What is Victimisation?

Victimisation is where a person is treated unfairly because they have reported, or supported a reporting harassment, discrimination or bullying. If a learner reports another incident, they may then be victimised because of this.

Victimisation will take place as an extension of another form of harassment, discrimination or bullying.

What can Victimisation look like?

Victimisation can take many forms. This includes, but is not limited to:

Negative changes to a student's experience: After a student reports another student, they might suddenly find themselves excluded from group projects they were previously part of, or facing unfounded accusations from the accused student's friends.

Unfair treatment in assessments: A student who witnessed and gave evidence in a complaint might find their coursework being marked unfairly harshly by a tutor who is friends with the alleged perpetrator.

Exclusion from opportunities: A student who supported a classmate in making a complaint might be overlooked for a college enrichment activity they were previously considered for.

Spreading rumours or gossip: After a student alleges bullying by a group, those students might start spreading false and damaging rumours about the student who made the allegation.

Intimidation or threats: A student who reports something might receive intimidating messages or even threats from the person they reported or their associates, aimed at discouraging them or others from speaking out in the future.

Unjustified disciplinary action: A student who complained about behaviour might suddenly face disciplinary action for minor or unrelated issues that were previously overlooked.

Being ignored or ostracised: After reporting harassment, a student might find themselves being deliberately ignored or excluded by peers or even, in some inappropriate situations, by staff who are aligned with the alleged perpetrator.

Support on Victimisation

If you think you have experienced victimisation you can get advice from the Equality & Diversity Specialist by contacting equalityanddiversity@cambria.ac.uk

There are organisations and groups that can offer support on victimisation:

Victim Support