Registration guide for new postgraduates
Class of 2018

Essential information about Welcome Week and beyond
Congratulations!

Checklist: things to do before you get here

By Saturday 15 September
☐ Upload a photo for your student card (see page 3)
☐ Register online (from Wednesday 5 September – see page 2) and print out your Certificate of Registration

Getting ready
☐ Check our webpages for new postgraduates – bristol.ac.uk/new-postgraduates – and your school webpages for the latest information
☐ Provide the Income Office with evidence of sponsorship (if applicable) (pages 10-11)
☐ Register with the Students’ Health Service as soon as you know your Bristol address (see page 9)
☐ Get vaccinated if necessary (see page 9)
☐ Read information from your faculty/school and follow any instructions
☐ If you’re an international student, make sure you’ve completed any necessary tasks (see page 4)
☐ Think about buying a sports activity pass (see page 6)
☐ Share your stories and join us on social media: bristol.ac.uk/connect

Much of the information in the guide is aimed at new postgraduate students starting at the beginning of the academic year. If you are starting your studies later, please follow the general instructions in the relevant sections of this guide. Your faculty office or school will provide you with any additional guidance – see page 13.

Key dates 2018/2019

Academic year
Monday 24 September 2018 to Friday 14 June 2019
This may vary according to your programme of study

Arrivals day
This may vary according to your programme – please refer to your faculty/school information.

Welcome Week
Monday 24 to Friday 28 September 2018

Teaching blocks
On some taught programmes, teaching is delivered in two teaching blocks, each followed by an exam and marking period. Please check with your school whether the teaching on your programme follows this pattern.
Teaching block 1: Monday 1 October to Friday 21 December 2018
Teaching block 2: Monday 28 January to Friday 10 May 2019

Disability Services
We support students with a range of disabilities, learning difficulties and other health and mental health conditions. Our advisers can tell you about the many support options available, such as mentoring, study skills and exam preparation. We’ll work with you and your academic department to help you get the most out of your time at Bristol. bristol.ac.uk/disability-services

Welcome from Professor Judith Squires, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Education

Welcome to the University of Bristol.

You are joining an inspiring and supportive postgraduate learning community. We are proud to offer research-rich, innovative and inclusive education across all our programmes, giving you a challenging as well as a life-enhancing experience. During your time with us at the University of Bristol we will develop you as a critical thinker, and as a researcher in your own right, fostering highly sought-after skills that will equip you for your chosen career.

To complement your academic education, our Bristol Futures educational programme includes three personal development pathways – Innovation and Enterprise, Global Citizenship, and Sustainable Futures. Exploring these pathways will help you develop your skills for employability and to become a socially and globally responsible citizen. I hope that you will explore these opportunities, which will give you the chance to meet students beyond your subject area and acquire a rounded set of skills. The richness of our postgraduate learning community is one of the reasons why we produce some of the most employable graduates in the UK.

Being at university is an exciting time, but it can also bring challenges – personal as well as academic. Your wellbeing is very important to us, and it is just as important to take time out for yourself as it is to study hard. To help you with this, we have a range of personalised support, from progress monitoring and personal tutors to peer mentoring and wellbeing advisors. We are also lucky to live in a green city, with plenty of parks and outside places in which to relax.

Bristol is a creative, dynamic and vibrant city, with a wealth of opportunities to take part in social and sporting activities, or to volunteer locally. Bristol Students’ Union helps to run over 260 societies and 60 sports clubs and was awarded the 2016 Queens Award for Voluntary Service for outstanding work in the community. Our Bristol PLUS Award formally recognises your academic and extra-curricular achievements, so do think about getting involved – it will give you an important balance to your studies.

We want to work in partnership with you to make sure that you and your fellow students have an outstanding university experience. Throughout your time at Bristol we will ask for your views through surveys and our course representatives system. Your feedback influences our teaching: we listen and respond.

We’re looking forward to meeting you in the autumn and helping you to settle in, to challenge yourself, look after yourself and enjoy all that is on offer.

Judith
Pro Vice-Chancellor for Education
Your preferred name
The full name you gave when you applied to the University will be used for all official purposes, such as academic transcripts and degree certificates. For other less formal documents, such as your student ID card – your UCard – and school lists, only your first forename and family name will be printed. You can enter a preferred forename in the personal details section during online registration, and we will use this on your UCard and on informal lists.

