

University of Birmingham unveils new Foundation Academy

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The University of Birmingham has today launched its new Birmingham Foundation Academy for high performing international students to enter the British university environment one year before the start of their undergraduate degree programme.

In contrast to a large number of existing pathway foundation programmes, Birmingham Foundation Academy students will be taught entirely by the University's academic staff on its main campus. As fully integrated members of the University's community, Foundation Academy students will have access to the very latest advances in knowledge within their chosen subject and the wide range of academic, sporting and cultural facilities available on campus.

Students can choose from **five pathways** ([/International/foundation-academy/pathways/pathways-foundation.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/foundation-academy/pathways/pathways-foundation.aspx)): Arts and Law; Engineering and Physical Sciences; Life and Environmental Sciences; Medical Sciences; and Social Sciences. The programme also allows students to develop their English language and study skills to aid transition to undergraduate studies. Students will live in the University's newest residence and be supported by a Residents' Life Co-ordinator, who will act as their first point of contact. Additionally, students will benefit from an array of specialised services tailored to their individual needs.

Professor David Eastwood, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Birmingham, said: "The University of Birmingham is pleased to introduce the Birmingham Foundation Academy, which is rooted in the culture of teaching excellence and intercultural learning on campus. The Birmingham Foundation Academy is a distinctive offer that will appeal to discerning international students who want a high-quality academic experience and to be at the centre of student life at a leading British university. It will act as a springboard for students to gain an internationally respected degree and develop a successful and rewarding career."

Dr Steve Minchin, Academic Director of the Birmingham Foundation Academy, added: "As part of the Birmingham Foundation Academy, students will benefit from the inspirational University of Birmingham experience and be fully supported as they adjust to a new and exciting student lifestyle. In my role as Academic Director, I look forward to ensuring that students have an intellectually stimulating, rewarding and enjoyable time at Birmingham."

Students will follow a curriculum comprising of an 80-credit suite of subject-specific modules together with 40 credits of English language and study skills. Enrolment is on to a one-year or four-year programme. The all-inclusive Birmingham Foundation Academy Package includes tuition fees, fully catered ensuite single accommodation (with staff on site 24-hours), text books, classroom equipment and full access to campus facilities. The deadline for applications for September 2012 entry is Monday 20th August 2012.

For further information, please visit: www.birmingham.ac.uk/foundation-academy (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/foundation-academy>)

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