



Together we are *Bondies*

**Report on Bond University's response to Sexual Harm
2024**

In the spirit of reconciliation, Bond University acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which the University now stands.

The Kombumerri people have walked and cared for this land and wildlife for thousands of years, and their descendants maintain spiritual connection and traditions. We thank them for sharing their cultures, spiritualities and ways of living with the land and wildlife in the place we all now call home.

We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.





EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

We seek to empower our staff and students to champion respectful and inclusive behaviours, be active bystanders, support those in need, and call out actions that are inconsistent with the values held at Bond.

REPORTING

The National Student Survey conducted in 2021 of 43,819 university students found that:

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

16.1%

1 in 6 students had experienced sexual harassment since starting university

SEXUAL ASSAULT

4.5%

1 in 20 students had experienced sexual assault since starting university

Self-reporting is the number one method of reporting at Bond University. Assisted reporting through Student Wellbeing staff, trained university first responders and Security accounts for the majority of other reports. To ensure the holistic support of our students, all reports, however received, are entered in the BondCare system. This ensures that a trauma-informed response and support process is provided to those involved.

Bond follows the Universities Australia approach:

- Students can make a disclosure (obtaining support and assistance responsive to individual needs such as welfare, academic accommodations or residential modifications for example); or
- Students can make a formal report which requires the university to undertake specific actions consistent with the respective staff and student codes of conduct.

Our codes of conduct reflect our commitment to our staff and students. They are underpinned by procedural fairness and where a case is substantiated, hold those accountable for their actions.

The 2024 data on sexual harm incidents at Bond University is presented in the table below.

2024	Alleged Sexual Harassment	Alleged Sexual Assault
Disclosure	4	1
Formal Report	3	1

The outcomes of the four formal reports regarding alleged sexual harm were as follows:

- *One was reported to police and the university deferred to the police investigation*
- *Two were closed when the complainants declined to progress their concerns*
- *One was investigated and the outcome was that appropriate disciplinary action was taken against the respondent*



SUPPORT

Bond University promotes the empowerment of the individual to make informed decisions on the best course of action for them personally. When students make the choice to disclose to someone, there is no requirement to take further action until they feel safe and confident in doing so.

At each stage of the response process, we will allow for trauma-informed practice that is victim-centric and led by individual determination as to what comes next.

Whatever a student's decision, our support services include Counsellors, medical services, academic and study supports and student associations.

Our options for disclosure and decision-making are outlined in the following webpages:

- [Safe and Respectful Communities](#)
- [Response to sexual misconduct](#)
- [BondCare](#)
- [Bond Wellbeing Services](#)

