UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM NINGBO CHINA
POLICY FOR STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS

Introduction
Occasionally the University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC) admits students who are under the age of 18 years. In most cases this will be a very temporary situation, as the student will be approaching their eighteenth birthday. UNNC treats all its students as independent, mature individuals and students who are under the age of 18 years will be treated in the same way. The usual personal and academic support arrangements will apply to students who are under 18 years. This normally includes the allocation of a personal tutor and student support tutor, as well as a comprehensive range of specialist student services. However, UNNC acknowledges that anyone under the age of 18 is legally a child and recognises that students under the age of 18 may therefore have additional needs in relation to their support and welfare.

Parental responsibilities
UNNC is not able to take on the usual rights, responsibilities and authority that parents have in relation to a child, and it will not act in loco parentis in relation to students who are under the age of 18 years. It is a condition of admission to the UNNC that the parent or guardian of any student who is under the age of 18 years confirms, by signing and returning the Consent Form for Chinese / International Students Under the Age of 18 (hereinafter referred to as the “Consent Form”), their acceptance of the arrangements set out in this document. Where a student is from overseas and the parents remain abroad, the UNNC requires details of a guardian for the child, who should be living in China preferably in or near to Ningbo, and who will be accessible to the child and to the UNNC should the need arise.

Contracts
As a student who is under the age of 18 years may not be able to enter into legal contracts, the UNNC require a student’s parents to honour all obligations under any contracts with the UNNC that the student enters into prior to his or her 18th birthday. By signing the Consent Form, the parent agrees to this.

Student Accommodation
Parents should recognise that residential accommodation offered by UNNC is generally intended for the use of adults and that, save in exceptional circumstances, special arrangements cannot be made for students who are under the age of 18 years.

Field Trips
Courses may involve compulsory or optional field trips, excursions or other periods of study away from the UNNC. UNNC is not able to take any additional responsibility for a student who is under the age of 18 years in relation to such activities. Unless indicated otherwise, by signing the Consent Form, parents give consent for the student to take part in these activities on that basis.
**Alcohol and Tobaccos**
It is illegal for any alcohol or tobacco to be sold to or bought by students who are under the age of 18 years. UNNC will take reasonable steps to seek to ensure that the law is not broken in relation to licensed premises under UNNC’s control but cannot undertake to supervise any individual student.

**Holding Office**
Students who are under 18 years are not allowed to hold office, for example, they may not be secretary or treasurer to a sports club or other students’ association.

**Relationships with staff**
UNNC will not tolerate romantic or sexual relationship between any staff and student under 18 years.

**Child Protection**
As a matter of law, a person under the age of 18 years is a child. The UNNC has a responsibility to protect those under the age of 18 years from abuse and will report any suspicions or allegations of abuse of children to the appropriate authorities. Any such suspicions or allegations will be reported to the Administrative Director of Residential College, who will report the case to his/her line manager and contact the appropriate authorities.

**Notification**
The relevant Head of School, the Residential College, the Global Engagement Office will be notified by Admissions and Career Development Office, prior to registration, of students who will be under the age of 18 years on entry to UNNC. Student Engagement Office, Head of other student related Offices and the personal tutors will also be notified where necessary.

**Emergency Contact**
It is particularly important that emergency contact details are provided for students under the age of 18 years and such students and/or their parents are required to supply this information prior to their arrival at the UNNC. If a medical emergency arises and it is not possible for the UNNC to contact the named individuals, a senior member of the UNNC will, on behalf of the student’s parents or guardians give such consent to treatment as is in the best interests of the student. By signing the Consent Form, the student’s parents or guardians indicate their consent to this.

**Age of Majority**
In certain countries, age of majority could be between 19 and 21. The Consent Form is in force until the students have reached their age of majority in their home country.