



**Support for
Children in Care,
Care leavers and
Care Experienced
students**



UNIVERSITY of
GREENWICH

Welcome to the University of Greenwich

Dear Student

Congratulations on your achievements so far! Your next step into higher education will hopefully be your most rewarding yet and be a springboard for you to move onto your chosen career, as it has been for our previous care leavers.

We look forward to welcoming you to our university and supporting you through your higher education journey. The University recognises the unique challenges faced by care leavers and care experienced students as they progress into and through higher education, so we offer you support from the application stage right through to graduation and the search for employment.

Our Designated Members of Staff are here to help and encourage you to access the opportunities offered by the University of Greenwich whilst assisting you with any support that you might need in your education journey. In the past we have assisted our care leaver students with a range of challenges such as career choices, UCAS personal statements, accommodation, financial, academic and well-being; or just had a cup of tea and a chat, and we will do the same for you if you wish.

We encourage our care leavers to join our Student Ambassador team to deliver outreach with younger children in care, so that you feel part of something bigger, and can act as a role model for young people from the same background.

Confidentiality is extremely important to us and the Designated Members of staff will not pass on details of your position as a care leaver or care experienced student to anyone else without your permission.

Please take the time to read this leaflet as it clarifies the support that we can offer you and if you are thinking of going to university and would like some advice and guidance to help you meet your ambitions then please do get in touch.

Best wishes,

Will Calver

Widening Access Consultant
Designated Member of Staff for Care Leavers



careleavers@greenwich.ac.uk



<https://www.gre.ac.uk/study/support/care-leavers>



Our history and commitment to Children in Care, Care Leavers and Care Experienced students

Here at the University of Greenwich, we have been supporting care leavers and care experienced students for over ten years. We were one of the first universities in the country to be awarded the Buttle UK kitemark for our commitment and support to enhancing the progression of care leavers into higher education and in 2019 our Care Leaver Coordinator won the coveted Student Union, Student Led, 'Extra Mile' Award for supporting care leavers and care experienced students at our university.

The number of care leavers entering higher education is very low compared to the national progression rate so, in addition to our dedicated work with current students, we also have close links with local boroughs where we support young children in care, through youth and homework clubs, to raise their educational attainment and progress into further and higher education.

We are a member of the Care Leaver Progression Partnership which is a partnership of organisations in Kent and Medway, committed to improving the post-16 education and training experience for local children in care and care leavers.

We work collaboratively with local authorities and colleges across Kent and South East London and are a member of the National Network for the Education of Care Leavers (NNECL) to support the achievement, retention and progression of young people in the care of a Local Authority to improve their educational outcomes.

In addition to working directly with students, we can work in partnership with carers, local authorities, schools and colleges.

External Organisations

For website and contact details please go to the Appendix at the end of this booklet.

There are a number of external organisations and charities that might also be able to support you in your journey into higher education through financial, accommodation and legal advice so you should take some time to explore these and what they might be able to offer.

The Complete University Guide have a whole page dedicated to 'Applying to University as a Care Leaver' and **Propel** (which is part of Become) provides contact details for the designated members of staff at individual colleges and universities together with the specific support that is offered to care leavers at each institution.

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/universities/applying-to-university-as-a-care-leaver>
<https://propel.org.uk/UK/>



Our offer, in brief, to care leavers studying at the University of Greenwich

- Accommodation for 365 days a year for the duration of your degree (traditional contract with the option to take out summer accommodation)
- Care Leaver Bursary of £1,500 a year, for up to four years (depending on the length of your undergraduate degree)
- Graduation Bursary of £200 to help with graduation costs
- Greenwich Friends Peer Mentoring/Buddy Scheme to help you to settle into university life
- Care Leaver Summer School and Bespoke visits
- Preparation and Transition Events to welcome new care experienced students to the University of Greenwich
- Designated Members of Staff to help answer your questions and support you into higher education and throughout your time at the University of Greenwich
- And a whole lot more ...



