

Lincoln Bishop University

Document Administration

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Scope:	This policy applies to students
Owner	Vice-Chancellor
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Consultation: (where relevant)	Students via Lincoln Bishop University Students' Union
Authorised by (Board):	University Council
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Review due:	Annually, in line with review of Student Agreement.
Document location:	Website
Document dissemination / communications plan	Copies of this plan are available for current and potential students on the Lincoln Bishop University website. It is referred to in the terms and conditions of enrolment. Current students will be informed of the plan at re-enrolment and through communications on the student portal. It is published on the staff portal and referenced in the regular Regulations Roadshows.

Version Control Table

Version Number	Date Authorised	Summary of key changes
1.0	April 2024	Amended to reflect updated Student Agreement for 2025.
2.0	September 2025	Name change and branding update and minor amendments to reflect updated Student Agreement and Tuition Fees, Charges, Debt and Refund Policy.
3.0	February 2026	Reviewed and amended to reflect current likelihood and risk assessment adjusted accordingly.

LINCOLN BISHOP UNIVERSITY

Student Protection Plan (revised 2026)

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Higher Education and Research Act 2017 requires higher education institutions to maintain a Student Protection Plan to protect students' (your) interests in the case of material change, e.g. programme changes, suspensions, closures, or institutional closure.
- 1.2 Lincoln Bishop University ('the University' / 'we') is committed to helping students ('you') to achieve the best academic outcomes from their studies. Unforeseen events may occasionally occur that result in changes having to be made to modules or programmes. Provision for such events is detailed within your Lincoln Bishop Student Agreement¹. The measures outlined in this Student Protection Plan are a starting point, should you be materially impacted by changes to provision at the University. We would also develop a specific, targeted action plan to take into account the needs of those involved.
- 1.3 This plan has been developed with input from a range of University staff (including academic and professional support staff) and representatives from the Students' Union (SU).
- 1.4 We are committed to communicating any changes to programmes as early as possible, with clear information and options. To help you, all reasonable steps will be taken to minimise the disruption to services. These include, for example:
 - delivering a modified version of the same programme;
 - offering you the chance to move to another overlapping programme where possible;
 - providing assistance to aid you to switch¹ to a different provider.
- 1.5 The University works with a number of collaborative partners. All collaborative arrangements are subject to regular Institutional Approvals carried out by Lincoln Bishop University. These include a review of the financial, governance and quality provisions of providers. The health of the academic programmes offered through these collaborative arrangements is monitored through Annual Monitoring Reports and work by Link Tutors. These arrangements enable the University and our collaborative partners to work together to ensure that the partnerships are robust, viable and offer you a high-quality student experience.
- 1.6 If you are studying at one of our franchise partners² you are formally a student of Lincoln Bishop University and therefore protected by this Lincoln Bishop University Student Protection Plan. If you are studying at one of validated partners³, your institution has its own Student Protection Plan. Should an incident occur that affects your institution's ability to deliver teaching, their plan would initially come into operation (e.g. the validating university ceasing to operate, loss of key staff or part of the institution's teaching and learning spaces or IT systems). We will, however, work with the institution to assist in minimising any disruption to your studies. Should it be decided that the programme on which you are studying will not continue, we will work with the institution and those affected, to manage the withdrawal of the programme and minimise the impact on the students affected. In this instance, the measures outlined in this plan would come into operation.

¹ See under Admissions on [Policies and procedures - General | Lincoln Bishop University](https://www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk/policies-and-procedures-general) (www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk)

² For a list of the University's franchised partners see [Collaborative-Register-2025-2026](#) (pp.3-5) (www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk)

³ For a list of the University's validated partners see [Collaborative-Register-2025-2026](#) (pp.6-10) (www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk)

2. Evidence used to inform this plan

2.1. Underlying this plan is a risk assessment of factors that might potentially have a material impact on your studies at the University. We have worked to ensure it addresses the University's specific circumstances. The risk assessment is informed by internal and external scrutiny through, for example:

- meetings of the University Council and its sub-committees⁴;
- the University's financial accounts and external audit reports⁵;
- assurance checks by regulatory bodies such as Ofsted and the British Psychological Society;
- the University's *Academic Health of the Institution Report*;
- External Examiner reports;
- the University's business continuity plans;
- the University's Teaching Excellence Framework rating; and
- the University of Leicester's 2022 review of research degree provision at the University.

