

What you need to know:

Antisocial behaviour and noise nuisance

Our expectations

Newcastle University is committed to developing a culture that is positive, inclusive and supportive. This commitment includes playing an active role in the community and an expectation that students show consideration for those living nearby.

The University's [Student Charter](#) sets out the standards of conduct the University expects of students in order to ensure a safe, respectful and supportive environment for all members of the University community.

What is antisocial behaviour and noise nuisance?

Antisocial behaviour and noise nuisance include:

- Noise disturbances, including loud music and bass, loud voices, banging doors, footfall, taxis, shouting, screaming, disruptive house parties or gatherings.
- Waste and recycling mismanagement.
- Damage to local community or property.

Your responsibilities – be a good neighbour

All Newcastle University students are responsible for their own behaviour and its impact on others. A Student household is also responsible for the behaviour of those who attend their property.

There are no designated 'student areas' within the city where excessive noise or ASB is expected or tolerated.

If you are having a gathering or event at your property, you are responsible for the behaviour of invited guests and other non-tenants who would not otherwise be at your property if the event was not taking place.

Even if no one has complained, that doesn't mean no one has been disturbed.

What happens if expectations are not met?

Any report of ASB or noise nuisance, whether on University premises or in the community, will be treated seriously and investigated in line with the [Student Conduct Disciplinary Procedure](#) as a potential misconduct under the [Student Behavioural Code of Conduct](#).

Anyone can make a report of ASB or noise-nuisance about a Newcastle University student or household. This includes other students, local residents, members of the public or third-party services (such as the Police or the Council).

If you have been investigated under Student Conduct Disciplinary Procedure and misconduct has been found, or you are issued with advice and guidance regarding your future conduct, you will be required to read this document which sets out the impact and consequences of ASB and noise

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nuisance. Further information on possible sanctions is available in the [Student Behavioural Code of Conduct](#). These range from fines to warnings and for repeated or serious misconduct can result in suspension or expulsion.

University and external services working together

Antisocial behaviour is a public order matter and so in addition to University procedures the Police and Council have their own procedures.

If the Police or Council witness a minor disturbance, and are able to establish that this is a first incident, it is possible that the matter will be concluded with verbal advice at the time. The University does not normally receive these reports, but if a complaint is received, the incident will be investigated under the [Student Disciplinary Procedure](#).

If the Police or Council determine that verbal advice would not be an appropriate resolution (either because the disturbance is more significant or because verbal advice has been given previously), they may take further action and the University will be informed of this.

Students will always be given the opportunity to respond to a disciplinary report, however, Police reports are considered to be strong evidence that ASB or noise nuisance has occurred.

External services are likely to take more severe action where:

- a significant disturbance is caused to the community
- there are aggravating factors
- a household has been involved in repeated witnessed disturbances.

The Council and the Police have their own procedures and actions for addressing ASB and noise nuisance by students. You should know that:

- Newcastle City Council does not necessarily issue the below warnings incrementally, e.g., a CPNW can be issued following a first witnessed disturbance;
- There are no set 'acceptable' times for excessive noise, for example before 11pm. Excessive noise is not acceptable at any time, day or night.

Council action and indicative University sanctions

Council action	Indicative University sanction(s)
First warning issued by City Council	Warning and £30 individual fine
Community Protection Notice Warning (CPNW) – a further disturbance is highly likely to result in the issue of a Community Protection Notice (CPN)	Warning/Final Warning and £40-60 individual fine Referral to Student Disciplinary Committee for significance disturbance, aggravating factors, or repeat offences

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Community Protection Notice (CPN) – a breach of this legal notice is a prosecutable offence	
S80 Abatement Order (Environmental Protection Act 1990) – a breach of this legal notice is a prosecutable offence	Warning/Final Warning and £60-100 individual fine Referral to Student Disciplinary Committee for significance disturbance, aggravating factors, or repeat offences
Breach of CPN/S80 Abatement Order	Referral to Student Disciplinary Committee.

Where a range is given for an indicative sanction, the following factors will be considered:

- The level of disturbance;
- The number of people present;
- The time of the disturbance;
- Whether the event jeopardised the safety of those present;
- Whether a resident complaint has been received in addition to any Police report;
- The presence of a music/sound system;
- The level of planning/organisation;
- The attitude of residents/guests;
- Level of engagement with external agencies and/or University investigation;
- Whether the student has been involved in previous misconduct relating to ASB or noise nuisance.

Further information

- [Student homepage](#) Newcastle City Council
- [Statutory nuisances: how councils deal with complaints](#) GOV.UK
- [Noise Nuisance](#), Newcastle City Council
- [Antisocial behaviour](#) Northumbria Police
- You can also seek advice from the [Student Advice Centre](#) or support from the [Student Health and Wellbeing Service](#).
- Information about your legal rights can be found at [Newcastle University Students' Union](#).