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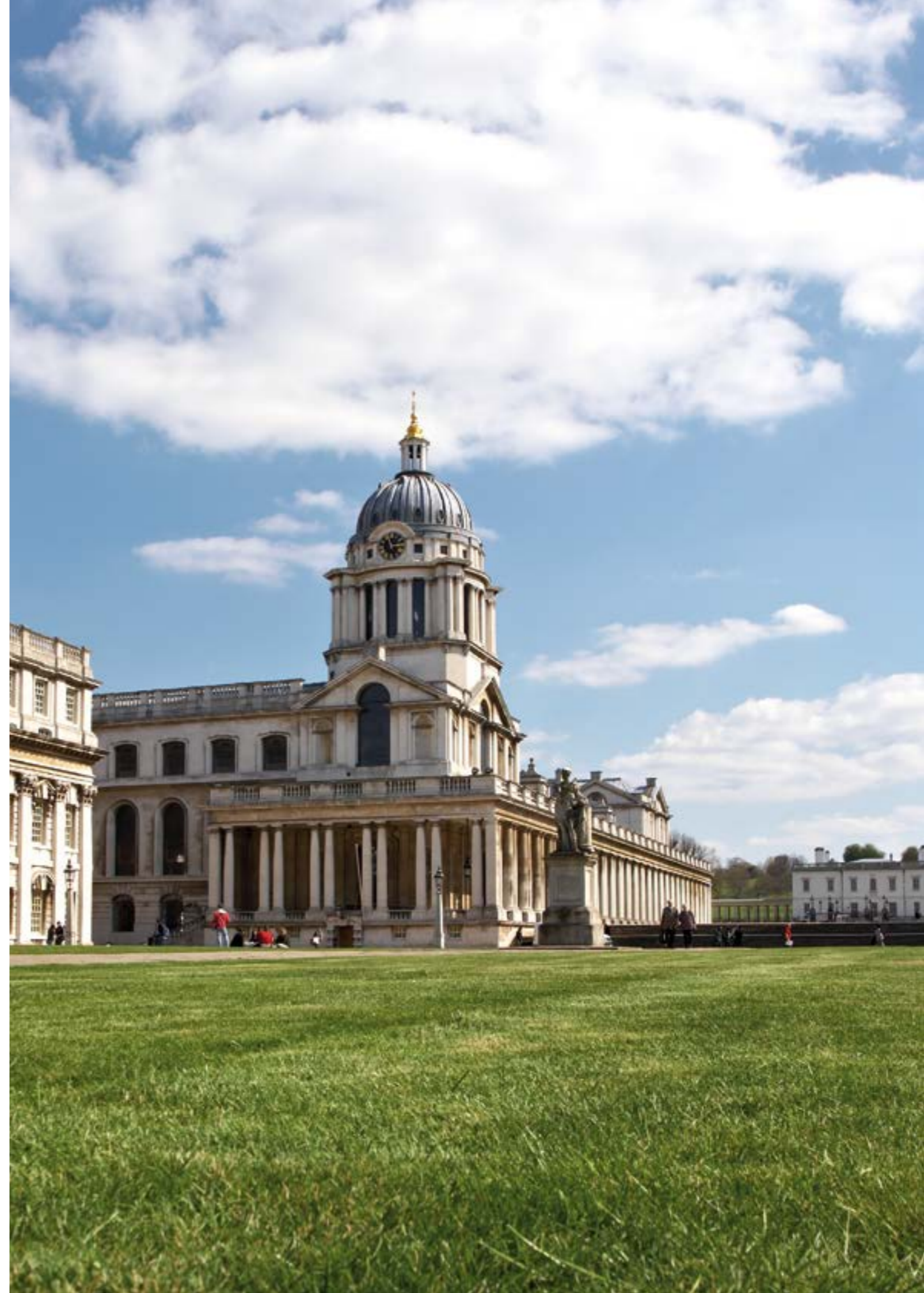
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External organisations



Pre-entry support, advice and opportunities

If you are unsure what subject to study at university or even wondering whether university is right for you then look at attending one of our taster sessions, open days or care leaver summer school. We also have webinars and lectures that can help you with career planning and your current studies.

You can view our care leaver webpages here:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/study/support/care-leavers>

For information on the events below please go to:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/events/prospective-students>

Care Leaver Summer School

The Care Leaver Summer School usually runs at the beginning of July and is spread over three days, based at our Medway campus. This enables you to learn about university life, experience a range of workshops, take part in debates, as well as developing personal and practical skills and, of course, have fun. Over the three days all refreshments, lunch and transport (London, Kent and Medway) will be provided.