3. Risk Assessment – Institutional Risk

3.1. We consider risks that may impact on our ability to continue to operate at an institutional level, specifically:-

- no longer being able to operate or intending to operate (Institutional Risk 1);
- no longer being able to award the qualifications because the OfS has varied or revoked degree awarding powers (Institutional Risk 2);
- no longer being able to offer research degrees (Institutional Risk 3).

3.2 Institutional Risk 1 - Sustainability

Our accounts are approved by external auditors on a 'going concern' basis and are submitted to OfS for scrutiny.

The University reviews its financial strategy in papers presented regularly to the University Council with close attention to risk management. Risks relating to financial sustainability are actively managed with strategic partners, working in careful co-ordination. Prudent management decisions are assisting the University in managing consequential risks, with decision making influenced by what will serve the University best in the long-term.

The University is taking an active stance in managing its financial performance, and in recognition of the pressures being managed and the growing financial constraint for the sector, the University assesses the risk as high.

This risk is assessed as high and mitigation actions are outlined in section 10.1 below.

3.3 Institutional Risk 2 - Quality of Provision (as evidenced through external assessment) and compliance with the Office for Students Regulatory Framework

- The Higher Education Review report (in 2016) on the University (formally known as Bishop Grosseteste University) confirmed that the setting and maintenance of the academic standards of our own awards and the maintenance of the academic standards of the awards offered on behalf of our research degree-awarding body meet UK expectations. In

⁴ See [University Council Lincoln Bishop University](http://www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk) (www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk)

⁵ See [University's financial accounts and external audit reports](http://www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk) (www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk)

addition, the report noted best practice in relation to the integrated, institution-wide academic and pastoral care for students that supports the development of their academic, personal and professional potential⁶.

- Lincoln Bishop University is registered with the Office for Students (OfS) and regularly reviews the quality of its provision to ensure it meets the OfS's regulatory requirements. The conclusions of our annual review process are published in the *Academic Health of the Institution Report*.
- Quality Assurance tools (including External Examiner reports and the *Academic Health of the Institution Report*) indicate high-quality provision is in place in academic courses at the University.
- In 2022, we were awarded a silver rating against the Teaching Excellence Framework.
- The University of Leicester reviewed the arrangements for research degrees in the summer of 2017 and renewed the arrangements in 2023.
- No issues have been raised by Ofsted or other Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies.

This risk is assessed as low.

3.4 Institutional Risk 3 – Research Degrees. The University is validated by the University of Leicester to deliver research degrees. We have an active and ongoing institutional partnership with the University of Leicester having been re-assessed in 2022 with approval for continued delivery of research degrees being confirmed in 2023.

This risk is assessed as low

4. Risk Assessment – Campus Availability

4.1. We have assessed the risk of not:

- being unable to operate at all on our current campus (Campus Risk 1);
- being unable to operate on part of our campus (Campus Risk 2).

Campus Risk 1

The University is located on a single campus on land owned by the University. There is no intention to move from this campus. The University also has an additional building (St Hughs) within five minutes' walk of our original buildings. The campus is located in uphill Lincoln, away from any flood zones. The campus consists of a number of separate buildings and all being unavailable is considered to be low risk.

This risk is assessed as low.

Campus Risk 2

Whilst the University has a developed action plan and procedures for the care and maintenance of its estate, an event that temporarily prevents the University from using part of that estate cannot be ruled out. The relevant actions to mitigate the impact on students are outlined in section 10.2 below. The exact nature of our response to any disaster would be determined by the nature of the disruption and campus facilities affected.

