## **University of Strathclyde Breastfeeding Support Statement**

The University wishes to fully support colleagues who are returning to work following a period of Family Leave and who choose to continue to breastfeed or express during working hours. When working on-campus, colleagues are welcome to breastfeed or express milk in spaces that suit their circumstances. We understand that some staff prefer privacy when breastfeeding or expressing milk and the University has therefore created suitable rest facilities across the Campus to help them do this; Rooms have been established in University buildings equipped with a chair where staff can breastfeed or express milk and a fridge for the storage of expressed milk. These rooms allow colleagues the opportunity to breastfeed or express in privacy.

Below is a list of rooms that have been established to support colleagues who require to breastfeed or express milk. However, if preferable, any comfortable, private room that can be accessed and that is deemed more suitable can be used for this purpose.

Building	Department	Room
Curran	IS Library and Information Resources	417
Hamnett Wing	SIPBS	214*
John Anderson	Estates Services	733a
McCance	Estates Services	450
TIC	Estates Services	205

<sup>\*</sup>only accessible to Science Faculty staff who have a staff card that allows access to the Hamnett Wing

Heads of Department/Line Managers are required to support nursing colleagues by giving staff time during the working day to express milk or, where the staff member is working in an Agile manner, to breastfeed. For staff who are working Agilely, Line Managers will consider and provide additional flexibility to ensure that the staff member can breastfeed or express milk at a location/time which suits them and their child.

Colleagues are asked to let their line manager know as early as possible that they will be breastfeeding when they return to work following a period of Family Leave. This allows for the risk assessment that should be undertaken for all New and Expectant Mothers to be reviewed and updated accordingly so that any further support needed for expressing/breastfeeding can be discussed.

The University cannot take responsibility for the storage of milk that is left in fridges within our buildings. However, advice on the safe storage of breast milk can be found <a href="here">here</a>.

Further guidance to help colleagues through pregnancy, maternity leave and their return to work can be found on our <u>Maternity Toolkit webpage</u>.