Bespoke Visits and Webinars

We can arrange individual or group campus tours and webinars for children in care and care leavers to experience university life and the opportunity to meet with current students. For individual visits we will do our best to find students studying similar subjects to those you are interested in

and/or the opportunity to talk with another care leaver about life on campus. Contact us at careleavers@greenwich.ac.uk for further information.

Taster Days

The University of Greenwich has a range of Taster Days that provide you with a chance to experience a subject you enjoy and are contemplating studying at university. You can access these subject specific taster days if you are in year 12 and 13, or FE year 1 and 2.

Taster Days allow students to attend sample lectures, to gain an insight into university life, to chat with Student Ambassadors and get accustomed to the campus. Included in the visit is an overview of entry requirements and other relevant information about the application process.

GREat Minds Twilight Lectures

Our series of twilight lectures are delivered by academics and cover a range of subject areas to complement students sixth form or college studies, and to provide an insight into studying these disciplines at degree level.

GREat Skills Workshops

These workshops are delivered to help students with their academic skills in preparation for university study and designed to support students embarking on their Extended Project Qualification or IB Extended Essay. However, the sessions are also suitable for students who aren't taking the EPQ, as they are generic enough to be applied to all academic work.

Careers Advice

Through our extensive range of pre-entry activities and events we can help children in care and care leavers with preparing for university. However, if you have a career planning question that is not covered by the events on these pages, then please email us at careleavers@greenwich.ac.uk and we will do our best to assist you.

Campus Tours and Information Evenings

If you're already thinking of studying at the University of Greenwich or want to find out what makes us such a unique place to learn, then why not join us on one of our campus tours. Our information evenings give you an opportunity to speak with staff and students and to get your questions answered about studying specific subjects.

Open Days

If you are considering becoming one of our students, you can attend an Open Day that includes a programme of talks and the opportunity to speak to staff and students. If you are attending an Open Day on your own, we can arrange for a Student Ambassador to meet and accompany you if you wish. Please email us at careleavers@greenwich.ac.uk at least two weeks before the event if you would like us to arrange this for you.

For dates, visit:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/events>

STAART formerly the *AccessAbility Project

The STAART team support both prospective and current students who have a disability, long-term health condition, specific learning difficulty (like dyslexia), and/or mental health condition (such as depression or anxiety). You do not need a diagnosis to join STAART.

This project is open to local disabled and dyslexic students (year 11 onwards) who can join the team and attend workshops, events, access our social channels and attend specialist preparation and transition days.

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/study/support/disability/staart>

Email: staart@gre.ac.uk



Applying to University

We offer lots of help and advice through our Application evenings, Webinars and one-to-one guidance to support your application to university.

Bespoke Visits and Advocacy

We can offer you a meeting with a Designated Member of Staff to answer your questions about the transition from school or college into higher education. At this meeting we can provide advice on financial and accommodation entitlements. Additionally, we can liaise with colleagues at other institutions to support care leavers with their transition into higher education. For further information on the above please contact us at: careleavers@greenwich.ac.uk

Application Evenings - Personal Statements and Funding

The Undergraduate Application Evenings are aimed at those who are interested in applying to study an undergraduate course at the University of Greenwich and take place at both our Greenwich and Medway Campus at various dates throughout the year. We guide you through the

university application process (UCAS), provide you with tips on writing an effective personal statement and explain student finance and your funding options. These sessions are offered as part of our Campus Tours. For further information please go to:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/events/prospective-students>

