

Birmingham City University

Firearms, Imitation Firearms & Offensive Weapons Policy

Estates & Facilities – Security Service

1. Introduction

The danger associated with weapons and the use of weapons can culminate in serious injury and at times death. The criminal law makes it an offence to possess guns, knives and other offensive weapons in certain circumstances. Current legislation also places a duty of care upon employers to take reasonable care to protect the health and safety of their employees. The implementation of this policy is aimed at supporting this, and all staff and students are expected to support it.

2. Scope

Birmingham City University is committed to providing a safe working environment for all staff and students along with safe and secure residency. To emphasise this the University promotes a “No Weapons” policy throughout its campuses. This includes all University owned or let residencies, grounds or car parks, and any other building owned or occupied by the University.

3. Principles

The presence, possession, ownership or keeping of any firearms or shot guns, including air pistols and air rifles, spring loaded guns, laser pointers, pyrotechnics (fireworks, flares etc.) or any other weapon including catapults, knives and replica guns, archery equipment, fencing foils or other swords, or any offensive weapon, or part or parts of any weapon, firearm or air gun, or any bullet, pellet or other projectile which can be discharged from any of the aforementioned weapons, is strictly prohibited in all University owned or let residencies, grounds or car parks, any University Campus, and any other building owned or occupied by the University, unless prior written permission has been obtained from the Director of Estates & Facilities and Assistant Director of Estates & Facilities (Security Services). This also includes any firearms owned or possessed by virtue of a Firearm or Shot Gun certificate and any lock fast gun cabinet.

Whether or not an item is deemed to be a firearm or weapon, is at the discretion of a member of staff of the University

4. Exemptions

Any item or article which is an integral part of an approved University programme of study

5. Strategy

The University has a responsibility for the implementation of the policy and University management has ultimate responsibility for its effective development and implementation.

Personal responsibility for the successful operation of the policy lies with every member of staff, students and visitors. Heads of School / Departments have a particular responsibility for enforcing the policy. Any breach of the policy must be drawn to the attention of the Director of Estates & Facilities and the Assistant Director of Estates & Facilities (Security Services).

Failure to observe the policy may be dealt with under the University’s disciplinary procedures for staff and students

6. Review

This policy will be formally reviewed by the Security Department every three years or sooner, where new developments necessitate such a review. Formal reviews of policy will be carried out in consultation with managers and other key stakeholders.