



Charles Sturt
University

Student FAQs:

What happens when I disclose
an incident of sexual misconduct?



What happens with my disclosure?

The Charles Sturt University Safe and Respectful Communities Unit diligently oversees the email inbox during business hours, specifically attending to disclosures of sexual assault, harassment and violence. Our team comprises of professional staff adept in trauma-informed and person-centered approaches, dedicated to providing compassionate care and support to students impacted by sexual misconduct.

Within 72 hours of receiving an online disclosure at Charles Sturt, a Prevention and Support Specialist (PSS) will reach out via the email address provided in the disclosure. Your interaction with a university PSS is confidential*, and you will receive information on available support both within the university and through community based services.

The PSS will extend an invitation to meet with you regarding the disclosure. During this discussion, safety plans and tailored support available through the university and community resources will be explored. Additionally, the PSS can provide guidance and assistance regarding options for reporting to our student misconduct service or external bodies, including the police.

Is my disclosure confidential?

Yes, the information you provide during the disclosure will be kept confidential and any identifying information will not be shared with anyone without your consent.*

A PSS is here to take you through how we manage your information and talk about getting your consent to share relevant details

for safety reasons (to help minimise harm and address any safety concerns). They can also guide you to support services and help with academic special considerations if needed.

Should you wish your disclosure to be referred to the Student Conduct Team, you will be asked to provide your consent. If you do not consent to your identity being disclosed, all information will be used for reporting purposes only and will be de-identified in an aggregated manner.

How can a Prevention and Support Specialist (PSS) assist me?

When you disclose an incident of sexual harm at Charles Sturt, whether it happened on campus, off campus or at a university event, the university will assess if any precautionary measures are needed. For example, they might separate you from the alleged perpetrator to ensure everyone's safety. The university is dedicated to supporting the victim and the alleged perpetrator, but you will each have a different PSS. This ensures both parties receive the necessary help without sharing the same PSS.

There is no time limit for making a disclosure to the university. However, it's important to understand that if you file a disclosure with Charles Sturt, the university's ability to take action may be limited if evidence has been lost or destroyed, or if either party has left the university.

*Disclosures are kept strictly confidential except in exceptional and limited circumstances, for example, where there is an immediate and serious risk to you or others, or if the person impacted by sexual misconduct is under 18 years old. In such circumstances, the university will be required to notify third parties, such as the police or child protection authorities as the circumstances require.

Student misconduct allegations

If you're a victim survivor of sexual harm or harassment involving another Charles Sturt student, you can report it as an allegation of student misconduct. The Student Conduct Team will investigate if the incident happened on campus, off campus, at a university event or during a placement. The university does not undertake criminal investigations.

Criminal investigations are conducted by police. However, the PSS can guide you on how to make a police report and explain the process if you choose to do so. Please complete the student misconduct form to submit your allegation and include any supporting documents you have. If you've already reported the matter to the police, that's fine, just let us know. The allegation of misconduct could proceed depending on the circumstances and your safety. If we are waiting on the police to progress with their investigation, we may need to take precautionary safety actions.



Access the student misconduct form:

→ [student.csu.edu.au/forms/
report-student-misconduct](https://student.csu.edu.au/forms/report-student-misconduct)

Student misconduct process

A member of the Student Conduct Team will contact you after receiving an allegation through the online form using a trauma-informed approach. During this contact, if deemed appropriate, the team will assess whether any precautionary measures are necessary to ensure your safety while an investigation is performed.

After reaching out to the person making the allegation and gathering all relevant information and evidence, the Student Conduct Team will notify the alleged perpetrator of the allegation and they will then have 10 business days to respond.

A hearing will be scheduled promptly after the 10-day period for the alleged perpetrator to provide their response in relation to the allegation. Both you and the alleged perpetrator will have the opportunity to speak at the hearing, typically separately and often via Zoom.

Following the hearing and the decision on the allegations, the outcome will be communicated to both parties verbally. If the respondent disagrees with the outcome of the allegation, they have 10 business days to appeal.

If you made the allegation, you should anticipate receiving information about the outcome once the appeal process concludes.

Emergency services


Triple Zero	000
Lifeline	13 11 14
1800 RESPECT	1800 737 732
headspace	1800 650 890

Charles Sturt support services



→ about.csu.edu.au/seek-support

Student wellbeing support line 24/7

 Call 1300 572 516
Text 0480 087 002

Campus security 1800 931 633

 safecommunities@csu.edu.au



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