UCAS Application Form

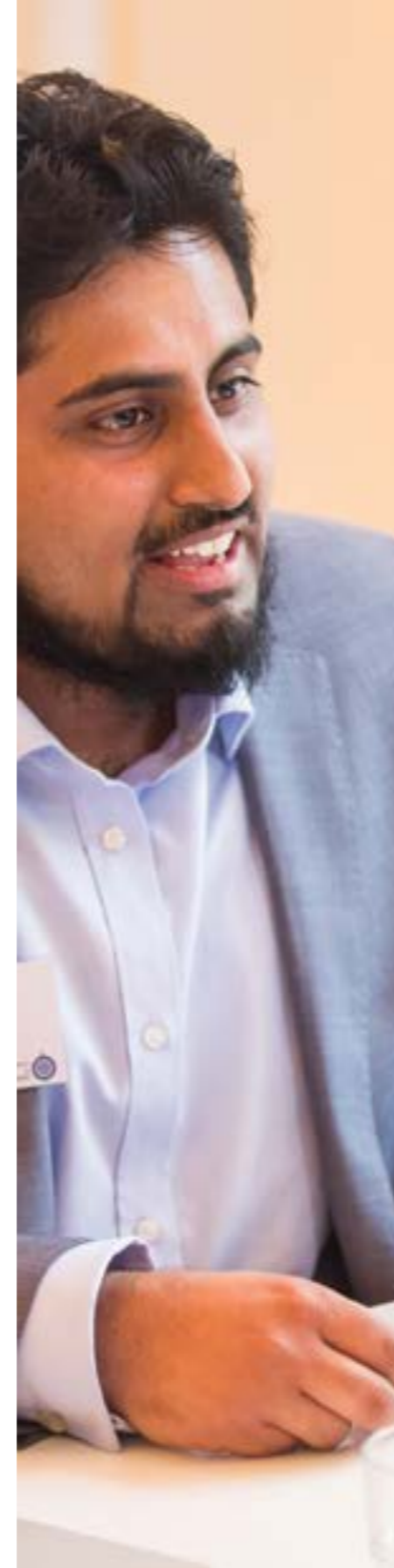
UCAS provide lots of information on completing their application form, writing a personal statement and funding, so do explore their website:

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/undergraduate-individual-needs>

To ensure that we can identify you and give you support whilst you enter university, please make sure that you **'Tick the box'** on the 'Care' question on the UCAS application form. This will allow us to get in touch with you and let you know what finance, accommodation and well-being support you are entitled to. This information is treated in the strictest of confidence and your application will not be disadvantaged in any way.



Government Finance



Student Finance England

The amount of student support you will receive to enable you to fund your studies will depend on several factors including where you study and your personal circumstances. You should make your application online as soon as you know you intend to enter higher education. For further information on student finance loans, grants and bursaries, to use the Student Finance Calculator and to apply for student support, please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/education/student-finance>.



Tuition Fees and Maintenance Loans

Care Leavers who meet the eligibility criteria are entitled to apply to Student Finance England for a tuition fee loan to cover the costs of study and a maintenance loan for general living costs. As a care leaver, you will be required to provide a letter from your local authority to confirm your previous care arrangements. For speedy payment of your student finance loan, please ensure that you have attached this letter to your finance application.

Childcare Grant and Parents' Learning Allowance

If you have dependent children, you may also be eligible to apply for a grant / allowance to help with the cost of childcare whilst you study.

Disabled Students Allowance

If you're a student with a learning difficulty, health problem or disability you can apply for the Disabled Students' Allowances (DSAs) to cover some of the extra costs you have due to your condition. You can receive the allowances on top of your other student finance and will not need to repay DSAs. For further details please visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas>



Local Authority funding

A local authority higher education bursary of at least £2,000 will be paid to all relevant care leavers up to the age of 25 entering higher education. You should speak to your local authority to determine how you will receive your bursary as it can be paid in a lump sum or in instalments.

Local authorities have a responsibility to help with accommodation out of term time and other costs related to entering higher education. As part of your pathway plan you should discuss, with your local authority, what level of support will be provided.

Financial Support at the University of Greenwich

University Bursaries and Scholarships

The University of Greenwich offers a number of additional awards to help students with the cost of their studies. The full list together with eligibility criteria and how to apply, can be found here:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/finance/funding-your-studies/scholarships-and-bursaries>

The Greenwich Bursary

The Greenwich Bursary offers £700 to new undergraduate students entering Year 0 or 1 who meet the eligibility criteria. You receive £350 onto an Aspire Care by December and the second payment is made in March. The bursary is paid for one year only.

You do not need to repay any money awarded.

