UNITING CHURCH IN THE CITY
UNITING SENIORS IN THE CITY
STUDENT CHARTER

BACKGROUND

Uniting Seniors in the City (formerly Trinity School for Seniors) is a mission outreach of the Uniting Church in the City (UCIC), committed to helping older adults to participate in lifelong learning and to foster and enhance friendship and companionship on this journey.

Uniting Seniors in the City (USIC) functions as an inclusive community facility, to provide education and a mutual support network which meets the physical, emotional, social, intellectual, pastoral and spiritual needs of Seniors in the wider Perth community.

The Uniting Church in the City's vision states:
"On the way with Jesus, to touch and transform the people of Perth, to journey with the wider church, and to engage with our neighbours in the world."

The objectives of Uniting Seniors in the City are to provide:

Companionship: *by conducting activities for students which enhance friendships and the sharing of mutual interests;*

Learning: *through structured learning programmes for students which increase their skills and knowledge and their capacity to contribute meaningfully to community life;*

Well-Being: *through the conduct of activities and structured learning programmes for students which assist them to remain physically and mentally healthy.*

Uniting Seniors in the City was started in 1979 at Trinity Church and celebrated its 45th anniversary in 2024. USIC currently provides around 80 courses for 400+ students, over five days during a term, and over four terms per year.

PURPOSE

The Student Charter reflects these inter-related visions and is an expression of values and intent. The purpose of the Student Charter is for students of USIC to understand what it means to be a student at USIC and includes the expectations students and staff at USIC have of each other and the schools role and how it fits into the operation of the UCIC.

EXPECTATIONS

Students can expect the right to:

- Be treated fairly and ethically, with respect, dignity and tolerance;
- Have access to information about USIC regulations, policies and procedures;
- To learn in a supportive and encouraging environment;
- Have their opinion represented through the Student Voice Committee on all matters affecting students;
- Have opportunities to contribute to the organisational, social and cultural life of USIC through the Student Voice Committee, together with opportunities to provide feedback for the improvement of USIC;

- Representation on the USIC Committee of Management through the due process for election to that body;
- A safe and healthy environment;
- To have any records concerning them dealt with in ways that are secure, with access restricted to designated persons of USIC;
- To be given a copy of this charter when first enrolled;

Students have the responsibility to:

- Recognise the rights of others, including the rights of other students covered by this Charter, as well as the rights of staff, tutors and visitors;
- Uphold the reputation of the USIC while engaged in USIC activities;
- Respect the UCIC / USIC property and the property of others;
- Not purport to speak or act on behalf of the USIC, unless explicitly authorised to do so.

USIC expects students to:

- Behave in a manner that demonstrates respect, dignity and tolerance towards staff of USIC, tutors and fellow students;
- Adhere to USIC rules, regulations, policies and procedures;
- Actively and positively participate in teaching and learning;
- Contribute to the organisational, social and cultural life of the USIC;
- Regularly attend courses for which they have enrolled.

USIC reserves the right to review your enrolment status if you are found to be in breach of this charter and may cancel your membership.

RIGHTS IN RELATION TO GRIEVANCES

Every student has the right to:

- Be able to register a complaint or grievance against any learning procedure, administrative procedure, perceived discrimination or harassment or the abolition or suspension of any right set out in the Student Charter;
- A clearly documented process for dealing with a grievance which is confidential, non-discriminatory, unbiased and accountable; offers the opportunity to be accompanied to meetings by a person of their choice; and leads to a resolution within a reasonable timeframe; and,
- To receive reasons for resulting decisions, and to experience no repercussions as a result of participation in the process.

  Further details on the UCIC Policies and Procedures for Grievance for USIC are available from UCIC.