With respect to both the risks noted above, we have a Disaster Plan (incorporating our Business Continuity Plan) to address events outside our control on campus affecting business continuity, such

⁶ See [Higher Education Review: Bishop Grosseteste University, January 2016](#). This is the latest external quality assessment available for the University

as damage to buildings or equipment. Such actions may involve the temporary delivery of teaching and learning on-line; however, this would be mindful of the University's validated documents and your contract with us and ensure continued synchronous delivery at the appropriate level. It should be noted that the nature of our academic portfolio with an emphasis on education, social science and humanities, means that we do not have specialist estate resources. Being able, therefore, to find alternative and comparable learning facilities in the event of any disaster is considered to be feasible.

This risk is assessed as moderate and mitigation actions are outlined in section 10.2 below.

5. Risk Assessment – Programme Delivery

5.1 We actively consider risks that may impact on the University's ability to continue to operate at subject or programme level, specifically:

- no longer being able to deliver courses in one or more subject areas and/or departments (Programme Risk 1);
- no longer being able to deliver one or more courses to you, particularly if programme closures are likely in the next three years (Programme Risk 2);
- no longer being able to deliver material components of one or more courses, particularly if there are areas of vulnerability, such as single person dependencies for teaching (Programme Risk 3).

5.2 Programme Risks 1 & 2

We manage our academic portfolio in such a way as to identify in good time the potential withdrawal of existing programmes. Programmes are monitored on an annual basis through Annual Monitoring Reports. These draw on performance, student evaluation reports and external examiner reports and are reviewed by the Faculty. The Faculty and programme area summary reports inform the *Academic Health of the Institution Report*, which is scrutinised by Council and Senate through the Academic Assurance Committee. Student representation is present on all these committees. Whilst we have a significant number of programmes with relatively low student numbers, several are delivered as part of a joint degree programme structure. This means that, whilst any specific subject combination may have a small number of students enrolled on the programme, the numbers generally remain viable. If, however, a programme was to be identified for withdrawal, this is only done after exploring all opportunities to revive its viability and the development of a withdrawal and teach-out plan for affected students.

These teach-out plans follow established and tested procedures in the event of suspension/closure of a subject and its associated programmes. These are activated when the risk becomes an actual issue. Whilst staff are available to teach out the students concerned, we monitor current student performance to ensure we can work with the students on a managed process as required.

This risk is assessed as moderate and mitigation actions are outlined in section 10.3 below.

5.3 Programme Risk 3

We will endeavour to deliver programmes in accordance with the description in our prospectus for the academic year in which you begin your programme. Whilst we have processes in place, however, for ensuring structured and considered reviews of programmes are undertaken (e.g. the Annual Monitoring Process outlined above), based on experience, it is possible that students may face material changes to programme delivery in year.

A number of the programmes are reliant on small numbers of permanent academic staff. Whilst risks to the student experience are mitigated through maintaining access to a range of knowledge of skills across the University's academic staff and through the use of Hourly Paid Lecturers and notice

periods within staff contractual arrangements, issues such as illness of staff may affect programme delivery.

This risk is assessed as moderate and mitigation actions are outlined in section 10.4 below.

6. Risk Assessment – Mode of Study

6.1. Our IT systems have many safeguards in place to protect against failure. These include multiple data centres, virtual server environments and well-resourced threat protection. There are contingency plans in place should assessment software fail. Information stored on the virtual learning environment is available in printed form if required. The area of IT is not, therefore, developed further in this plan.

Our primary mode of study is on-site campus delivery. This risk is addressed through the University Campus Risks 1 & 2 above.

6.2. The University has developed distance learning programmes and revised its Codes of Practice accordingly. The University ensures that appropriate support and training is given to enable distance learning students to access materials online. With respect to distance learning, blended learning and access to on-line learning materials, the University's Virtual Learning Environment, assessment software and e-mail are cloud hosted and as such separate from our university infrastructure. The systems are supported by industry standard service level agreements that operate to ensure a 99.99% uptime. In the 0.01% chance of materials being unavailable, the University will work with you to ensure access to relevant materials/ support via alternative electronic means or in hardcopy format.

