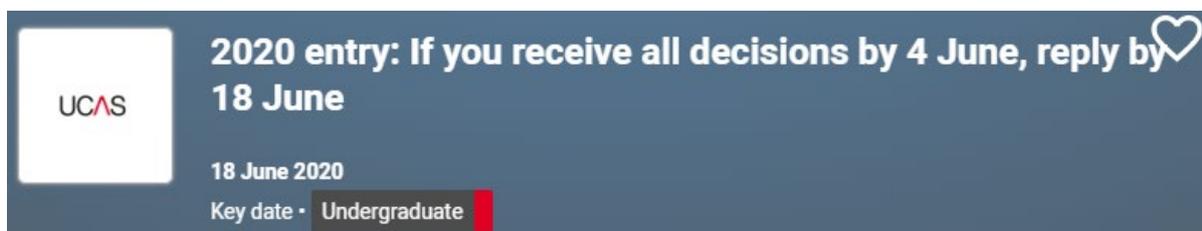


Taking your next step – 2nd Year University Information

Key things to consider!

1. Replying to your offers – 18th June 2020

Please make sure that you reply to all offers by the 18th June and select a firm/insurance course (if you have not done so already).



UCAS 2020 entry: If you receive all decisions by 4 June, reply by 18 June

18 June 2020

Key date • Undergraduate

2. Student Finance Application – Aim for May 2020

studentfinance^{england}

Apply online @ <https://www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance>

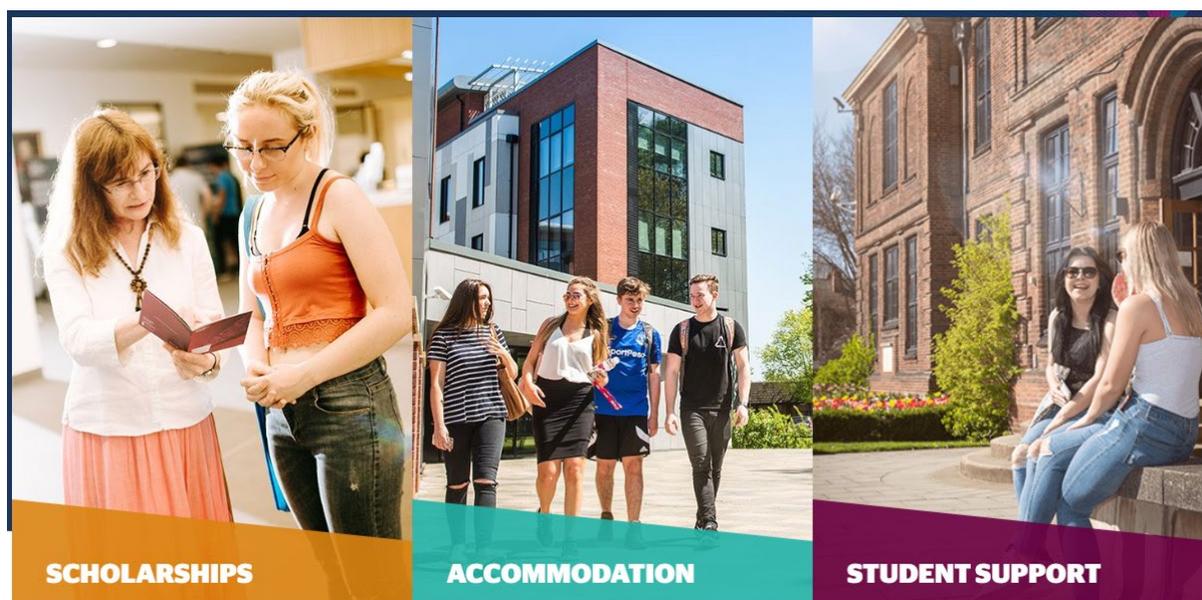
Please make sure that you submit your student finance application as early as possible to be sure funds will be available at the start of your course in Sept/Oct 2020.