Care Leaver Bursary

At the University of Greenwich, we provide young care leavers with a bursary of £1,500 a year for up to four years, depending on the length of your undergraduate degree. As part of the bursary, we also provide £200 towards the cost of graduation. This bursary is not means-tested, but you are required to be in receipt of full student support.

You do not need to repay any money awarded.

Commuter Bursary

Worth 50% of your monthly commuting cost on public transport between home and university up to £500 per academic year. The bursary can consider supporting petrol costs if you can demonstrate why travel by car is necessary.

You do not need to repay any money awarded.

Greenwich Hardship Fund

If you are facing unexpected financial difficulties or hardship during your studies, the Greenwich Hardship Fund may be able to help. This fund is means-tested and supports home full-time or part-time students.

You do not need to repay any money awarded.

Money advice and Support

The University of Greenwich has a wealth of information on money issues and can help you to plan, budget and manage your finances. Information and advice are provided on:

- Budgeting and money management
- Postgraduate funding
- Financial hardship and debt management
- Student support regulations

For further information please go to:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/finance>
<https://www.gre.ac.uk/finance/money-advice>

Once you are a student at the University of Greenwich you can also make an appointment with our Student Fees and Funding Advice Service. Student Finance Advisers are based in each of our three Student Centres and offer financial support, advice and guidance to all students.

Please note this service is only available to current students. Further details can be found here:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/finance/contact-us>



Other sources of financial support

External Organisations

There are several external organisations and charities that might be able to support you in your journey into higher education and who can provide small grants and bursaries, for example: The Rees Foundation; Turn2Us; The Capstone Care Leavers Trust and The Care Leavers' Foundation.

For website and contact details please go to the Appendix at the end of this booklet.



Money Saving Tips

- Sign up to Unidays for exclusive student discounts for free
<https://www.myunidays.com/GB/en-GB>
- Compare utilities, bank accounts, insurance or general shopping at
<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/>
- Consider getting a Railcard or an 18+ Oyster card
- Check out the Totum (National Union of Students) student discount card
<https://www.totum>



Accommodation



Halls of Residence

Living in halls of residence can be an exciting experience and a great way to meet new people and make lifelong friends.

As a Care Leaver, the university can offer you priority for accommodation throughout the year (including Christmas, Easter and Summer) for the duration of your studies, as long as they are aware of your status and you have followed the required steps to secure housing.

Our halls and student flats include utility bills and contents insurance, and come with **free Internet and wifi** and **gym membership**, making it easier for you to manage your money. All our university accommodation also has 24-hour security and there are residential support staff 24/7 who are on hand in case you need them.

In addition, Accommodation Services can signpost students to information about private renting and storage for those choosing not to live in halls.

NOTE: You will need to select the University of Greenwich as your firm choice before applying for accommodation.

NOTE: If you are living on campus in halls don't forget to register for a doctor at a medical centre on or near the university:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/study/support/medical/centres>

For further information and videos on our halls of residence, types of rooms and prices please go to:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/accommodation>



Living independently

We recognise that some care leavers may be living in their own accommodation and we can offer support and information on any private housing issues you may be experiencing through our Student Union Welfare Advice Service.

Please note that full time students are exempt from paying council tax and letters can be ordered through your student portal and collected from the Student Centres once you are a registered student at the University of Greenwich.

For further information please go to:

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/advice>



Getting around campuses

The University offers a free intercampus bus service between the Avery Hill, Greenwich and Bathway (Woolwich) sites. There is an intercampus bus service between London and Medway for which you need to purchase a ticket prior to travel.

Parking

There are parking facilities at both Avery Hill and Medway campuses for a small charge.



Transition support at the University of Greenwich

The University will contact all Care Leavers and Care Experienced students that have made themselves known to the University via UCAS, prior to the commencement of their course. This is usually by phone and allows us to find out a little bit about you and invite you to our Transition Event that usually happens during Welcome Week in September; where staff can answer questions, signpost you to the right services and act as an advocate for you if needed.

We also encourage our new care leavers to access the support of a current student as you enter the University through the Greenwich Friends Scheme, see below.