7. Risk Assessment – No longer being able to recruit or teach a particular type of student

7.1. Student Category Risk 1

This risk would currently apply to our students on Student Route visas. Neither UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) nor the University's internal auditors have highlighted any major risks in this area, which is monitored internally by the International Compliance Oversight Group and Senate. We are, however, conscious of the maturing nature of our work in this area; whilst this is not perceived as an issue, we have assessed the risk, therefore, as moderate.

This risk is assessed as moderate and mitigation actions are outlined in section 10.5 below.

8. Risk Assessment – No longer being able to offer programmes at designated collaborative partners

8.1. Partnership Risk 1

As noted above (section 1.5), we work closely with our collaborative partners to ensure these partnerships, both franchise and validated, are robust at institutional and programme levels.

The quality of partnerships and their associated programmes is monitored through institutional approval events and programme approval events. Programme delivery is also assessed through annual monitoring reports, which, in turn, influence our published *Academic Health of the Institution Report*. Based on these, and regular partnership meetings, the risk of the partner institutions being unable to deliver programmes to students is considered to be low. However, partner institutions could be impacted by risks pertaining to the University ceasing to operate, for example due to insolvency, campus buildings and delivery systems. Mitigation actions should a partner be unable to deliver Lincoln Bishop University programmes are, therefore outlined below in 10.1.

This risk is assessed as high and mitigation actions are outlined in section 10.1 below.

9. Risk Assessment

Based on the information above, we have assessed the likelihood of the risks outlined affecting you. Please see Appendix A for an outline of the likelihood assigned to each level.

We have outlined below the actions we would undertake to mitigate any impact on your studies in key areas of moderate risk.

10. Mitigation Actions for Risks Classified as ‘High’

10.1. Institutional Risk 1: No longer being able to operate or intending to operate

The OfS has defined measures in its regulatory framework should an institution no-longer be considered to be financially viable or sustainable. In this instance, we would be guided by the reporting requirements of the OfS and work with them on any required measures to protect the interest of students, including (but not limited to) the production of a specific market exit plan tailored to the needs of the student community at the time.⁷

To support production of a market exit plan, Lincoln Bishop is in regular strategic dialogue with the University of Lincoln, the University of Leicester and the Cathedrals Group to support the transference of students in extremis. Lincoln Bishop maintains a communications function that would take responsibility, under the direction of the Chief Marketing and Engagement Officer, to ensure applicants and current students would receive timely information and access to guidance. We would ensure access to support, guidance and advice. We would provide a centrally organised Advice Forum and encourage students to engage with bespoke support delivered on a personal level via bookable 1:1 advice sessions with student support staff to address and discuss options and individual concerns and needs. The Student Advice & Wellbeing team would take a lead in providing bespoke support and guidance to ensure the needs of students sharing protected characteristics are met.

In the event that the University was no-longer considered to be financially viable or sustainable and ceased to operate, we would mitigate the impact on our collaborative partners. We would assist providers (where required) to access an alternative qualification (if a Pearson centre, e.g. HNC/HND) or to assist in a discussion with another University. We would support our collaborative partners to provide bespoke student support on a personal level.

10.2. Campus Risk 2: Loss of part of the campus

Should part of the campus be unavailable, actions we would look at to mitigate impact on your studies would include:

- relocating provision to an alternative location, for instance by: hiring spaces for programme delivery nearby (where possible) and/or installing temporary buildings on the University’s land;
- revising timetabling to allow all of the scheduled teaching to take part in the available facilities. This may include student contact sessions being held outside of normal office hours; and
- if appropriate and viable, programmes may be delivered through alternative means, such as on-line delivery.

⁷ See [Office for Students \(OfS\) Student Protection and support](#)

In determining the most appropriate action to take, we will ensure that appropriate consultation is undertaken with the students affected and with staff and takes into account the individual needs of the students concerned. The Student Advice & Wellbeing team would take a lead in providing bespoke support and guidance to ensure the needs of students sharing protected characteristics are met.

