Welcome

A very warm welcome to the University of Winchester! We are pleased that you have chosen us for you will be joining a community of about 5600 students, with approximately 400 students from many countries around the world. Whether you are coming to us for a language programme, an undergraduate programme, postgraduate studies, as an exchange student or for research, we are committed to helping all our international students settle in to the university and look forward to welcoming you on campus.

My name is Geoff Titchener and I am the International Student Officer. I am here to offer you any help, support and advice you may need. I am located in the Internationalisation Centre, Room 34 Main Building; if you have an enquiry please e-mail me or make an appointment to see me by phoning 01962 827341.

An Orientation Programme has been arranged in order to help you settle into the University. It is really important that you attend the orientation events and make the best of this fantastic opportunity to meet other students, gain important information and meet the relevant staff who will be here to support you during your time in Winchester.

You will receive your computer username and password when you have enrolled, and it can take up to 24 hours to be activated. Temporary guest accounts have been included in your Welcome Pack. For your further convenience, there are several direct access computers in the Learning Café that do not require university usernames and passwords.

The food outlets, including the Learning Cafe and West Downs Cafe Life, will be open from 13 September. Opening hours are listed in the section ‘Food and Shopping’. Those of you staying in catered accommodation will be given a catering card when you collect the keys to your room on arrival.

If you have any problems upon arrival, please do not hesitate to ask for help from one of the student buddies, the hall wardens, site stewards or come to The Zone in the Main Building – we will do our best to help you and make you feel welcome. Just ask!

This booklet is one of two publications which will be useful to have close at hand during your time at Winchester, the other being the Student Handbook.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all the very best in Winchester. I hope you will be very happy here, and that you find it a truly life-enhancing experience. I look forward to meeting you soon!

Geoff Titchener
International Student Officer
Internationalisation Centre
Room 34 Main Building
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Things to do before you arrive

- Apply for a visa if you are required to do so, and allow six to eight weeks for processing.
- Decide what type of accommodation you want to live in and click here to apply for accommodation.
- Book your flight to arrive in time for our free airport pick-up service:
  - 10 week pre-sessional students: Saturday 28 June 2014
  - 5 week pre-sessional students: Saturday 2 August 2014
  - Semester 1 students: Saturday 13 September 2014
  - Semester 2 students: Thursday 9 January 2015
- Complete the online booking form for our free Airport Pickup Service (see page 8)
- Register online (see the Welcome Pack)
- Buy medical insurance if you will be a student here for less than six months (not applicable to EU students for any duration)
- Insure your personal belongings (this can be done on arrival, but you may want to buy travel insurance for the journey)
- Organise cash, travellers cheques, credit and debit cards for your journey and the first two weeks of your stay
- Obtain a banker’s draft or transfer money if you have been able to open a UK bank account before you arrive in this country.

Things to bring with you

**In your hand luggage:**

- A valid passport with a valid visa. Keep a photocopy of your passport information pages and visa page separately in your main luggage
- Offer/Confirmation letter, Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) email from the University of Winchester if applicable and any other University documentation (for example confirmation of accommodation)
- Proof of financial means, as the Immigration Officer has the right to ask you for this, or an updated statement from the bank account you used to support your application for a visa
- Original certificates for all the qualifications that were listed in your CAS email, including
any translations. We will ask to see these at enrolment.

- Students from certain TB-endemic countries will be required to undergo a TB screening on arrival in the UK. This can be a lengthy process and you may be able to bypass this procedure if you already have your screening certificate with you in your hand luggage. To find out more about chest x-rays, ask at your local British Embassy when you are applying for your visa. For more information visit the Home Office website www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visasimmigration/general-info/applying

- Any other official paperwork/documentation which you think may be in any way helpful when you report to immigration at the airport, enrol at the University and open a UK bank account

- Cash, travellers cheques, credit and debit cards for first few weeks and banker’s draft to deposit into new bank account if applicable

- This booklet

In your main luggage:

- Clothing or accessories to represent your country for the International Student Welcome Party on Wednesday 17 September 2014.

Restrictions on bringing meat and food in to the UK

If you are planning to bring foodstuff with you, please be aware that some food products especially meat, fish and other animal products from outside the EU cannot be brought into the UK. For full details please check www.defra.gov.uk/food-farm/food/personal-imports and https://www.gov.uk/duty-free-goods

There are strict limits on the amount of alcohol and tobacco you can bring. You are not allowed to bring unlicensed drugs or offensive weapons. For full details please check the following Revenue and Customs website www.hmrc.gov.uk/customs/arriving/arrivingnoneu.htm

Do I need a visa?

