



Introduction

Campus sites are busy places with large numbers of people going about their daily routines. They form a concentration of a vast range of people, ranging from resident work force, visitors, etc., to the students themselves.

The very nature of campus, where unfamiliar faces are common and accepted, lends itself to the work of the criminal who can blend in quite easily around halls of residence. For example, it is common to see people carrying suitcases, and other items, without suspicion.

For students on tight budgets, expensive items are difficult to replace, and it is highly advisable to spend a short time considering how effective measures can be taken to reduce the possibility of theft. The good news is that there are a number of actions the student can take to reduce the chance of becoming another crime victim.

Campus Watch is quite simply a means of like minded people who share a mutual potential risk consenting to **ACT** upon seeing suspicious activity.

Common Sense Security – Never assume that you or your property are safe, always take steps to make them so. If, by reading this document, your awareness level has been raised, then already you are more likely to perceive a problem arising and take preventative measures and that is the whole object, to avoid becoming a victim.



Your Personal Safety

PREVENTION IS ALWAYS BEST.

Readers are encouraged to assess their personal safety and to take reasonable measures that can blend into everyday life without stimulating unnecessary fear. Please remember that most people go through life without ever encountering a personal safety problem so please keep it in perspective.

- Avoid situations, which will necessitate you travelling alone at night time. There is safety in numbers. If however, you must travel on your own, plan your journey to limit your exposure to risk of assault, robbery or theft, by scheduling your journey to coincide with bus and train times etc. Use a taxi if no other transport is available.
- When travelling on foot, use busy routes and well lit walkways – avoid isolated and darkened areas.
- Inform another trusted party of your intended destination, mode of transport and expected arrival time.
- Do not display obvious valuables on your person – jewellery, hand bags etc. unless completely necessary. Carry only the amount of cash that you require – credit cards, bank pass books should be kept securely out of sight and not in hip pockets.
- When socialising other than at home, do not leave opened drinks unattended even for short periods unless a trusted friend is watching your drink for you.
- Remember that Campus sites are like any other public place and thieves will take advantage of students leaving property unattended in libraries, lecture theatres, restaurants and changing rooms.

If you think you are being followed, go to the nearest place where there are people, even a private house and contact the Gardaí.

If you are assaulted, help is available to you 24 hours a day. In any case involving sexual attack, you should NOT wash, change your clothes or clean up the immediate vicinity until after you have talked to the Gardaí you may unwittingly destroy essential evidence.



Security of Your Accommodation

- 1 Ensure your apartment and house doors are locked at all times. When vacating your accommodation, check to ensure that all windows are locked.
- 2 Never give your keys to anyone else and do not leave your keys where others could have access to them.
- 3 Before you admit any callers to your accommodation, ensure you are satisfied with their identity – ask for identification if in doubt.
- 4 Inform a trusted neighbour if you are going away.
- 5 Ensure that you do not have obvious signs of vacant accommodation – curtains drawn during daylight hours etc.
- 6 Ensure that all your property is marked with your own personal identification code. Items of value should be securely locked away.
- 7 Always lock outside doors. The main entrance is the first line of defence to your property. Close your curtains after dark. Act on suspicions you have, don't dwell on them. Let the professionals share your suspicions. Never reveal you are alone. If you receive strange, threatening or abusive phone calls, contact the Gardaí / Campus Security Personnel. Don't be afraid to check the ID of unfamiliar people. You do not have to challenge people aggressively. You can approach someone and ask if they are lost or need help if you are unsure. Perhaps enlist the help of a fellow student before making any approach. Don't let strangers in or hold doors open for strangers who are arriving as you are leaving. Use the door chain on your room door.

REMEMBER – OTHER PEOPLE LIVE IN THE BUILDING TOO!



Security of Your Vehicle

Many students are vehicle owners and criminals are always aware of concentrations of rich pickings. If you do not want your vehicle stolen, fit a good security device. There are many to choose from but not all are as effective as you may wish.