During Welcome Week
- Postgraduate taught students – check your Welcome Week timetable for details of registration. Go to bristol.ac.uk/new-postgraduates.
- Attend registration at the time specified, bringing your Certificate of Registration, and collect your student ID (known as a UCard). If you have a Pre-registration Checklist, attend the Pre-registration Checks beforehand.

Pre-registration Checklist
If the system creates a Pre-registration Checklist for you, please print out and bring this checklist, and all the supporting documentation, listed on it, to staff before registering. See bristol.ac.uk/students/new-postgraduates/registration for more information.

Pre-registration Checks
For some students we need to see original documents before registration. If a Pre-registration Checklist was produced for you during online registration, you must complete your pre-registration checks before registering, see bristol.ac.uk/students/new-postgraduates/registration for when and where to go.

If you have a Tier 4 Student Visa and requested that your Biometric Residence Permit card (BRP) be sent to the University, you can collect this at the Pre-registration Check. The BRP card is your Tier 4 Student Visa. Alternatively, you will need to collect your BRP from the Post Office. For further information about BRPs visit: www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits.

Please aim to arrive at least 30 minutes before your registration slot and bring a print out of your Certificate of Registration, Pre-registration Checklist and any documents we ask for on the checklist. These may include:
- original examination certificates and transcripts for previously achieved qualifications;
- English language certificates showing test scores;
- official translations of any documents not originally in English;
- passport;
- BRP Card (if you collected it from the Post Office);
- ATAS certificate (if required).

Your student ID
When you arrive, you will collect your University of Bristol student card – UCard – with your photo on. This is valid for the duration of your programme so keep it safe and carry it with you on campus.

Your UCard provides:
- proof that you are one of our students
- membership to our libraries
- access to our buildings
- access to sports facilities (if you have paid for an activity pass)
- student discounts for some shops and leisure activities.

Already have a UCard?
If you are currently attending another University of Bristol course (like our pre-sessional English language programmes) and already have a valid UCard, you don’t need to upload another photo, unless you want to. You must take your current UCard with you when you register.

Collecting your UCard
You will be able to collect your UCard at registration. Details on where to register are in your Welcome Week timetable.

Replacement cards
If your UCard is lost, stolen or damaged, you can request a replacement from our Card Services Department. This will cost £10.

Find your UCard
Your preferred name

What you need to do
Before you arrive:
- Register online by 15 September at bristol.ac.uk/studentinfo/new – have your student number to hand.
- Upload a recent passport-style photo of yourself at bristol.ac.uk/cardservices/newstudents by Saturday 15 September.

If you upload your photo after 15 September, you might not be able to collect your UCard at registration and you will also have to queue – so it’s worth doing before you get here. If you can’t upload an image, you can arrange for your photo to be taken when you arrive. Staff at registration will explain what you need to do and where to go to get your card.

The dates stated in this UCard section are for students whose programme starts at the beginning of the academic year (24 September). If your programme starts on another date, either earlier or later, you may be given different dates for online registration. Check information provided by your faculty/school.
Pre-arrival information
You can find full pre-arrival information, including essential information about immigration, travel to Bristol and welcome arrangements, as well as information about living and studying in the UK, at bristol.ac.uk/new-postgraduates/international.

Student Visa Services
International Student Visa Advisers can provide immigration advice and guidance before and during your studies, see bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas.

Non-EU students – all visa holders
We hold a UKVI Tier 4 Sponsor Licence and must comply with general and specific sponsor duties. You can find details of these duties on the government website at www.gov.uk/government/publications/sponsor-a-tier-4-student-guidance-for-educators.

If you need a Tier 4 Student Visa to study in the UK, you should have already been issued with a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) and applied for a visa. You should have a visa valid for one month enabling you to travel to the UK, along with a letter confirming the length and conditions of your visa. You won’t be able to register for your course unless you have a valid visa. For more information about Tier 4 visas, visit bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas.

On arrival in the UK you will need to collect a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) which will be issued to you when you attend the Pre-registration Checks. If you have requested for the card to be sent to the University, Alternatively, you will need to collect your BRP from the Post Office. For further information about BRPs visit www.gov.uk/biometric-residence-permits.

