

# OCA & OCASA Student Charter



## Student Charter

The Open College of the Arts (OCA) Student Charter was developed as a partnership statement between OCA and our students, through discussion with the Open College of the Arts Student Association (OCASA). It sets out expectations of OCA, OCASA and our students, as we work together to achieve OCA's mission *to be at the forefront of student-led creative arts education through open, enhanced, & supported distance learning, for an evolving society.*

### Admissions and assessment

OCA will:

- Aims to facilitate an admissions process that is open, fair, and encourages participation in the arts through open access learning
- Provide clear and up to date information on tuition fees and payment options
- Issue accurate advice and guidance on degree pathways and course choices
- Set out to clearly narrate and offer a fair and consistent assessment process in line with published assessment guidelines and criteria

As a student at OCA, I will:

- Comply with student regulations and the terms and conditions of enrolment
- Be responsible for engaging with the assessment requirements and accessing the most up to date information

### Learning and teaching

OCA will:

- Develop well-structured and relevant learning pathways that guide students to attain their potential, broaden their horizons, and achieve appropriate qualifications
- Devise stimulating course materials and resources, that draw on effective distance learning methods and technologies

- Keep up-to-date with new developments in learning, teaching, and assessment to maximise opportunities for students to create, engage, develop, and succeed
- Strive to provide timely, well-grounded, constructive, and challenging feedback on each student's work, from an experienced tutor who is a practitioner in the relevant field
- Aim to develop and maintain an ongoing quality cycle that allows the curriculum to be reviewed, updated, and developed regularly based on evidence from students, tutors, practitioners, and sector wide developments
- Set out to provide accessible and inclusive learning and teaching that respects and benefits from cultural diversity and is responsive to the needs of all students

As a student at OCA, I will:

- Pursue my studies with enthusiasm and passion, working to the best of my abilities and engaging fully with the scope and range of activities associated with OCA distance learning
- Take responsibility for managing my own learning journey, allocating sufficient time to pursue my studies and submitting work within agreed timescales wherever possible
- Ensure that I fully understand and work within the OCA's defined learning framework; communicate any issues and concerns that I experience promptly and respectfully through appropriate channels

## Student participation and representation

OCA will:

- Endeavour to facilitate the development of a lively, supportive, and challenging college community through online forums, optional study events and student-initiated projects
- Encourage and promote student work and allow students to contribute to the OCA blog - #weareoca
- Sustain an online gallery where student work will be featured

As a student at OCA, I will:

- Seek out and engage with opportunities available outside my studies that enrich my knowledge, skills and experience; aspire to

broaden my horizons and explore creativity to the full

- Respond positively to constructive feedback from tutors; engage thoughtfully and enthusiastically in critical discussion with other students
- Apply principles of honesty and integrity to my studies, and in all my dealings with OCA and its staff

OCASA will:

- Represent the vibrant and diverse body of creative people studying foundations, undergraduate and postgraduate courses with OCA
- Advance and support the education of its members and students of OCA as a whole
- Represent the interests of its members and act as a channel of communication for students in dealing with OCA and any other relevant bodies
- Provide the means for students to organise and participate in student led study events
- Publish minutes of meetings and representatives' reports

## Community

OCA will:

- Respect the rights of students to hold differing views and allow them to offer appropriate contributions to discussions on all platforms
- Provide a safe and encouraging space for all students to study, contribute, and learn.
- Aim to recognise and celebrate diversity across our internal and public facing platforms
- Endeavour to provide an inclusive and accessible learning provision to take account of a wide range of student needs

As a student at OCA, I will:

- Respect other students and recognise that different people bring different perspectives and ideas
- Challenge inequalities and communicate respectfully and responsibly with other students and OCA staff
- Choose to participate actively in community activities such as student forums, course groups, study visits, workshops and

critiques and be willing to share my work within the OCA community

## Sustaining Practice

OCA will:

- Help support students in making meaningful connections between their studies and aspirations, and to facilitate our learner's transitions into creative practices beyond OCA in sustainable ways
- Seek to provide our learners with transferable knowledge and skills, creating interdisciplinary and collaborative opportunities, and encouraging networking during and after study
- Hope to assist our learners in negotiating their way through their chosen professional field, and the wider creative arts community

## Student regulations and handbook links

[https://www.oca.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Student-Regulations\\_2017-2018\\_Final-1.pdf](https://www.oca.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Student-Regulations_2017-2018_Final-1.pdf)

[https://www.oca.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Handbook\\_250718\\_Final\\_Red.pdf](https://www.oca.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Handbook_250718_Final_Red.pdf)

## Policy

<https://www.oca.ac.uk/about-oca/policies/>

