# Group complaint form

**Use this form for early resolution and/or formal investigation**

*Please read these guidance notes before submitting your complaint*

## Accessibility

If you require this form, or any documents it refers to, in hard copy or any other format please contact the Student Casework team.

**Making a complaint as a group**

There are specific criteria and processes you must follow when making a group complaint.

***Lead student***

Firstly, you must nominate a lead student to make a complaint on behalf of the group. The lead student will:

* complete and submit this form on behalf of the group. Each student must consent to being part of the group. The lead student will collate and submit this information
* liaise with all the students in the group, collect evidence and provide regular feedback to the group
* be the single point of contact about the complaint. We will communicate with the lead student and all correspondence will be sent to the lead student
* represent the group at any meetings with the University concerning the complaint

Please note, once the group complaint form is submitted we do not normally allow other students to join the group.

**Early resolution**

Complaints should start at the early resolution stage. You do this by directing your complaint to one of the following:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Your course tutor
* Your module leader
* Your programme leader
* A member of the department or faculty who you feel comfortable talking to
 | * The faculty administration manager
* A manager or head of department in the University service involved
 |

By taking this approach, your department or faculty will normally be able to resolve your complaint quickly and easily, whilst maintaining good staff/student relationships and without disrupting your studies. If you are unsure or concerned about how to do this, please contact the Student Casework team.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of your complaint at the early resolution stage you can request to escalate it to the formal stage within 14 days of receiving the response. Further information about the formal stage can be found later in this document and in the guidance notes for making a complaint.

**Evidence to support your case**

In most cases you should provide evidence to support your complaint and include it when you submit this form. Evidence may include documents, emails or other correspondence and the investigating officer for your complaint will use this in their investigation. If you do not have evidence or are unsure what evidence you should provide, the Students’ Union Advice Centre and the Student Casework team can help.

If you provide evidence from different members of the group, please make sure it is clear who has submitted which piece(s) of evidence.

## Where can I get help, guidance, or support?

[Edge Hill Students’ Union](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/) is an independent organisation and provides free advice, guidance and representation. The Student Casework team manages the complaints process. They can answer any general queries you have about how to make a complaint and how the process operates.

## I have a disability – where can I get help guidance or support?

The [Inclusion team](https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/studentservices/inclusive/) is based in Catalyst and can provide help and support for students who have disabilities. Even if you have not previously disclosed your disability, we encourage you to do so if you make a complaint. This is because we want you to be able to participate fully in the complaints process and can offer support and/or reasonable adjustments to make this happen.

## Who do I contact with queries?

Please email the Student Casework team or phone 01695 650 786

## Where do I send the completed form?

Send your completed form and supporting evidence to the Student Casework team or bring hard copies of your form and evidence to the above address.

Please read the [complaints procedure](https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/documents/complaints-procedure/) or the [student guide to complaints](https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/documents/complaints-procedure/) for full details.

# Group complaint form

# To be completed by the lead student for early resolution or formal investigation

Please note, throughout this process we will contact you via your University email address. If your University email account is no longer active, please provide an alternative email address below.

If you need us to contact you by a different method, please contact the Student Casework team

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Lead student’s name**: | **Student ID number**: |
| **Programme title**: | **Year of study/cohort**: |
| **E-mail address**: | **Telephone**: |
| **Postal address including postcode:** |

## Accessibility

As lead student, do you have a disability which may impair you in making

the complaint on behalf of your group? (*delete as appropriate)* Yes / No

Have you declared your disability to the Inclusion team?

*(delete as appropriate)* Yes / No

Do you give your consent for the Inclusion team to share information about

your disability with the Student Cases team? (*delete as appropriate)* Yes / No

## Group members

You must tell us who is part of the group making the complaint. Please complete the table at the end of this form. You must have the permission of every person to include them in the complaint.

**What stage is your complaint at?** *(Tick one box)*

Early resolution - I am raising my complaint from the first time

## Formal complaint – I have tried to resolve my complaint through early resolution but remain

## dissatisfied

Please enter the date you were informed of the outcome of your early resolution complaint

Date………………………………………

## Your complaint summary

Please summarise your complaint below. There is space at the end of the form for you to provide full details, further explanation and any evidence.

|  |
| --- |
| *Please use bullet points to describe the main points of your complaint. The box will expand as you type.* |

## Resolution or aims sought

Please tell us below what resolution or aim you are seeking. It is important that we know what outcome you are seeking as this will help the investigator when considering your case.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## Full details of your complaint

Please provide full details of your complaint below. The box will expand as you type.

|  |
| --- |
|  |

## Student declaration *(please read and sign. A typed name is acceptable)*

# By signing this form as lead student, I confirm that the information contained in this group complaint is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature: ………………………………………………………. Date:………………………

Please send this form, the signed list of group members and your evidence to the Student Casework team.

**What happens next?**

We will acknowledge receipt of your complaint.

Early resolution complaints will be referred to your department or faculty, who may contact you directly. Your faculty or department will respond to you usually within 28 days.

If you have made a formal complaint, the Student Casework team will identify an independent person to investigate your complaint and tell you who that person is. We will communicate with you during this process and advise you of the outcome, usually within 36 days.

If we are unable to complete our investigations in the usual timeframe, we will tell you and keep you informed throughout the process.

# Details of complaint group

Please provide details of all the students who are part of the group making this complaint. Each student in the group must sign their name to provide consent to the lead student representing them in this complaint. Please scan the completed form and email it to us with the rest of your submission.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student name**Please provide full name as used at enrolment | **Student ID number** | **Programme title** | **Year of study/ cohort** | **Signature** (a typed signature is not acceptable) |
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*Please add more rows to this table if necessary.*