Welcome and arrivals
If you’re an international student arriving on Friday 21, Saturday 22 or Sunday 23 September, our student ambassadors will be there to greet you and provide advice at: Heathrow Airport; Bristol International Airport; Bristol Coach Station; and Temple Meads Rail Station.

International Welcome Lounge
Our International Welcome Lounge is a place for you to make new friends, obtain a bank letter, get help finding private accommodation and find out about the activities and trips organised by our International Office. You can also get in touch with other Bristol students from your own country to help you to settle into life in the UK.

Opening times: 10 am to 4 pm
Monday 10 to Friday 14 September
Monday 17 to Saturday 22 September
Monday 24 to Friday 28 September
Sunday 23 September, 10 am to 1 pm

Registering with the police
Certain nationalities need to register with the police within seven days of arrival in the UK. You can check the yellow entry vignette (yellow sticker) in your passport to see if you need to do this or check the UKVI webpage: www.gov.uk/register-with-the-police/who-needs-to-register.

If you do need to register, you must fill in a form – available from foreignnations.avonandsomerset.police.uk – before going to the police station. Further information at bristol.ac.uk/directory/visas/tier-4/registering-with-the-police.

MyBristol – your University portal
MyBristol gives you personalised access to important web-based tools and services such as email, online learning, Remote Desktop and Student Info.

Once you have registered online you can use it to:
• access your email;
• pay your tuition fees online;
• view your timetable;
• find information about your course;
• read important announcements.

To register, go to bristol.ac.uk/mybristol.

Sources of study help, advice and general information
Library staff in all libraries will be happy to help with any queries. You can also look online at bristol.ac.uk/library.

IT Service Desk in the Computer Centre
Telephone: +44 (0)117 429 2100
Email: service-desk@bristol.ac.uk
Website: bristol.ac.uk/it-services

Using your own computer
• You can bring your own laptop, tablet or smartphone and connect it to our network to use the internet and a wide range of online services;
• Microsoft Office 365 software is available for free at bristol.ac.uk/software.

Before you leave home:
• Get any necessary student visa or entry clearance to study in the UK;
• If you are arriving on 21, 22 or 23 September, check the details of how to travel to our University at bristol.ac.uk/new-postgraduates;
• Check ukcisa.org.uk for useful tips and advice about living and studying in the UK;
• Remember to carry your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) email with you to show to immigration authorities when you arrive.

Find out more on our website for new students: bristol.ac.uk/new-postgraduates
Welcome Week activities

Welcome Ceremony
Join us to celebrate the start of your postgraduate university life at Bristol. Postgraduate taught students are invited to a Welcome Ceremony – a special event where senior academics and Bristol Students’ Union Elected Officers will welcome you to our community. For further details check your Welcome Week timetable at bristol.ac.uk/new-postgraduates.

What you need to do
Before you arrive
• Postgraduate taught students – check your Welcome Week timetable for details of all the events you need to attend; bristol.ac.uk/new-postgraduates;
• Postgraduate research students – visit the Bristol Doctoral College website: bristol.ac.uk/bdc;

During Welcome Week (24-28 September) Welcome Week is full of events we’ve organised to introduce you to life at Bristol. They will provide important information and will help you to settle in, meet people and find out how things work. During this week, you need to:
• attend registration at the time specified, bringing your Certificate of Registration along with you;
• if you have a Pre-registration Checklist, attend the Pre-registration Checks beforehand;
• attend your Welcome Ceremony, if applicable;
• find out about Welcome Week, activities organised by your academic school and go to as many as you can;
• meet your Personal Tutor or Supervisor;
• find out about Bristol SU’s Postgraduate Network: bristol.su.org.uk/groups/bristol-su-postgraduate-network;

The Bristol Doctoral College also organises a celebratory event for all new postgraduate research students. The Researcher Inauguration will be held on 18 October in the special surroundings of the Great Hall of Wills Memorial Building. Further details will be sent to all postgraduate researchers in due course and will also be available on our web pages: bristol.ac.uk/bdc.

Welcome and induction events
Your faculty and/or school will send you details of any welcome events that have been arranged. If you are a taught postgraduate student, then check your Welcome Week timetable. For postgraduate research students, keep in touch with the Bristol Doctoral College for updates.