- 1 Do not leave valuables in your vehicle. If this is necessary, secure them out of sight in the boot.
- 2 Do not leave personal documents – driving licences, insurance certificates etc. in your vehicle.
- 3 Consider having the registration number etched onto the windows of your vehicle and on valuable components.
- 4 When parking your vehicle, take care to avoid isolated or darkened areas. Use a well lit street or thoroughfare at night time.
- 5 Consider fitting a good quality car alarm and/or immobiliser. A hardened steel chain and close shackle padlock fitted to the steering wheel is a visible and effective deterrent.
- 6 Do not pick up hitch-hikers.

SECURITY OF YOUR MOTOR CYCLE

Secure parking for motorcycles is a much neglected area, but it remains a popular form of transport. 'U' shaped pieces of scaffolding pole embedded into concrete, and located in areas, which have good natural surveillance by many people, can be the answer to the motor cyclist's theft problem.

SECURITY OF YOUR BICYCLE

- 1 When you purchase a bicycle, you should insist on obtaining a receipt showing the name and address of the seller/trader, together with the make model colour and frame number of your machine. Retain this receipt for future reference.
- 2 Secure your bicycle while unattended by using a good quality locking device.
- 3 Leave your bicycle in an area which is supervised or in an area where it can be in view of passers-by.
- 4 Take a photograph of your bicycle and engrave on the frame your own personal identifying number.



Road Safety

Road safety is everyone's responsibility. Each of us is responsible for the way we drive and we should always drive with due care and attention. Hundreds of road users are killed on the Irish roads every year. Most road deaths and injuries are caused by:

- **Driving too fast**
- **Driving while drunk or on drugs**
- **Driving while tired**
- **Not wearing seatbelts and car seats for children**
- **Not looking out for vulnerable road users**
- **Pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists not paying attention and not making sure they can be seen**

Speed is the single biggest cause of road deaths in Ireland. Over 40% of fatal crashes are caused by driving too fast.

Alcohol could be a factor in 37% of all fatal crashes (drunk drivers/riders and drunk pedestrians) and a factor in 62% of single vehicle crashes. One fifth of fatal road crashes that happen between 6am and 12 noon are alcohol related. Drunk pedestrians are involved in 38% of fatal pedestrian road crashes.

Seat belts save lives. Without a seat belt, 3 out of 4 people will be killed or seriously injured in a 50 km per hour head-on crash. Always wear a seat belt while driving and make sure every passenger wears a seat belt. Children should use a car seat or booster cushion. Making sure your child is properly strapped in to their car seat can reduce injuries by 90-95% for rear-facing seats and 60% for forward-facing seats.

Tiredness could be a factor in up to 20% of fatal crashes in Ireland. Driving when very tired is as dangerous as driving while over the drink drive limit.

What to do if you are a tired driver:

- Stop and take a nap for 15 minutes (set your mobile phone alarm).
- Take a caffeine drink before the nap (2 cups of coffee = 150mg of caffeine).
- After the nap, get some fresh air and stretch your legs.
- By doing all of this you should be able to drive for another hour or more.
- If you are suffering from a serious lack of sleep the only cure is sleep.
- Never drive if you're fighting sleep.



Mobile Phones

Do not use your mobile phone while driving. It is against the law and you could face a fine and two penalty points. Only use mobile phones with a hands free device.

Remember

- Always drive with due care and attention.
- If you witness dangerous or aggressive driving, call **Traffic Watch 1890 205 805** and report it. Dangerous driving is against the law.
- Never drive while drunk or on drugs.
- Always wear your seat belt.
- Speed kills. Slow down and reach your destination safely.
- Arrive alive.