Greenwich Friends Scheme

Starting at university can be challenging for anyone, so to help you navigate the first months of university life, we encourage you to join our Greenwich Friends Scheme so that our current students can welcome you with a friendly face and support you from your first day on campus. Current, second and third year Student Ambassadors are available to help you to find your feet as you join us and give you confidential one to one support and guidance to make your transition into university a positive experience through this exciting time. We will try to match you with a student studying in a similar area and they will be able to offer a range of support and advice by phone, text, email and in person, to help you begin university life and succeed in your studies.



Meet and Greet

We arrange to have a Student Ambassador Greenwich Friend on each of the main campuses on moving-in day in September so that you have someone on-hand who can answer questions, help you to move into halls and guide you around the campus when you arrive. They can also just be a welcoming, friendly, face to be able to have a cup of tea with, on this important day.

Transition event

This event enables you to meet our Designated Members of Staff and some of the Greenwich Friends Student Ambassadors. It's a chance for you to make sure that the support you have in place is the right support for you and provide you with an overview of some of the services that the university has on offer during your time of study. During the transition event, you will also get the opportunity to complete your registration early, so it is important that you bring any documents (such as proof of identity) with you.

Registration

There are two parts to our registration process:

Part 1: Online Registration requires you to log-in to your university student portal and verify information about yourself and your programme of study. You will need to provide evidence of your qualifications and upload a suitable photo for your ID card.

Part 2: Face to Face Registration/ Card collection - once you have completed online registration, you will need to attend Face to Face registration during induction week and will be required to provide a valid form of identity at this stage.

Welcome week

Welcome Week (Freshers) at the University of Greenwich is a great opportunity for you to familiarise yourself with the campus where you will be studying. During welcome week the students' unions host a range of activities, so that you can socialise with fellow students and make new friends. Each campus has their own events which give you the chance to find out about the many societies that you can join and how to access other services that the university has to offer.

The Student Centres

The Student Centres are based on each of our three main campuses and are able to provide information, advice and guidance on a range of University of Greenwich' services and student administrative tasks, for example:

- Student Finance Advisers
- Wellbeing support
- Collect letters for bank and council tax exemption certificate

You can visit a centre at any campus for support.

Student Unions

Greenwich Students' Union and GK Unions (Medway) have a service available for all students who require advice relating to both academic and non-academic issues including welfare, finance, housing or pastoral support. The team is independent from the University, meaning they can give you an impartial view and support you on any challenges you face.

Greenwich and Avery Hill:

<https://www.greenwichsu.co.uk/advice/>

Medway:

<https://www.gkunions.co.uk/advice/aboutus/>



Social Support

Greenwich Students' Union put together a wide range social events, alongside both sports societies and more general societies, to meet different hobbies and interests of students and to support your area of study. These societies are run by likeminded students and provide a great way of meeting new people.

<https://www.greenwichsu.co.uk/societies/>

<https://www.greenwichsu.co.uk/teamgreenwich/>



Once you become a student at the University of Greenwich you will also be able to access further information through your student portal. In the meantime, further information about Transition and Support can be found through our main website www.gre.ac.uk



On-going support whilst you study

Wellbeing Support
There are Student Wellbeing teams located on each campus. They provide advice and support around maintaining your health and wellbeing during your time at university which can be accessed on-line and through one-to-one appointments. Once you become a student at the University of Greenwich you will also be able to access lots of useful information through your student portal.

Further information can be found through our main website:
<https://www.gre.ac.uk/student-services/support>



Mental Health

The mental health advisor can meet with students on a one-to-one basis and can coordinate meetings with staff and students to explore the best ways to support student's wellbeing.

Counselling

The counselling service is available to all full-time students on campus. They can provide emotional support and signpost you to services both in the university and to external organisations. You can book appointment either by email or visiting the student centre. However, in an emergency you can also contact the organisations below.

Nightline:

0207 631 0101
(6pm—8am)
<https://nightline.org.uk/>

The Samaritans:

116123 (Free, around the clock independent help)

Chaplaincy

Please note that this is a service that is available to students of all faiths and none. There are prayer rooms across all three campuses, which you can use for quiet reflection.