10.3. Programme Risks 1 & 2 : Subject or Programme withdrawal

If a programme were to be identified for withdrawal, this would only be done after:

- exploring all opportunities to revive its viability;
- taking into account the recruitment cycle; and
- developing a full withdrawal and teach-out plan, accompanied by a relevant Equality Impact Assessment.

All current applicants would normally be notified no less than three months prior to the planned enrolment. We would advise applicants on how to source alternative opportunities with ourselves or other providers. For current students, we would work with you to ensure that the withdrawal occurs as a phased process over time and that you are given time to complete your studies. The Student Advice & Wellbeing team would provide bespoke support and guidance to ensure the needs of students sharing protected characteristics are met.

In general, measures we would activate to protect you in the event of a programme closure include:

- notifying you (if you are an applicant) in time for you to source an alternative suitable programme (where relevant) at the University or elsewhere and providing assistance and support where possible;
- communicating with you (if you are a current student) to provide assurance that you will not be adversely affected by our decision, and to provide assurance that you will be able to complete your studies;
- working with you to enable completion of studies where mitigating circumstances have been presented; and
- closely monitoring the quality of the phased-out delivery to ensure that your experience is not diminished.

10.4. Programme Risk 3: No longer being able to deliver material components of a programme

Should there be a material change to a programme required in the academic year concerned, we will endeavour to minimise disruption through:

- ensuring minor modifications of content or delivery structure are developed in consultation with those affected;
- seeking to fill staffing gaps as quickly as possible, by moving other current members of staff with appropriate skills and experience into the vacant post(s) or by recruiting externally, to avoid disruption;
- reviewing internal staff resources, including recruitment of area specialists; and
- ensuring all applicants are informed of planned major changes to programmes as soon as possible.

Where necessary, we will provide reasonable support to you to access a programme run by another provider, including making arrangements for the transfer of credits and information about academic progress. The Student Advice & Wellbeing team would provide bespoke support and guidance to ensure the needs of students sharing protected characteristics are met.

We have reviewed our current provision as part of the annual monitoring process and are satisfied that the above measures would be adequate in the event of permanent staff leaving undergraduate/postgraduate taught programmes.

Should research supervisory staff with core specialisms leave the University, we would seek to consult you and, where possible mitigate the impact by:

- establishing alternative internal and appropriate first and second supervisor support;
- working with our validation partner to request approval that former staff can be retained as external third supervisors, as appropriate;
- developing specific plans for future study with affected students (e.g. by working with you to refine the research project where appropriate);
- seeking to recruit students to designated areas and specialisms where there is appropriate and established expertise in the academic staff body;
- recruiting new staff with supervisory potential and capacity, and, where appropriate, making reference to established areas and specialisms in doctoral or PhD study; and
- providing reasonable support to students in accessing a programme run by another provider, including making arrangements for the transfer of credits (taught component of EdD) and information about academic progress (all doctoral/ PhD programmes).

A particular feature of the University is that a number of programmes are validated to include an element of work-based learning. These options include short term placements in an industry linked to your programme, assessed work placements embedded throughout a programme and apprenticeship provision.

We will work with you to ensure relevant safeguards are in place to enable you to take advantage of appropriate placements prior to commencing a programme. If a programme is dependent on you being in employment or regularly volunteering in a particular setting, this will be made clear to you prior to commencing on a programme. Where you are studying on a programme with a requirement for work-related learning and you lose your employment, the University will allow an appropriate period of time to work with you to seek an alternative employer.

If an apprentice is made redundant through no fault of their own, we will ensure that the Department for Education (DfE) guidance will apply⁸.

10.5. Student Category Risk 1

The risks to students are covered under the risks outlined above including those relating to institutional risk and financial sustainability, campus availability, programme delivery, mode of delivery, and collaborative partners. This student category risk therefore relates to the specific student demographic of international students.