Initial meeting with your Personal Tutor or Supervisor
Please check with your school what arrangements have been made for you to meet your Personal Tutor or Supervisor. Postgraduate research students meet with their supervisor(s) soon after arrival and will agree how to make best use of our Skills Training and Review system (STaR) for:
• Planning your research objectives;
• Recording and managing supervision meetings;
• Planning and mapping your professional development;
• Completing formal progress monitoring requirements.
STaR can be accessed at bristol.ac.uk/dothorcal-college/star.

Bristol Students’ Union (Bristol SU) – bristol.su.org.uk
Our Students’ Union plays a key role in student life. It is open to all students and aims to ensure that you have the best possible experience here at Bristol. Check the website regularly so that you can take advantage of all that Bristol SU has to offer, including:
• clubs and societies;
• social activities;
• live music and comedy;
• advice and support on academic and personal issues;
• volunteering programmes;
• skills development;
• training to become a Course Representative.

Bristol Students’ Union Welcome Fair
Don’t miss the Bristol SU Welcome Fair, from 11 am to 4 pm on Friday 28 September at Clifton Downs. The Downs will be transformed into a festival arena with student societies, sports clubs, local businesses and University services, with food stalls and entertainment throughout the day. This is your chance to sign up to a wide range of activities, pick up useful information and take advantage of special offers. The fair is only open to students, so make sure you have your UCard or acceptance letter with you.

The fair opens an hour earlier for students with accessibility requirements. If you would like to come along at this time, please email bristolsu.justsask@bristol.ac.uk by Monday 24 September with details of any support you may need. If you can’t make the fair you can still sign up for clubs and societies and find out more about Bristol SU at bristol.su.org.uk.

Bristol SU Postgraduate Network
A student-led initiative, this network is a must for all postgraduates in our University. As a postgraduate, you will automatically become a member so you can keep up-to-date with the latest news and events, meet other postgrads and get involved in our thriving postgraduate community. bristol.su.org.uk/groups/bristol-su-postgraduate-network.

Social activities
There are lots of opportunities to meet other new students during Welcome Week, so look out for details of events and activities organised by:
• your academic school;
• your residence (if applicable);
• Bristol SU for details of events, including those aimed specifically at postgraduates;
• student clubs and societies;
• religious groups.
Find further events information at bristol.ac.uk/new-postgraduates.

STaR can be accessed at bristol.ac.uk/sustainability/faculties-timetables.

Music auditions
Do you want to join one of our instrumental or choral groups? Check out the options at bristol.ac.uk/music/music-making and audition during Welcome Week. Four groups are holding auditions:
• University Symphony Orchestra;
• University Chamber Orchestra;
• University Chamber Choir;
• University Singers.

You can sign up for a slot at the Department of Music at the start of Welcome Week. Auditions will take place there at the Victoria Rooms during the Thursday, Friday and Saturday of Welcome Week. You’ll need to perform a short piece of your choice, which should show your technical proficiency and tone quality, and take a sight-reading test. Auditions are only held once a year, so if you’re interested, don’t miss out.

If your school commitments mean you can’t attend any of the scheduled audition sessions, contact the Department of Music (music-resources@bristol.ac.uk, +44 (0)117 331 4044), who may be able to arrange an alternative audition slot for you.

Sustainability
Sustainability is part of everything we do at Bristol: our research, teaching, buildings and the student experience. You can take part in a whole host of activities to develop your skills during your time at Bristol. Bristol SU also runs sustainability events both during Welcome Week and throughout the year, offering the chance to get involved in volunteering and campaigning. Visit bristol.ac.uk/green and bristol.su.org.uk/sustainability to find out more.

What you could do
• Visit Bristol SU’s website to find out more about their welcome programme;
• Visit the Bristol Students’ Union Fair on Clifton Downs on Friday 28 September;
• Visit the Victoria Rooms early in the week to sign up for an audition slot if you’d like to join a music group.
Support in schools
Your personal tutor will provide academic guidance and personal support, and can refer you to other University services when you need them. Bristol SU’s Just Ask service (bristolstudent.org.uk/justask) is also a great source of support for academic issues.

Student Wellbeing Service
This team works alongside your academic tutor to ensure you have everything you need while studying with us. The team will be a visible point of contact in your school for any queries and will be able to support your wellbeing. They can point you to the right sources of help from our Student Services across the University, including our Careers and Employability Team.