3. Where to access university support information

Use the official university websites to support you when:

- Booking accommodation – Aim for summer 2020
- Applying for/researching scholarships and bursaries
- Exploring course material/student support information
- Getting updates on each university's response to COVID-19

(example below from the University of Hull home page)



| University Website Links (10 most common universities for Wyke students) | |
|---|---|
| University of Hull | https://www.hull.ac.uk/ |
| Leeds Beckett | https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/ |
| University of Leeds | https://www.leeds.ac.uk/ |
| University of York | https://www.york.ac.uk/ |
| University of Lincoln | https://www.lincoln.ac.uk/home/ |
| Sheffield Hallam University | https://www.shu.ac.uk/ |
| Northumbria University | https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/ |
| York St John University | https://www.yorks.ac.uk/ |
| University of Manchester | https://www.manchester.ac.uk/ |
| University of Sheffield | https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/ |

4. Be academically ready to start your course.

Here are some ways you can start to bridge your education from A level to undergraduate degree level.

- Look at your course material on the university website and get familiar with the first-year content. Some universities may have provided you with resources via email or posted them on the course page to do and read through.
- Take it to the next level and email your course provider to ask them for their first year reading list. It is important to then begin to read content from this list.
- Futurelearn is an online learning resource platform for you to complete free courses. These courses have been provided by universities globally to give students an insight into a particular field. www.futurelearn.com
- TED talks are influential videos from expert speakers and provide interesting content on education, business, science, tech and creativity. These are free to stream and download. www.ted.com
- Google Scholar provides a broad search for academic literature. scholar.google.co.uk
- Many professional disciplines will have a governing body, these governing bodies will host an incredible amount information and resources on their websites.

| Examples of professional bodies | |
|--|---|
| British Psychological Society | https://www.bps.org.uk/ |
| The Law Society | https://www.lawsociety.org.uk/ |

5. Enhance your study skills

You have already started to build your study skills as an independent learner, now is the time to brush them up and get ready for your degree.

The University of Hull has put together series of skill guides that cover four key areas.

- Study and learning
- Writing and assessment
- Research
- Technology and software.

There is also an introduction to university study covering four key areas.

- independent learning
- Time management
- Lectures and tutorials and
- Assessments

| University of Hull – Study Skill Guides | |
|---|---|
| Skill Guides | https://libguides.hull.ac.uk/SkillsGuides?b=g&d=a&group_id=14297 |
| Intro to study | https://libguides.hull.ac.uk/introduction/home |

These resources are from Hull University, but they will be beneficial for any university course. Check you firm choice university website first to see if they have any study resources that you can become familiar with before you commence the course. Get ready and be prepared for starting university in September.

6. Sort out a student bank account

When it comes to student bank accounts, many banks offer the following:

- A free overdraft facility of up to £3000
- A debit card
- An incentive for joining, such as a free student rail card or an Amazon voucher

Check out best student bank accounts on money saving expert:

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-bank-account/>

Student bank accounts with 0% overdrafts

| LENDER | 0% OVERDRAFT AMOUNT |
|------------------------|---|
| Bank of Scotland | Up to £1,500 in years 1-3, then up to £2,000 |
| Barclays | Up to £1,000 in year 1, up to £2,000 in year 2, then up to £3,000 |
| Halifax | Up to £1,500 |
| HSBC | £1,000 in year 1, up to £2,000 in year 2, then up to £3,000 |
| Lloyds | Up to £1,500 in years 1-3, then up to £2,000 |
| Nationwide | £1,000 in year 1, £2,000 in year 2, then £3,000 |
| NatWest | £500 in term 1, then up to £2,000 |
| Royal Bank of Scotland | £500 in term 1, then up to £2,000 |
| Santander | Up to £1,500 in years 1-3, then up to £1,800 in year 4 and up to £2,000 in year 5 |
| TSB | Up to £1,500 |

Last updated July 2019. *Remember the bank is just lending you this money. It will need to be paid back, so do not get too comfortable. Always keep in your mind that it is not actually yours, it is the bank's.*

7. Start to budget for the extra costs

When you get loans and other funding at the start of each term it can seem like a lot of money. Making it last a semester can be hard, especially with all the added costs like books, social activities etc.

Follow this simple budget guide and prepare before you start university.