Listening Ears

Listening Ears are trained staff volunteers who provide confidential support to students from any part of the university. They offer an informal and confidential service and can help you work through any concerns you may have, or issues you may be facing. Any contact you have will be confidential, unless you ask Listening Ears to tell your tutors,



your department or an office in the University. Listening ears can be contacted through emailing: listening@greenwich.ac.uk

Togetherall

Once you are a registered student you can now access free online support with Big White Wall - an online mental health community. Whether you're struggling to sleep, feeling low, stressed or not coping, the Big White Wall can help you get support, take control and feel better. It's free, and totally anonymous so no one will know you've chosen to use it, unless you tell them.

The service provides 24/7 online peer and professional support with trained counsellors so it's a safe space online to express your thoughts, explore your feelings and learn how to improve and self-manage your mental health and wellbeing.

<https://togetherall.com>

This site is not intended for individuals in an emergency.



Disability and Dyslexia



You can contact the Student Wellbeing Coordinators (disability and dyslexia) via the Student Wellbeing Service. They can help with claiming Disabled Student's Allowance and provide ongoing

support and extra help with your studies; including setting up special exam circumstances.
<https://www.gre.ac.uk/student-services/support/disability>

STAART



The STAART Team provides information and guidance to disabled and diverse students who may have concerns whilst at university. Our STAART ambassadors, university students with their own disability or

diversity, provide balanced, first-hand experience of the achievements and challenges of university life.
<https://www.gre.ac.uk/study/support/disability/staart>
Email: staart@gre.ac.uk

Academic



Personal Tutors

The first point of contact for academic support is your Personal Tutor.

During your first week, an academic will be appointed to look after your academic development and welfare.

If your Personal Tutor is unable to help you, they will signpost you to a service. You can also contact your Programme Leader whose contact details will be found in your course handbook.

IT and Library Services

Academic Services Librarians deliver information skills sessions and support students in accessing resources both in print and electronic format. To see the location of our libraries and the opening hours:

<http://www.gre.ac.uk/it-and-library/library/opening-hours>

IT Helpdesk email: itservices@gre.ac.uk

As a student at the University of Greenwich you get Office 365 and other course related software for free!

Academic Skills and Study Skills Workshops

You can find lots of useful information on Academic Skills on the university website.

Study Skills is a free service that can help you with learning how to reference and write in an academic style. They can also provide advice on essays and dissertations.

<http://libguides.gre.ac.uk/academicskills/support>

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/academicskills>

The Maths Centre

Whatever programme you are following, the Maths Centre can provide help throughout the year - just drop in and take your lecture notes with you.

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/ach/services/maths-centre>

Legal



The Legal Advice Centre

You may find this free confidential service useful if you are having any kind of difficulty that requires legal advice. The service is provided by retired barristers and trained student

advisers. Advice can cover a range of legal issues, including housing, employment law and family law.

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/ach/study/law/legal-advice-centre>

Email:

legaladvicecentre@gre.ac.uk

T: 020 8331 9947

Employment



Employability and Careers Service

The Employability and Careers Service can help you find employment both during your time at the university and after you graduate. There are part-time flexible vacancies at the university and internships available to students.

Support offered includes the E-Learning centre and face to face consultations with a careers advisor to prepare you for any job application.

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/student-services/ecs>

Student Ambassador Scheme

At the University of Greenwich we employ a team of Student Ambassadors who support the work of staff across the university, and you can get involved too. It's a great opportunity to broaden your experience, enhance your appeal

to future employers, make new friends and enjoy flexible part-time employment whilst you study

Being a Student Ambassador is about having fun, being professional and using your passion for your course and our university to inspire others. It's all about sharing your personal experiences in higher education, helping advise and guide prospective students on university life, and providing support for operational activities across our university.

Opportunities are varied and include:

Mentoring in schools

University open days

Greenwich Friends (Care Leaver support scheme)

Office-based administrative roles

<https://www.gre.ac.uk/articles/communications-and-recruitment/whos-eligible-to-join-the-scheme>



Appendix External organisations



APPG LAC – All-Party Parliamentary Group for Looked After Children

The APPG LAC is open to looked after children and care leavers under the age of 25 who are interested in lobbying for change in the care system.

