DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

Data protection & discussion in case of welfare and other difficulties

The default position in which we find ourselves is that we will not be able to give any information about you to anyone contacting us, provided that you are over eighteen. Almost all our students are over eighteen and as such are legally adults. We can find ourselves in a difficult position in that many of our students are supported financially by their families or guardians, have a permanent residence with family or guardians and yet we do not formally have a right to communicate information to the family or friends at times when that might be desirable, e.g. if someone has an accident or illness or is otherwise in difficulties. In order to regularise the situation we are asking you to clarify your own position on this, it will clarify our legal position and make us best able to help you while at the same time ensuring that you have control of your own information flow.

I hope you understand that these requests are prompted by the change in the legal climate and that we will, as a College, continue to try very hard to provide the sort of environment in which everyone can flourish, working with our students and treating everyone as responsible adults. It is largely only with regard to very precise questions or when things go wrong that we will need to refer to the decisions that you have made in response to this note.