Discover Bristol
Our health is influenced by the environment we live, work and play in. Many people come here to study and find they never leave. It’s easy to get to nearby countryside around the South West, and the city is full of restorative green spaces for you to enjoy. You can explore a range of health and sports facilities and being active is good for your health and wellbeing.

Counselling Service
As well as helping you access local NHS services, our Student Counselling service provides group and individual counselling.

Big White Wall
This is a free online service, with a range of resources to help you cope with all the challenges of student life. You can take courses on positive thinking, problem solving or managing anxiety, and read guides on how to relax. You’ll have the added support of Big White Wall’s anonymous peer community, with trained Big White Wall Guides online 24/7. bristol.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/contacts/big-white-wall

Nightline
Our confidential night-time support service for students is open every evening during term time. The volunteers are there to listen to your concerns and worries, whatever they may be, by phone or instant messaging. bristol.nightline.ac.uk

Faith and spirituality
The Multifaith Chaplaincy offers confidential pastoral and spiritual support, religious information and advice, regular events and a welcoming space for all faiths and none. bristol.ac.uk/multifaith-chaplaincy

Being active
We want you to keep healthy and enjoy every aspect of university life. You can explore a range of health and sports facilities and clubs, and take part in opportunities beyond your studies.

Relaxation space
Chill out in this dedicated space on the first floor of the Arts and Social Sciences Library available during library opening hours. Here you can take time out from revising, flop on a floor pillow, ease into a comfy rocking chair and enjoy the views. bristol.ac.uk/library/accessibility-support/wellbeing

Student support in our residences
This year we are introducing a new, joined-up approach to pastoral care with a consistent support service in our residences and across our campus. Students in residences will have access to a pastoral team of full-time staff which includes Residential Experience Co-ordinators and Wellbeing Advisers who will organise community activities and provide one-to-one support. The team will provide expert help on a wide range of issues, including mental health and wellbeing, and will be there to support you at all times.

These improvements to our residential communities are part of an institute-wide approach to wellbeing support and care. We work in close partnership with the new Student Wellbeing Advisers in schools, our Student Counselling Service, Sport, Exercise and Health, Bristol SU and other partners including the NHS, Public Health and national mental health and wellbeing charities. See bristol.ac.uk/students/wellbeing/our-approach

What you need to do

Before you arrive:
• Check your medical history and immunisation records, and bring these with you if possible.
• Get your immunisation against meningitis (the MenACWY vaccine) and/or your MMR vaccines, if you haven’t had these already.
• Check whether you’ll be living in the practice area covered by the Students’ Health Service and if you are, you can register online at students-health.nhs.uk.
• If you’ve already registered and are starting a further programme of study, let the Students’ Health Service know by 31 August if you want to continue your registration.

Contacts and opening hours
If you need to see a doctor when you arrive in Bristol, you can contact the Students’ Health Service on (0117) 330 2720 or visit the practice at Hampton House during normal opening hours (see below). For urgent medical attention outside these hours, please dial 111 to contact NHS 111.

Opening hours
Monday 8:45 am - 7:45 pm
Tuesday 8:45 am - 5:30 pm
Wednesday 8:45 am - 5:30 pm
Thursday 8:45 am - 7:45 pm
Friday 8:45 am - 5:30 pm
Saturday 9 am - 12 noon

Address
Hampton House
St Michael’s Hill
Bristol, BS6 1AU

Meningitis
There has been a small increase in the rate of meningococcal meningitis and septicaemia in recent years, with an increase in cases of the meningitis W strain. It is still an uncommon condition but young people attending higher education for the first time, especially when living in shared accommodation, are at a greater risk of infection, particularly in their first term. We will give you information about the symptoms of meningitis when you arrive.

If you’re coming to university for the first time, contact your GP to have the MenACWY vaccine, ideally at least two weeks before the start of the academic year. This vaccine protects against meningitis C and meningitis W. It does not protect against meningitis B but a separate Men B vaccine can be obtained privately. If you can’t arrange to be immunised in your home area, your new Bristol GP can give you the vaccination when you arrive.

MMR (measles, mumps and rubella)
During the last few years a number of universities, including Bristol, have seen an increase in cases of mumps and measles among students. These can be debilitating illnesses in young people, with possible risk of complications. UK government advice is that all those entering higher education should have had two immunisations against measles, mumps and rubella (known as MMR). If you are unable to be immunised in your home area, your new Bristol GP can carry them out on your arrival. If you register with Another Bristol medical practice, please discuss immunisation with them.

