

# Vulnerable Students: Maximising Your Impact

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# Objectives

To learn about:

What do vulnerable students want from us?

What does the University need from us to help students?

What can we do to help both?



# What do we mean by 'vulnerable'?

Missing

Mental ill health

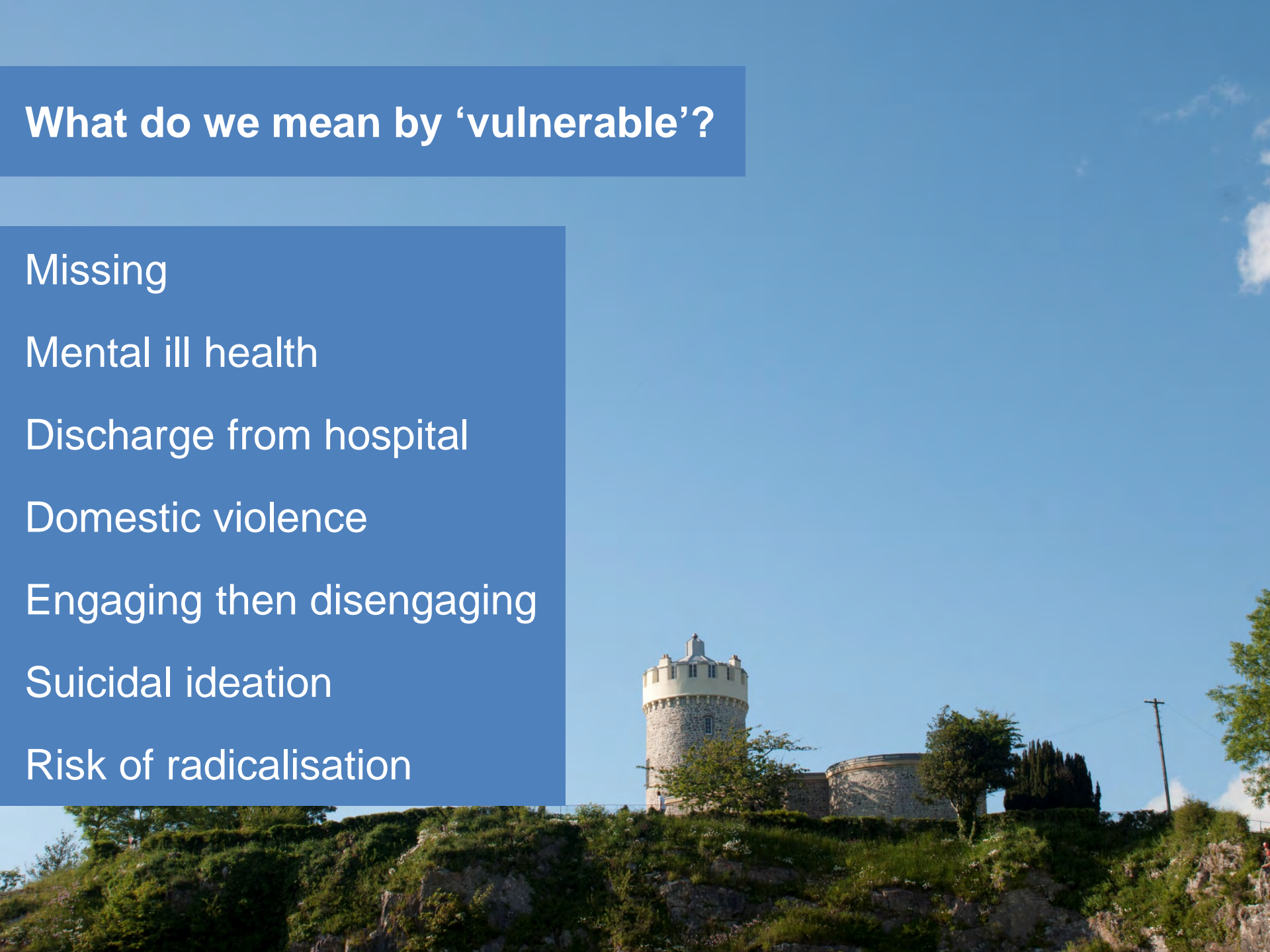
Discharge from hospital

Domestic violence

Engaging then disengaging

Suicidal ideation

Risk of radicalisation







**What do vulnerable students tell us  
about their experience?**

## Issues raised in the film

Realisation

How did it affect your time at University?

What helped you recover?

Positives from the experience

Any advice?



## Working in groups

What particularly struck you about their reflections?

Is there anything about your practice that you might change as a result?



# So, what do students want from healthcare staff?



Recognition that disclosure can be very difficult

Solutions that take into account the context they are in, where they live/study, fear of inflicting themselves on others, but the possibilities for structure are there

Diagnosis— meaning something could change





What do universities want from  
healthcare staff?

The context is important

Impact on study is the key

Academics are not (usually) medically qualified



# Assessing extenuating circumstances



Mild, moderate, severe

Acute or chronic

What can your certifying letter do?



## Statement of Fitness for Work For social security or Statutory Sick Pay

Patient's name

I assessed your case on:

01 / 02 / 2014

and, because of the  
following condition(s):

diabetes related illness

I advise you that:

☒

you are not fit for work.

☐

~~you may be fit for work taking account  
of the following advice...~~

If available, and with your employer's agreement, you may benefit from:

☐

~~a phased return to work~~

☐

~~amended duties---~~

☐

~~altered hours---~~

☐

~~workplace adaptations~~

Comments, including functional effects of your condition(s):

This will be the case for

1 Month(s)

or from

/ /

to

/ /

For the patient – what to do  
Please read the notes below  
security benefits, sign and date  
ask someone else to do it for you

What your doctor's advice is

Not fit for work

Detail is important

with some support from your  
to act on the doctor's advice  
recovered. You do not need to

If you are employed

If you are not fit for work, or  
employer should consider pay  
If SSP cannot be paid, or you  
social security benefits. If you  
benefits because of your health

Social security benefit claimant

If you are claiming social security  
your Jobcentre Plus office. If  
you should contact a Personal  
you must inform Jobcentre Plus

If you want to make a new claim

- download a claim form at [www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk](#)
- phone 0800 055 6688 (8am to 6pm)

Your details – Please use

Surname

Other names

Address

Date of birth



## Summary: how can healthcare professionals help

Develop links with the University so you can know more about how the place works – what support is available that you can dovetail with, and set realistic expectations on both sides

Find out how the University assesses extenuating circumstances

Help the student explain the impact of their health on their ability to study: a skill for life