Public Transport

Most people who use public transport feel very secure, especially when surrounded by other members of the public. However, here are a few things you might like to consider if you find yourself in different circumstances:

- Pay attention to the route you are taking if in a taxi or bus if you miss your stop or you find yourself in a remote or vulnerable situation. Don't be afraid to tell the driver to stop at a busy place if you are concerned.
- Have the correct money available for payment.
- When alighting at your destination, place yourself in proximity to other groups of people who you judge to be safe.
- Make full use of well lit areas.
- If possible arrange for someone to meet you at your destination.
- Do not sit in isolated compartments or decks where you may be vulnerable.
- Do not be afraid to change your seating position.
- Consider sitting next to the driver or conductor late at night.
- Carry a personal attack alarm, keep it ready and be familiar with its use.
- If molested alert the driver or conductor using any means available. If necessary ask him to drive to a Garda Station.
- Sit in the back of a taxi.
- If waiting for a taxi make sure you get into one that you have ordered or completely satisfy yourself that you are getting into a licensed taxi.
- Share a taxi with a friend but do think very carefully before sharing with someone you do not know.



- In all cases, do not reveal personal details to strangers in casual conversation and always be mindful of who may be listening.
- Use the time you are travelling to have your keys ready to enter your house or place of work etc.
- When using the ATM cash dispensers, try whenever you can to do so during daylight hours. If this is not possible then ensure you check the area carefully before using them.



Anti-Social Behaviour

Anti-social behaviour is a major issue affecting quality of life in modern Ireland. While people have a right to lead different lifestyles, it is not acceptable if their lifestyle interferes with the rights and freedoms of their neighbours.

If you or your neighbours are the victims of anti-social behaviour, don't suffer in silence. Report it to An Garda Síochána. We will treat you with courtesy, consideration, understanding and respect. Working together through Campus Watch we can and will make a difference.

What is Anti-Social Behaviour?

Anti-social behaviour is when a person acts in a way that causes or is likely to cause someone:

- harassment,
- significant or persistent alarm,
- distress, fear or intimidation, or
- affects their use or enjoyment of their property in a significant or persistent way.

The law does not apply if the person is living in the same household (Criminal Justice Act 2006 – Parts 11 and 13).

How we Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour

A Garda may issue a Behaviour Warning to the person involved in anti-social behaviour. A behaviour warning lasts for three months. A Garda can issue a warning verbally and later issue it in writing.

For children aged 12 - 18 years who do not obey the warning, the next step may be a good **Behaviour Contract**. If the contract doesn't work, the Garda Superintendent may:

- arrange a meeting and renew the contract,
- refer the young person to a Garda Youth Diversion Project (GYDP), or
- apply to the Children's Court for a Behaviour Order.



If a person over 18 years of age fails to obey a warning, the Gardaí can apply to the District Court for a Behaviour Order. A Behaviour Order states what the person is not allowed to do. These behaviour orders last for two years.

We actively enforce the law in respect of repeat offenders whose anti-social behaviour affects their neighbours. We will investigate and charge the young people involved and / or their parents. We can use the following laws to deal with repeat offenders:

- 1 Criminal Justice Act 2006
- 2 The Criminal Justice (Public Order) Act, 1994
- 3 The Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person Act, 1997
- 4 The Criminal Damage Act, 1991
- 5 The Prohibition of Incitement to Hatred Act, 1989

Preventing Anti-Social Behaviour

Our role is not just to police local neighbourhoods, but to prevent and reduce anti-social behaviour. We work in partnership with local communities and other agencies to achieve this. These groups are working together to benefit the community. A lot of work has already been done throughout the country, especially in RAPID (Revitalising Area by Planning, Investment and Development) areas in urgent need of investment. Communities have new playgrounds, buildings and services and derelict areas have been cleaned up.

Pooling resources also has a positive effect on youth work, which reinforces positive behaviour in young people. We now have 84 Garda Youth Diversion Projects (GYDPs) throughout the country. Local authorities have provided flats and houses to be converted into youth and community facilities. These are usually in housing estates. These resources have helped GYDPs to target 'at risk young people'.

Community based Gardaí also use these resources to run Garda clinics, improve Garda community relations and deliver services at a local level. These help us to identify anti-social behaviour offenders and allow us to respond appropriately.

Our aims are:

- 1 to engage 'at risk young people',
- 2 to divert them away from anti-social behaviour, and
- 3 to involve them in positive behaviour in their community.