In the event of suspension of our Student Route visa licence, we would work with UK Visa and Immigration section (UKVI) to take all reasonable steps to minimise the resultant disruption to those services and to affected students. Dependent on the work with UKVI, we would consider:

- allowing you to complete your year of study/programme;
- allowing those already in receipt of a VISA based upon an allocated Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) from the University to enrol and commence their studies; and
- offering those who have not commenced their travel to the University, the opportunity to postpone their application pending the resolution of the suspension.

⁸ See [Apprenticeship funding rules 2025 to 2026 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

In the event of revocation of our ability to take international students on a student route visa, we will work with UKVI to take all reasonable steps to minimise the resultant disruption to affected students by, for example:

- providing assistance to you to switch to an alternative sponsor.

10.6. Partnership Risk 1

Should an incident occur which affects the ability of a franchise arrangement to deliver teaching, the Lincoln Bishop University Student Protection Plan would initially come into operation (e.g. the University ceasing to operate, loss of key staff or part of the partner's teaching and learning spaces or IT systems). The University will work with the franchise partner institution to minimise any disruption to your studies. Should it be decided that the programme on which you are studying will not continue, we will work with the franchise institution and those affected to manage the withdrawal of the programme and minimise the impact on the students affected. Should it not be possible to continue to provide courses at the partner institution, we will work with the partner institution to ensure you can complete your studies through, for example):

- amending (with consultation) the mode of delivery to distance learning/mixed method;
- enabling you (with support) to access equivalent courses at the University campus;
- establishing a flying faculty (including support mechanisms) to teach you in the locality;
- working with education providers in the nearby area to provide alternative learning; and/or
- utilising Hourly Paid Lecturers to teach specialist elements of the programme.

Whilst students within other arrangements are studying Lincoln Bishop University validated programmes at their college/institution, in the event of there being a material disruption to study, the University would work with the validated partner to assist in minimising the impact on affected students. In the case of a SCITT programme (School-centred initial teacher training), the University would work with the Department for Education and Teaching and the relevant County Council to ensure you are able to complete their studies, potentially through working with local school direct options or by offering opportunities on the University's teacher development courses.

11. Financial Implications

Should it be necessary to activate provisions under this Protection Plan, we will seek to ensure that solutions are tailored to take into account the needs of different students. The Student Advice & Wellbeing team would provide bespoke support and guidance to ensure the needs of students sharing protected characteristics are met. Solutions will be subject to consultation and Equality Impact Assessment. Guided by the principles of the Office of the Independent Adjudicator, we will seek: "to ensure that the proposed ... [protection]... returns the student to the position that they would have been in had the circumstances not occurred. Any compensation payments deemed appropriate would take into account: 'actual financial loss'". For further details, please see our Tuition Fees, Charges, Debt and Refund Policy⁹.

Should you need to transfer programme, or move to another institution, there are likely to be implications for student finance arrangements. The University's Student Advice & Wellbeing team will be notified of any events that trigger the implementation of this plan. Student Advice & Wellbeing would then contact you to provide detailed, bespoke information, advice and guidance based on your individual circumstances to ensure the needs of students sharing protected characteristics are met.

⁹ See under [Finance on Policies and procedures - Lincoln Bishop University](http://www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk) (www.lincolnbishop.ac.uk)

Where relevant, mitigation plans, as outlined, are in place to enable you to complete your studies at the University or one of our partners. The exception to this might be the extremely small number of Student Route visa international students currently engaged. The University's financial situation would be sufficient to provide refunds and compensation for the small number of students on current teach out courses potentially at an increased risk of non-continuation of study.

12. Publication & Review

This plan will be reviewed on an annual basis and approval is required from Council on the recommendation of Council's Academic Assurance Committee on the recommendation of Senate. It will also be reviewed should any circumstances arise that materially impact on the risk assessment attached or mitigation actions proposed. Representatives of the SU have been involved in devising this plan. The SU also sits on committees at which the plan is reviewed and discussed. Should the plan have to be activated in any manner, we will seek to capture the views of those affected on how it might be improved for the future.

