HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

UCS recognises the importance of health, safety and welfare in the successful operation of the institution. This statement is a declaration of the Executive Team’s intent to establish a safe and healthy working environment for all. UCS is committed to ensuring that no activity will be carried out which could pose an unacceptable risk to the health, safety and welfare of staff, students, contractors or visitors on our premises, or staff and students undertaking authorised activities elsewhere.

To manage health and safety and to achieve the objectives of this policy, UCS has procedures and guidance detailed in the Health & Safety pages of our staff intranet.

HEALTH & SAFETY OBJECTIVES

To ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable:

(a) the provision of equipment, facilities and systems of work that are safe and without risks to health;
(b) arrangements for the use, storage, handling and transport of articles and substances that are safe and without risks to health;
(c) the provision of information, instruction, training and supervision that will ensure the safety of staff and students;
(d) the maintenance of the premises in a condition which is safe;
(e) that suitable clothing and equipment are provided where hazardous conditions cannot be eliminated;
(f) that suitable welfare facilities are provided;
(g) that safe places with safe access to and egress from are provided.

ORGANISATION

UCS is committed to continual improvement of our health and safety performance. The UCS Executive has endorsed health and safety objectives which will be regularly reviewed and revised.

The responsibility for the management of health and safety lies with all directors and managers. They have local responsibilities for providing, so far as is reasonably practicable, safe and healthy working conditions and environment for their staff, students, contractors and visitors throughout the premises of the institution. As such UCS provides health and safety training for staff to attend to ensure that they are familiar with the UCS health and safety procedures and guidance.

Every employee is expected to positively support and further develop the UCS health and safety culture. All staff have a responsibility for their own safety as well as having a duty of care towards all others using or visiting the institution. In particular they should follow health and safety instructions and not do anything that may endanger themselves or others.

UCS will review the health and safety arrangements at each of the partner institutions within the UCS Learning Network, however responsibility for local arrangements rests with the appropriate head of the institution and these local policies and procedures will apply.

This policy will be implemented, regularly reviewed and communicated to all employees.

Signed: ............................ Date: 25/11/13

Richard Lister
Provost and Chief Executive