Intercultural Ireland

There has been a dramatic increase in diversity in Ireland in recent years. According to the latest estimates, one in ten people living in Ireland will soon be a foreign national. We have become an intercultural society. For more information go to www.cso.ie.

Some people may find these changes hard to understand and accept. We recognise that this may be a difficult process but we need to combat racism in all its forms. The best way to do this is through:

- Raising awareness
- Education
- Understanding
- Respect
- Opportunities for interaction
- Equality of opportunity

For many people from other countries, their experience of living in Ireland is positive. Sadly there have been incidents involving public insults, harassment, damage to property and attacks. These can be incidents where racism was the main factor. In some cases an incident can develop into a racist incident as a result of inappropriate words and actions.

What is Racism?

“Racism is a specific form of discrimination and exclusion faced by cultural and ethnic minorities. It is based on the false belief that some ‘races’ are inherently superior to others because of their cultural or ethnic background, different skin colour and nationality. Racism denies people their basic human rights, dignity and respect.”

(Planning for Diversity: The National Action Plan Against Racism 2005 – 2008)

We define a racist incident as:

“Any incident which is perceived to be racist by the victim or any other person”



We will respond to racist incidents at the following levels:

- Prevention
- Recording
- Prompt investigation
- Detection and prosecution
- Support for victims
- Feedback to victims on the progress of investigations and prosecutions

Issues for Campus Watch Schemes

Campus Watch is a partnership between An Garda Síochána and all those who are employed or study on campus. It is an opportunity to embrace and value our diverse communities. Here are some ways we can do this:

- Include and integrate minority ethnic groups in Campus Watch schemes;
- Be good neighbours - this helps to create a feeling of community safety;
- Involve all members of the campus to prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour;
- Be aware of the Equal Status Act 2000/2004 and the nine grounds under which people can be discriminated against by individuals or organisations.
 - **The gender ground:** A man, a woman or a transsexual/transgendered person.
 - **The marital status ground:** Single, married, separated, divorced or widowed.
 - **The family status ground:** Pregnant, parent or the resident primary carer.
 - **The sexual orientation ground:** Heterosexual, gay, lesbian or bisexual.
 - **The religion ground:** Different religious belief, or none.
 - **The age ground:** Everybody over 18 (the other eight grounds include cover for those under the age of 18).
 - **The disability ground:** This is broadly defined including people with physical, intellectual, learning, cognitive or emotional disabilities and a range of medical conditions.
 - **The race ground:** A particular race, skin colour, nationality or ethnic origin.
 - **The traveller community ground:** People who are members of the Traveller community.



Finding the Right Words

Finding the right words is important. People can often use inappropriate language without realising. Campus Watch is an ideal way to promote mutual understanding on campus or in the community. Using inclusive language will help you not to offend people. You should be aware of the language you use in your publications, meetings and contact with diverse groups.

We suggest you use the following terms:

Minority ethnic groups: This term is widely used and has replaced the use of the term 'race'. Race continues to be used in a legal context (it is one of the grounds of discrimination under the Equality Acts). The terms 'Black' and 'minority ethnic people' are also acceptable.

Travellers: Terms such as 'itinerants' or 'gypsies' are no longer acceptable. The term 'knackers' is extremely offensive and is considered by Travellers to be abusive language.

Black people: The use of the term 'Black people' is widely acceptable. The use of the terms 'coloured people' or 'half caste' are not acceptable and will cause offence.

Garda Ethnic Liaison Officers

The Garda Commissioner has approved the training of 400 Garda Ethnic Liaison Officers to act as a point of contact for minority ethnic groups. You can contact these officers through the local Garda Station. They will respond to minority ethnic communities with care, sympathy and support



Gay, Lesbian and Transgender

Violence and harassment against Gay, Lesbian and Transgender people are crimes and if you are the victim of such a crime you should report it to An Garda Síochána.