<https://www.becomecharity.org.uk/improving-the-care-system/appg/>



Article 26 – Helena Kennedy Foundation

The main aim of Article 26 is to promote access to Higher Education for people who have fled persecution and sought asylum in the UK.

<http://article26.hkf.org.uk/>



Barnardo's

Barnardo's works directly with children, young people and their families. They run vital services across the UK, including an advocacy service for children and young people.

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/>



Become

Previously known as The Who Cares? Trust. Become run a Care Advice Line, have lots of useful fact sheets and administer the All Party Parliamentary Group for Looked After Children.

<https://www.becomecharity.org.uk>



Buttle UK

Buttle UK provides practical solutions for children living in care. Direct support is based on individual need and areas of focus include boarding places, domestic abuse, emergency essentials, estranged young people and kinship care.

<https://www.buttleuk.org/>



Care Leavers Association

The CLA is a user-led charity run by care leavers for care leavers. They provide advice about entitlements and issues such as housing, education and employment etc. They also provide advice to older adults, who were in care as children, on issues such as access to records, abuse in care and family tracing.

<http://www.careleavers.com/>



Care Leavers Foundation

The Care Leavers' Foundation provides much needed help to care leavers. They make modest but vital grants to care leavers aged 18-29 who are in crisis, or who want to take control of their lives and develop new skills.

<http://www.thecareleaversfoundation.org/>



Coram

Coram offers direct, practical help and emotional support to vulnerable children, young people, and their families. They have information on their website about your rights whilst in and on leaving care and run an Advocacy Helpline.

<https://coramvoice.org.uk/>



Drive Forward

A London based organisation - Drive Forward offer one-to-one support, mentoring, training and career opportunities to help care leavers into work experience, internships, employment, education or training.

<https://driveforwardfoundation.org/>



Just for Kids Law

Just for Kids Law delivers holistic, client-led support to children and young people from crisis to stability and onwards into independence. This is achieved through innovative, community-based legal representation, advocacy and opportunities programme.

<https://justforkidslaw.org/>



Legal Action Group

Legal action group is a national, independent charity, which promotes equal access to justice for all members of society who are socially, economically or otherwise disadvantaged.

<https://www.lag.org.uk/home>



Local Government Ombudsmen

The Local Government Ombudsman looks at complaints about councils and some other authorities and organisations, including adult social care providers (such as care homes and home care providers).

<https://www.lgo.org.uk/>



NNECL – The National Network for the Education of Care Leavers

NNECL was established in June 2013 and is committed to the progression and support of Care Leavers in higher education. Their website lists resources and outreach opportunities across the country.

<http://www.nnecl.org/>



Propel

Part of the Become charity, Propel provides guides on higher education, funding, support offered and names and contact details of designated members of staff at individual universities and colleges.

<https://propel.org.uk/UK>



Rees Foundation

Rees Foundation provide a range of services including peer networks, creative activities and financial support.

<http://www.reesfoundation.org/>



Refugee Support Network

This organisation supports young people seeking safety in the UK (whether or not they have been granted refugee status or are still going through the asylum process) to move towards more hopeful futures through education.

<https://www.refugeesupportnetwork.org/>



Shelter

Leaving care to live on your own is a big step. Shelter offer advice about the housing options and extra help you can get if you are a young person leaving care.

<https://www.shelter.org.uk/>





Siblings Together

A London based charity - Siblings Together aim to help young people in care initiate and continue to have contact with their siblings.

<http://siblingstogether.co.uk/>



The Capstone Care Leavers Trust (CCLT)

The CCLT awards grants to people aged 17-25 who have been in Local Authority Care in England or Wales and are in need. They also offer advice and guidance to young people to help reduce their experience of social exclusion and enhance their life chances.

<https://www.capstonecareleaverstrust.org/>



Turn2Us.org.uk

Turn2us is a national charity that helps people in financial hardship gain access to welfare benefits, charitable grants and support services – online, by phone and face to face, through partner organisations and volunteers.

<https://www.turn2us.org.uk/>



Unite Foundation

Unite scholarships award students with free purpose-built Unite Students accommodation for three years of study, supporting them to succeed while knowing that they have a place to belong at university.

<http://www.unitefoundation.co.uk/>