Copies of this plan are available for current and potential students on the Lincoln Bishop University website. It is referred to in the University's terms and conditions of enrolment. Current students are informed of the plan at re-enrolment and through communications on the student portal or the relevant intranet at our collaborative partners.

The plan is published on the staff portal and referenced in the regular Regulations Roadshows.

Staff or students wishing to comment on this plan are welcome to contact our Policy team at the University at: policy@lincolnbishop.ac.uk.

13. Notification, Advice and Support

We are committed to communicating any changes to programmes as early as possible (normally no less than 30 calendar days before implementation).

Should we need to trigger this plan, the SU will be notified and invited to discuss the next steps with a University working group. If affected, you will be notified by the University and directed to a central point for further information. Under normal circumstances, we commit to contacting you three months prior to the intended dates of major programme change/closure. Should unforeseen circumstances result in a change in semester, we commit to consulting you as soon as potential options are identified and working with you to mitigate any impact.

Advice and support will be offered, in the first instance, by the relevant Programme Leader supported by Student Advice & Wellbeing to provide bespoke support and guidance to ensure the needs of students sharing protected characteristics are met.

Additionally, independent advice and support will be available via the Lincoln Bishop University Students' Union.

Where you decide it is necessary to transfer programme, or move to another institution, there are likely to be implications for student finance arrangements. The University's Student Advice & Wellbeing team will be notified of students affected in the event of any the above steps being taken. Student Advice & Wellbeing will contact affected students and provide detailed information, advice and guidance based on their individual circumstances.

N.B. We retain the right to make minor adjustments and improvements to programme and module content year on year, and these in themselves do not warrant the triggering of student protection measures. However, if you feel that the programme as delivered varies significantly from what you expected, clarification and representation can be sought through the Students' Union.

14. What can I do if I have a complaint

If you wish to complain about our management of the process of change, you can follow the University's complaints procedure. Details of how to raise a complaint can be found at:

<https://www.bgu.ac.uk/about-bgu/policies-and-procedures/policies-and-procedures-academics-2> .

If you are not content with the proposed outcomes of any complaint, you can raise the issue with the Office of the Independent Adjudicator, at [Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education - OIAHE](#)

15. Further Information

Staff or students wishing to comment on this plan are welcome to contact our Policy team at the University at: policy@lincolnbishop.ac.uk .

Appendix A – Initial Risk Assessment (February 2026)

Risk ID	Risk	Risk Description	Potential material impact on students	Risk Level (Strategic/ Corporate/ Operational)	Risk Owner	Risk Manager(s)	Likelihood (1 is low, 2 is moderate, 3 is high)	Impact (1 is low 4 is high)	Risk Level (1-4 is low, 5-8 is moderate, 9 or above is high)	Mitigating Actions: where likelihood is moderate or above (Student Protection Plan)	Date of Next Review
Institutional Risk 1	No longer being able to operate or intending to operate	The University ceases to operate	The University closes and students are unable to continue with the institution putting their study at high risk	Corporate	Vice-Chancellor	Chief Financial Officer	3	4	12	SPP section 10.1	31/07/2026
Institutional Risk 2	No longer being able to award the qualifications because the OfS has varied or revoked degree awarding powers	The University is unable to award relevant qualifications	The University cannot fulfil its obligations to students unless an alternative validating partner is found.	Corporate	Vice-Chancellor	University Executive Group	1	4	4	N/A	31/07/2026

Institutional Risk 3	No longer being able to offer research degrees	Loss of ability to undertake research degrees at the University without finding an	Students are unable to complete	Corporate	Vice-Chancellor	Executive Dean of Research & Knowledge Exchange	1	3	3	N/A	31/07/2026
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	validated by the University of Leicester	alternative validating partner. The University will also be at risk of being unable to achieve Research Degree Awarding Powers	research degrees at the University								
Campus Risk 1	No longer able to operate at all on the University's current campus	The University is unable to operate on its campus	Students are unable to continue to study on the University's campus and may need to study elsewhere, via distance learning or transfer to alternative institutions	Corporate	Chief Financial Officer	University Executive Group	1	3	3	N/A	31/07/2026