While many people have no difficulty in reporting a homophobic incident to the Gardaí other people for a variety of reasons can experience difficulty in informing the Gardaí of such an incident. From a Garda perspective and from a human rights perspective, you are entitled to the same protection from the Gardaí and access to an understanding and professional service as everyone else in the community. To ensure the delivery of this service the Gardaí have appointed a number of Gay Liaison Officers (GLO) throughout the country. These officers have been trained in issues relating to Gay, Lesbian and Transgender people and are there to give advice and assistance in the event of you having difficulty reporting a crime. In addition to this service you can also make contact for non urgent matters on gayliaison@iol.ie or call to our twice monthly drop in centre at Outhouse, 105 Capel Street, Dublin.

Information on the location of Gay Liaison Officers is available on www.garda.ie and also in various gay publications. Anti –homophobic posters and pocket information leaflets are available from Garda Community Relations.



Drug Awareness

Drug dependence refers to a state where individuals feel they must continue to take them and are unable to cope without them.

Drugs and the Law

The Misuse of Drugs Act 1977 & 1984 provides legislation in relation to drug use and offences.

Offences:

Possession: A person shall not have a controlled drug in his/her possession unless such is prescribed for use within the provision of the Act.

Possession with Intent: Possession of an amount of a controlled drug that is in excess of what could be considered appropriate for personal use is considered to be possession with intent to supply others.

Remember, consuming illegal drugs may result in a criminal record and can seriously jeopardise your academic and professional future. Visa's are not issued for USA or other countries to anyone with a criminal record. If you are in need of help with a drug problem or are concerned in any way about yourself or a friend, consult the College Health Service, Student Counsellor or a respected and responsible person.

Alcohol Awareness

Many third level institutions prohibit the consumption of alcohol on campus except in permitted areas such as licensed clubs. Similarly the majority of local authorities have introduced Bye-Laws which prohibit the consumption of intoxicating liquor in public places fines on the spot are issued for breaches of these laws which if left unpaid can lead to prosecution in the courts.



Contacting the Gardaí

- 1 Make the report immediately do not leave it to somebody else!!
- 2 You may find it useful to be in possession of the following information.
 - a) time/date you can last account for having the property in your possession and time you discovered it missing.
 - b) Value of missing items or damaged items.
 - c) Time/date you last left house/flat/room intact, and time found burgled.
 - d) Accurate description of items, serial numbers, photographs of property, leaflet or similar relating to the item.
 - e) Colour, make, registration number of vehicle.
 - f) Bank account number, credit card number, time you notified bank or building society following loss or theft.
- 3 Description of suspects seen, witnesses' details, vehicle registration numbers of possible offenders.

Any crime of sexual abuse should always be reported to the Gardaí first, prior to seeking internal disciplinary action (for evidential purposes).

Always Obtain From the Gardaí:

- **Name and station details of investigating member**
- **Crime reference number PULSE NUMBER (for insurance purposed and future contact).**

If You are a Victim of Crime

We have revised the Garda Charter for victims of crime. It is published in nine languages on the Garda website www.garda.ie. The charter sets out the services and standards we are committed to. We will treat all victims in a courteous, helpful, respectful and professional manner.

“A victim means any person or group of people who individually or collectively, directly or indirectly, suffer harm as a result of a crime or other traumatic incident which requires a Garda response.”

From now on, we will refer victims of crime to:

National Crime Victims Helpline	1850 211 407
Irish Tourist Assistance Service (ITAS)	(01) 478 5295
The National Family Liaison Officer	(01) 666 3805



Useful Telephone Numbers

Campus

Campus Security Internal _____

External _____

Campus Medical Centre _____

Doctor on call _____

Ambulance Control _____

Fire Brigade Control _____

Garda Emergency	999/112
Garda Confidential Line free phone	1800 666111
Crimestoppers free phone	1800 250025
Crime Victim Helpline	1850 211407
Samaritans call save	1850 609090
Rape Crisis Centre free phone	1800 778888
Women's Aid free phone	1800 341900
Amen	046 9023718
Cura call save	1850622626
Drugs/HIV Helpline free phone	1800459459