International students
If you are coming to Bristol as an International Student, please bring with you details of immunisations, medical history, allergies and any current medication.
Tuition fees

Tuition fees are due on or before 24 October unless you have arranged a payment plan to pay by instalments (see Payment Options).

Invoices and receipts

Invoices and receipts will be available to view and print from the Fees and Funding channel in your MyBristol portal (see page 5). Receipts for payments made by cash will be issued at the time of payment.

Fee amounts

The full annual tuition fee due for the 2018/19 session was set out in a single payment or in two instalments, as described on the next page, but you should quote only the amount of the fee for which you are liable.

Payment arrangements

Students receiving funding from a UK Research Council (AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC, STFC)

If your tuition fees are being paid by a UK Research Council, you don’t need to do anything further because your tuition fees will be paid direct to the University by the Research Council.

Students receiving funding from University sources

If you have received written or email confirmation from the Student Funding Office that your full tuition fees are being paid from a recognised source (University Postgraduate Scholarship or special departmental funding), the Student Funding Office will liaise with the Income Office regarding payment of your fees and you don’t need to do anything further.

If you are receiving partial funding towards your tuition fees, you are responsible for paying the balance. You can pay this balance in a single payment or in two instalments, as described on the next page, but you should quote only the amount of the fee for which you are liable.

Other sponsored students

If your tuition fees are being paid by a sponsoring organisation, such as a government department, charity or commercial company, you need to provide evidence of sponsorship with a copy of the sponsorship confirmation document or a completed sponsorship authorisation form – available at bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/tuition-fees. Please make sure that the form is signed by an authorised representative of the organisation and return it to the Income Office as soon as possible, or during Welcome Week. Your sponsor will be invoiced following your registration.

Payment is due in full within 30 days of receipt of our invoice. The University will continue to recognise an organisation as your sponsor only if payments are made promptly. If you experience problems with your expected sponsorship arrangements, you become responsible for the payment of your own fees.

PGCE students

UK and EU students are eligible for a tuition fee loan of £9,250 from the Student Loans Company (SLC) to cover their tuition fees (see www.gov.uk/student-finance). If you have applied for a loan your fees will be paid direct to the University by the SLC. If you have not taken out a loan, please follow the instructions for self-funding students.

Self-funding students

Please think about what type of payment plan you wish to create and select one of the payment options listed below. To pay by instalments, please set up a Direct Debit payment plan by 14 October or a recurring card payment plan by 23 October.

Payment options

• By direct debit or credit/debit card (full payment or two instalments: 50 per cent each due on 24 October and 24 January)
• To make a payment or set up future recurring payments go to the Fees and Funding channel on your MyBristol portal. You will need to register online and then wait until the next working day before you can make or set up your payment plan.
• By cheque, sterling bank draft, bank transfer or cash (full payment only).

You can find full information on all payment options at bristol.ac.uk/fees-funding/tuition-fees.

Difficulties in paying fees

We have clear procedures for dealing with late or non-payment of fees as set out in the Student Fees section of the Rules and Regulations for Students available at bristol.ac.uk/studentrulesregs.

If you do experience difficulty paying your fees, please seek help early on. In the case of initial delays to payments, contact the Income Office in the first instance. You can also speak to your Personal Tutor or Supervisor, or to the Advice and Representation team in the Students’ Union. We will be sympathetic and assist where we can, but in the event of non-payment we may have to apply sanctions ranging from an administration fee or interest charges to, in extreme cases, exclusion from the University.

Need help?

For queries about student funding, contact the Student Funding Office. For queries about your tuition fees or payment arrangements, contact the Income Office.

If our staff need to contact you about any financial matters, they will do so confidentially, to your University email address in the first instance, and will expect you to react promptly so that we can resolve any problems as soon as possible.

Maintenance payments for holders of studentships or scholarships

If you are due to receive maintenance funding towards living costs as part of your studentship or scholarship, full details, including payment arrangements, will be set out in an email from the Student Funding Office.