Campus Risk 2	Being unable to operate on part of the University campus	The University is unable to operate off part of its campus (e.g. due to fire or other problems affecting one or more buildings)	Students may experience timetable disruption	Corporate	Chief Financial Officer	University Executive Group	2	3	6	SPP section 10.2	31/07/2026
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Risk ID	Risk	Risk Description	Potential material impact on students	Risk Level (Strategic/ Corporate/ Operational)	Risk Owner	Risk Manager(s)	Likelihood (1 is low, 2 is moderate, 3 is high)	Impact (1 is low 4 is high)	Risk Level (1-4 is low, 5-8 is moderate, 9 or above is high)	Mitigating Actions: where likelihood is moderate or above (Student Protection Plan)	Date of Next Review
Programme Risk 1	No longer being able to deliver courses to students in one or more subject areas and/or departments	The University withdraws a subject or programme. The nature of the programmes offered at the University mean that this would be a planned event	Students are in teach out situations with the primary effect being on those with resits outside of the planned teach out period. Variations to module delivery patterns may be experienced as a result.	Programme	Vice-Chancellor	Provost and Chief Academic Officer	3	2	6	SPP section 10.3	31/07/2026
Programme Risk 2	University Programme Risk 2	See above									31/07/2026

Risk ID	Risk	Risk Description	Potential material impact on students	Risk Level (Strategic/ Corporate/ Operational)	Risk Owner	Risk Manager(s)	Likelihood (1 is low, 2 is moderate, 3 is high)	Impact (1 is low 4 is high)	Risk Level (1-4 is low, 5-8 is moderate, 9 or above is high)	Mitigating Actions: where likelihood is moderate or above (Student Protection Plan)	Date of Next Review
Programme Risk 3	No longer being able to deliver material components of one or more courses, particularly if there are areas of vulnerability, such as single person dependencies for teaching	The University is no longer able to deliver material components of one or more programme. This may occur in a planned fashion if external/ internal review indicates a change is required. Students would be consulted, and changes put into place in a timely fashion. However, this risk pertains to unplanned changes occurring due to events outside of the University's control - in particular the loss of staff	Students may experience module content or timing changes or changes to assessment methods	Programme	Vice-Chancellor	Provost and Chief Academic Officer	2	3	6	SPP section 10.4	31/07/2026
Mode of Study Risk 1	No longer able to deliver one or more modes of study to	See University Campus Risk 1									31/07/2026

Risk ID	Risk	Risk Description	Potential material impact on students	Risk Level (Strategic/ Corporate/ Operational)	Risk Owner	Risk Manager(s)	Likelihood (1 is low, 2 is moderate, 3 is high)	Impact (1 is low 4 is high)	Risk Level (1-4 is low, 5-8 is moderate, 9 or above is high)	Mitigating Actions: where likelihood is moderate or above (Student Protection Plan)	Date of Next Review
	students, particularly if withdrawal of a mode of study is likely										
Student Category Risk 1	No longer being able to recruit or teach a particular type of student	This risk particularly relates to international students on a Student visa and a potential loss of the relevant licence	International students on a Student Visa may not be able to continue their studies at the University	Student	Vice-Chancellor	Provost and Chief Academic Officer	2	3	6	SPP section 10.5	31/07/2026
Partnership Risk 1	No longer being able to offer programmes at designated collaborative partners	The University operates a range of collaborative partnerships. This risk relates to how the University would work with the colleges to mitigate the impact of closure of programmes at the relevant partners	Students at collaborative partners may need to be relocated to complete their studies or have a planned teach out plan put in place	Partnership	University Executive Group	Provost and Chief Academic Officer	3	3	9	SPP section 10.6	31/07/2026

