1. UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT
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It has often been said that health and safety is a matter of common sense, but in an organisation as large and complex as our University, responsibilities, structures and processes designed to prevent injury and ill health need to be in place and well understood.

The University of Edinburgh has a record of good health and safety performance since the Health and Safety at Work Act was introduced in the mid-1970s. The University fully acknowledges its responsibilities as an employer, and has mature policies and systems in place to ensure the effective management and control of the wide range of risks which are inevitably present in an organisation such as ours.

We also have a proven commitment to continuous improvement in all areas of health and safety performance, with the emphasis on the prevention of accidents and ill health, rather than reactive measures.

Every member of our community, be they staff, student or visitor, has the right to be in a safe and healthy environment within the University, and each individual has an important contribution to make towards that goal. To complement the formal systems the University has in place, each member of our community also has a personal responsibility for their own and others' safety and health – we need to help look after ourselves and our colleagues.

The University Health and Safety Policy, and its supporting documents, are the gateway to all the essential guidance and advice which you will need to help you achieve that.

Professor Peter Mathieson
Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh