the Safety Bus as appropriate. They will not pay for the transport.

Policy on Communication

Volunteers should not exchange phone numbers or contact details with members of the public met at SUCU's Inside Out Events.

Relationships formed at such events should be kept solely to these events, especially where vulnerable adults are involved.

Policy on physical contact

Touch should be related to the adult's needs. A hand shake, pat on the shoulder,

Touch should be age-appropriate and generally initiated by the member of the public. Adults have the right to decide how much physical contact they have from others.

Activities involving inappropriate or intrusive touching must be avoided, as should activities that involve excessive physical contact or those which might encourage sexual behaviour.

When giving first aid, encourage the adult to do what they can manage themselves, but consider the adult's best interests and give appropriate help where necessary. A Duty First Aider will be present on the evening and all volunteers made aware of this

Touch may be needed in the area of restraint which must only be given where the adult, other adults, or volunteers may be in danger of injury. Team members should monitor one another in the area of physical contact. They should be free to help each other by constructively challenging anything which could be misunderstood or misconstrued. Concerns about abuse must always be reported. These will be reported to the team leader of the evening who will subsequently contact the Duty Manager of the Southampton University Students' Union and the University of Southampton's Security Services.

Where physical violence arises between members of the public, volunteers should phone the emergency services in the first instance and report any altercations to the team leader of the evening.

Procedure if Abuse is Suspected, Disclosed or Suspected

We as an organisation and as individuals have a duty to respond to any report or suspicion of abuse made to us by an adult. Suspected or alleged abuse might be within the adult's home, on the night out, or elsewhere. It could even be in one of our Inside Out Events.

If abuse is alleged or suspected volunteers should act as follows:

Do not delay

Do not act alone

Do not begin an investigation

Consult the person you are directly responsible to

The team leader and volunteer concerned will write notes of the incident. This will be reported immediately to the Duty Manager at the Southampton University Student's Union and the University of Southampton's Security Services and will be dealt with according to their policies and guidelines.