

# Top Tips: How to manage learners producing work with concerning content

If you feel that the content of a learner's work suggests that they are unsafe in any way you will need to follow Safeguarding procedures ([see safeguarding guide](#) )

However, creative work can also be of concern without being an indicator of the creator being unsafe. You may be concerned that:

- ☐ You find the work offensive or triggering.
- ☐ The work is offensive or triggering to other members of the group.
- ☐ The work may express misogynistic, racist, sexist or in other ways inappropriate views.

There are no specific rules about the content of work produced by learners at UAL. UAL encourages creativity and experimentation and for learners to do work that is meaningful to them, but also for them to develop the skills to be ethical, critically-aware practitioners. How this is done will differ depending on the course, subject, learners, tutor and circumstances, but you can be guided by the following documents:

[UAL Short Course Terms and Conditions](#) state that learners must: “conduct myself in a professional and courteous manner and refrain from causing offence or nuisance to UALSC, its staff or other students” (6.1.6)

[The UAL student contract](#) requires that learners: "Respect and observe the rights and feelings of fellow students, University staff and visitors."

[The UAL Disciplinary policy](#) applies to any learner who “Engages in communication or behavior (whether expressed orally, in writing or electronically including via social media) with any person which is violent, threatening or discriminatory.” (Part 2, 25, x)



## Possible strategies for addressing learners producing concerning content

As part of the induction process, agree a code of conduct for the group and include in it an agreement of content and subjects for the work being made in the class. Many short course learners may well be out of their normal social groups and have not considered the potential alternative views of their work before.

Consider if the work is actually offending or upsetting the other learners. It may not have been noticed by anyone but you as the tutor and can be addressed through personal discussion. Offer the opportunity to learners to opt out of engagement with work they find offensive, learners producing this work will therefore have reduced peer feedback and support.

Encourage positive discussion within the course learning objectives. There may be opportunity to discuss [the changing nature of what society finds offensive](#), the use of art as activism, or other [examples of different responses to art work](#)

### Working with learners under 18-year-old

If the subject or content of artwork suggests to you that the learner is un-safe in any way from abuse, neglect, or radicalisation it is essential that you follow the safeguarding notification process.

If the work is likely to upset or offend others in the group and you decide to limit the display or sharing of this work, please notify your coordinator and Customer services team so we can pass this information to the Parent of the learner.

If you would like to discuss your approach or get a second opinion on the work being produced do not hesitate to reach out to your Co-Ordinator or other short Course staff.