All maintenance payments made through the University will be paid quarterly on 1 October, 1 January, 1 April and 1 July (or subsequent working day where the first falls on a weekend or bank holiday). Students starting outside these dates will receive a pro rata payment in the first instance and will then be brought in line with the regular quarterly payment schedule.
Travel

Useful travel information
Plan your journey with Travelwest:
travelwest.info

Walking
Our main campus is within easy walking distance of the city centre, Bristol Temple Meads train station and our residences. Visit walkit.com to plan getting about on foot.

Cycling
Bristol is a cycling city despite the hills! Bringing your own bike to Bristol or buying one while you’re here means you can enjoy getting around and about independently and is a great way to enjoy your city. We support cycling in a number of ways, from free cycle training at a free bike clinic to keep your bike in tune, and there are plenty of cycle parking facilities. We run clinics during Welcome Week – visit bristol.ac.uk/cycling for details. You can also hire a bike from Bristol SU’s Balloon Bike scheme: bristol.ac.uk/balloons2016.

Keep up to date with cycling events and initiatives by joining the University Bicycle User Group (TUB-BUG) mailing list. See travelwest.info.

Bus/coach
Bristol and the University campus are well served by fast and frequent bus services. There are buses from our campus to the city centre, Bristol Temple Meads train station, the Stukeley Bishop Halls of Residence and other popular areas.

Postgraduate students can take advantage of some great value ticket options for Unibus and other services across the Bristol area. Those living at Orchard Heights or The Courthouses get a pass for free travel for the academic year on the U1 and four other First services in Bristol, while those studying at Vet School get a free pass for unlimited year-round travel on the U2. All other students can purchase a Bristol Unibus pass or buy individual tickets on board the bus. For more information visit bristol.ac.uk/buses.

Bristol Unibus: bristolunibus.com
First Bus travel planner: firstgroup.com/journey-planner
Megabus: megabuss.com
National Express Coaches: nationalexpress.com
Park and Ride: travelwest.info/parkandride
Bristol Flyer: flyer.bristolairport.co.uk
Bristol Metrobus: travelwest.info/metrobus

Trains
Bristol is the regional capital of the South West and has good intercity rail connections. It has two major train stations: Bristol Temple Meads and Bristol Parkway. Our campus is also served by a suburban rail-line with stations at nearby Clifton Down and Redland.

You can get a third off rail fares with a 16-25 Railcard, also available to full-time mature students. Go to 16-25railcard.co.uk to find out more. Other useful links: bristol.ac.uk/trains.

Seven Beach Line: travelwest.info/rail/severn-beach-line.

Taxis
Bristol has several taxi and private vehicle hire firms. There are also several taxi ranks in the centre of Bristol. Licensed taxis should have two identification badges – one in the vehicle and one worn by the driver – with a photo of the driver, an ID number and an expiry date.

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Cars
We strongly advise you not to bring a car to Bristol. No parking is allowed on campus during working hours, and all on-street parking in and around the campus is subject to residential permits, meters and time limits. Parking at the residences is only available in exceptional circumstances, with a permit. If you have a mobility impairment you can apply for a parking permit at bristol.ac.uk/transportransport/plan/ car-parking/precinct/disabled-staff-and-student-parking.

A great alternative to bringing a car is joining one of Bristol’s car clubs. These have pay-as-you-go cars located on streets all over the city (and elsewhere in the UK). You can use car club cars whenever you want, for as long as you want. For more information, visit bristol.ac.uk/carclub.

Before you arrive:
• Visit bristolunibus.com to check out the great value ticket options for student bus travel on our Bristol Unibus and other First bus services across Bristol.
• Download the First mTicket app to your phone so you’re ready to access the cheapest First Bus fares across the city.

Webpages for new students
The webpages contain important additional information so please check them regularly. These include:
• Welcome Week timetables for each course;
• information about getting started with your studies;
• a start guide to University life;
• information from the Students’ Union;
• reminders about tasks to complete;
• announcements.

bristol.ac.uk/find-your-bristol
Please also check your school(s) webpages for information specific to your course.

Are you eligible to vote?
You need to register in order to vote in European, UK and local elections and referenda. If you are eligible to vote, you can, as a student, register at both your term-time address and your vacation address. Your vote matters, so make sure your name appears on the electoral register. You can register as soon as you have moved into your term-time accommodation. You will need your National Insurance Number and the process only takes a few minutes. Go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.
Alternative format

If you need part or all of this booklet in an alternative format, eg in braille, in larger print or on tape, please contact:

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