

Support for care leavers



Outreach for looked after children

- Priority allocation of places on all our school and college outreach events, including subject enrichment classes, individually organised visits on request and residential summer schools, all provided free of charge
- Information sessions held specifically for foster carers

Transitional support for care leavers

The University of Birmingham welcomes applications from students who have been in local authority care, and we offer the following support for care leavers*:

- A priority award: currently, this is an award of £4,750 to fund accommodation if you choose to live in University owned halls (**the deadline for applications to this award is the 31st May but do contact Catherine McNicholl if you have missed it**) If you choose to live elsewhere, a £3,000 tuition fee reduction or cash bursary. You are also encouraged to make an application to the Access to Learning Fund, if required.
- You will have a single point of contact for pre-entry support and guidance, and an ongoing point of contact throughout your time at University, including the offer of an initial guidance session with a designated advisor on your arrival. Your first point of contact is Catherine McNicholl c.h.mcnicholl@bham.ac.uk (<mailto:c.h.mcnicholl@bham.ac.uk>) +44 (0)121 414 5873.
- You will be given priority in choice of University accommodation and we will ensure you have access to accommodation on a 52-week basis for the duration of your course (**please ensure your accommodation application arrives ahead of the deadline of 31 May**)
- We will invite you to join our Access to Birmingham induction day before the start of the main University Welcome Week, which includes information on student support, finance, how to get involved in the Guild of Students and careers
- There are other bursaries available to enable students to undertake internships, work experience or overseas placements. Care leavers are prioritised for all funding sources. More information can be found on the University's website: www.birmingham.ac.uk/ugfunding (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/ugfunding>)

*A care leaver is defined as a young person over the age of 16 who has been in care of the local authority and/or Health & Social Care Trust for at least 13 weeks since the age of 14 (www.buttleuk.org/pages/legal-definitions.html (<http://www.buttleuk.org/pages/legal-definitions.html>)).

Care leavers who have subsequently been adopted will not **automatically** be eligible for a priority financial award.

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