1. Add up your income (divide into monthly budget):

- Maintenance loan
- Grants, bursaries and scholarships
- Money from parents
- Income from a job
- Any savings

2. Then take off your essential outgoings (set this against your monthly budget):

- Rent for accommodation
- Any bills - internet, tv license, mobile
- Contents insurance
- Travel/ car costs
- Food

3. Then whatever is left you can spend on other things (divide this up weekly):

- Books or equipment for your course
- Household supplies and toiletries
- Social activities
- Hobbies
- Takeaways
- Music and films
- Clothing

Make a list of your potential costs and set a budget

| Total Budget per month: | £ |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <u>Essential Expenses</u> | <u>Cost per month</u> |
| 1. | £ |
| 2. | £ |
| 3. | £ |
| 4. | £ |
| 5. | £ |

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Monthly disposable budget (left over after essential expenses) | £ |
| Weekly disposable budget: | £ |
| <u>Other outgoings:</u> | <u>Budgeted amount</u> |
| 1. | £ |
| 2. | £ |
| 3. | £ |
| 4. | £ |
| 5. | £ |
| 6. | £ |

8. Invest in student saver options

- **Travel**

Young person's rail card £30 for a year and you can get a third off train fare. Remember this rail card is free with some student bank accounts.

<https://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>

- **Retail discount**

Many shops, restaurants, cinemas and activity centres offer student discount. Discounts can range from 5% to 40%.

Types of university discount cards:

- Totum (NUS extra card) - It offers more than 200 UK discounts on big and small brands. A 1-year card costs £14.99
- Unidays - this is an app rather than a plastic card, and it's completely free to use. Anyone who is 16+ and is studying at a university or sixth form college can use it.
- Student Beans - this is also free, and you access discounts via the app.
- International student identity card (ISIC): this opens up gems of thousands of discounts in more than 130 countries. It costs £12 for the app or £15 for the physical. You also get a Totum card for a year for FREE.
- Amazon Prime student - exclusive offers for students for film and TV shows

9. Decide what stuff to take to university

When moving away from home for the first time, the temptation can be to buy absolutely everything you could possibly need. But think carefully about what you're going to bring, particularly when it comes to kitchenware as halls of residence and private accommodation already provide some of this e.g toaster, kettle and microwave)

Ten essential items to consider

1. Bedding
2. Towels
3. Basic toiletries
4. Laptop
5. Health and medical supplies
6. Enough clothes
7. Stationary
8. Money saving essentials – rail card/ NUS extra card
9. Simple recipes
10. A few photos

| My essential items list: | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. | 2. |
| 3. | 4. |
| 5. | 6. |
| 7. | 8. |
| 9. | 10. |
| 11. | 12. |
| 13. | 14. |
| 15. | 16. |
| 17. | 18. |
| 19. | 20. |
| 21. | 22. |
| 23. | 24. |

10. Protect your equipment

Some students take out contents and gadget insurance out whilst at university. It is worth checking whether you are covered on your parent's policy first before you do anything. Also check with your accommodation provider, sometimes contents insurance is part of your rent.

Contents insurance

Protects valuables such as clothes, computers and games consoles inside your accommodation against fire, theft and flood.

You may need extra cover for items you take out of your room, as well as protection against other risks or dangers like accidental damage.

Gadget insurance

Covers electronic devices against theft, loss, accidental and liquid damage. Not all insurers cover against all these risks automatically, so it's worth double checking.

Some specialist insurers provide additional cover options to give students that added protection for specific items e.g. musical instruments, bikes etc.

Some student contents insurance:

- Endsleigh - <https://www.endsleigh.co.uk/student/student-contents-insurance/>
- Buzzvault - <https://gobuzzvault.com/>
- Protect your Bubble - <https://uk.protectyourbubble.com/>
- Your bank

11. Prepare for a student job

Bagging yourself a part-time student job can be a great way of coping with student living costs (and looks good on your CV too). For flexible work you can fit in around your studying, your students' union is a good starting place.

Get your CV and cover letter ready before you go.

| Student Union Website/Job Page (Example) | |
|--|---|
| University of Hull Student Union | https://hulluniunion.com/ |
| University of Manchester Student Union | https://manchesterstudentsunion.com/jobs |

12. Start cooking at home now

If university is going to be your first experience of cooking for yourself, try out your culinary skills before you arrive.

Student cooking tv - <http://www.studentcooking.tv/>

13. Connect with your university on social media

If you are not already, follow your university's official Instagram, Twitter and other social media accounts to get in the mood for 'The Big Move'. This helps you build your university community quickly and before you even arrive.

It is also a handy way to get important updates and news in relation to the every changing advice and guidance around COVID-19.

14. Look after yourself and good luck

We would like to wish you the best of luck on behalf of Wyke. Please make sure that you make the most out of the university experience both academically and socially, but most importantly, stay safe and look after yourself.