

# Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom Statement

LCCA Governance



London  
College of  
Contemporary  
Arts

ID: ASA-013

## About this document

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LCCA students and staff are subject to the University for the Creative Arts (UCA) **Freedom of Speech and Expression Code of Practice**. This statement explains how that Code applies at LCCA, provides local contact information, and sets out LCCA's commitment to promoting freedom of speech and academic freedom in accordance with the Higher Education (Freedom of Speech) Act 2023 and OfS Regulatory Advice 24.

This document should be read alongside the full UCA Code of Practice, available [here](#).

## LCCA's Commitment

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LCCA is committed to securing, protecting, and actively promoting freedom of speech within the law and academic freedom for all students, staff, and visiting speakers. As a creative arts institution, we recognise that the exploration of challenging, controversial, and boundary-testing ideas is fundamental to artistic and intellectual development.

Freedom of speech includes lawful speech that may be offensive or uncomfortable to some. It is not limited to the spoken word but encompasses written materials, creative works, exhibitions, and other forms of expression. Speech that amounts to unlawful harassment or discrimination is not protected.

**Academic freedom** means the freedom of academic staff to question and test received wisdom, and to put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions, without placing themselves at risk of losing their jobs or privileges.

## How this works at LCCA

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### External Speaker Events

Events involving external speakers are managed through the LCCA Events Framework and Guest Speaker and Exhibitor Policy (HSC-003). All requests should be submitted via the Events Team at [events@lcca.ac.uk](mailto:events@lcca.ac.uk).

### Raising Concerns

If you believe that freedom of speech or academic freedom has been restricted at LCCA, or you have concerns about conduct that may affect these rights, contact the Quality Team at [quality@lcca.ac.uk](mailto:quality@lcca.ac.uk) in the first instance. Where internal resolution is not possible, students may refer complaints to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator (OIA). Staff and visiting speakers may raise concerns with the Office for Students (OfS).

## Related Policies and Documents

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[UCA Freedom of Speech and Expression Code of Practice](#)

LCCA Guest Speaker and Exhibitor Policy

LCCA Prevent Duty Policy

[Higher Education \(Freedom of Speech\) Act 2023](#)

[OfS Regulatory Advice 24: Freedom of Speech Guidance](#)

## Key Contacts

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<b>Freedom of Speech Concerns</b> <a href="mailto:quality@lcca.ac.uk">quality@lcca.ac.uk</a> Quality Team	<b>External Speaker Events</b> <a href="mailto:events@lcca.ac.uk">events@lcca.ac.uk</a> Events Team	<b>UCA Enquiries</b> <a href="mailto:belonging@uca.ac.uk">belonging@uca.ac.uk</a> Awarding body
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Key Information	
Version	1.0
Related document	UCA Freedom of Speech and Expression Code of Practice
Author(s)	Quality Assurance
Owner	Student Services
Effective Date	Mar 2026
Review Date	Jun 2027
Readership	All