Visa nationals

All visa nationals must obtain entry clearance (visa) before travelling to the UK. You will not be allowed to enter the UK if you have not obtained this.

If you are coming for a course of up to six months (eleven months for English language courses) and do not wish to take a further course or work while you study, you should apply for entry clearance at the British Embassy as a student visitor. Otherwise you will need to apply for a Tier 4 (General) Student visa.

It is essential to check the Home Office website www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk for new information on entry clearance and visas before you travel to the UK. The UK Council for International Student Affairs has a very useful website for information on applying for a visa. Go to: www.ukcisa.org.uk > Immigration, including visas > Coming to the UK, as a student

Please check at www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk to find out if you are a Visa national. You can use the following link www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/policyandlaw/immigrationlaw/immigrationrules/appendix1

Non-visa nationals

If your country of citizenship is not listed on the above mentioned list, and you are not an EU/EEU national, then you are a non-visa national.

Non-visa nationals who wish to come to the UK for more than six months must also obtain a
Tier 4 (entry clearance) visa prior to entering the UK. (See Visa nationals section above for more information.)

Non-visa nationals coming on English language programmes of up to eleven months duration may choose to apply for entry clearance as a student visitor instead of a Tier 4 visa student at the British Embassy in their home country.

Non-visa nationals who wish to come for a maximum of six months can travel without entry clearance and ask to be admitted on arrival as a student visitor. Please make sure that you are clear that you wish to be admitted as a student visitor rather than just a visitor. Please be prepared to show the Immigration Officer your offer letter, proof of funds to support you during your stay in the UK, your accommodation arrangements and any other relevant documentation such as academic certificates and/or transcripts. Before you leave the Immigration counter, check that the officer has written ‘VST’ or STV’ over your entry stamp as this shows that you have been granted entry clearance as a Student Visitor rather than a General Visitor (tourist) as it can be difficult to amend it later. The ’Student Visitor’ visa does not permit you to work during your stay, nor can it be extended or changed to another visa. If you wish to do any of these, you must apply for a Tier 4 student visa before coming to the UK, or, if you are already here, you will have to go back to your home country to apply for the appropriate entry clearance (visa). For more information go to

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/visiting/student

EU/eea nationals
European Economic Area (European Union countries plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) nationals do not need a visa (entry clearance) to study in the UK. Your husband, wife, or civil partner and your children under 21 can enter freely if they are also EEA or Swiss nationals. If they are non-EEA nationals, they should apply at the British Embassy where they are living for an EEA family permit before travelling to the UK. See www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/eea.php

Dependants
Only postgraduate students on courses lasting 12 months or more, or government-sponsored students may bring their dependants to the UK. Only certain members of your family can apply to be in the UK as your dependants. If you are already in the UK with dependants, different rules will apply depending on whether you applied for your current student immigration permission under Tier 4 (General) of the Points Based System on or after 3 March 2010 or before 3 March 2010.

Please refer to the Home Office websites for the most up-to-date information or to UKCISA which publishes a very user-friendly information sheet www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/info_sheets/your_family.php

You may also contact the International Student Officer for enquiries specific to your situation.
Tier 4 visa information for Non-EEA nationals

Students who need a visa to study in the UK should use the Home Office self-assessment tool to check for the type of visa you require. Please go to: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas-immigration/do-you-need-a-visa. If you are still uncertain or have any enquiries about the application process, please contact the International Student Officer for help and guidance. In most cases you will need to apply under Tier 4 of the Points-Based System (PBS).

To obtain a Tier 4 (General) visa, you will need to score a total of 40 points on your application, made up as follows:

A valid Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) from the University worth 30 points. The CAS is available from our Admissions Department after payment of your initial fee deposit of £2,000. You will need to complete a ‘Request for CAS’ application form which will be sent to you. Please return it to international@winchester.ac.uk and note that it can take a week to issue a CAS, particularly during busy periods. The CAS is issued to you as an email containing the CAS number and relevant information to complete your visa application form.

Evidence that you have enough money for the remainder of your tuition fees for the first year of study, and sufficient for living expenses, called maintenance, which is worth 10 points. If you are a new student, you will normally need to demonstrate that you have enough money to cover the balance of your tuition fees plus £7,200 towards your living expenses. These funds must be in your account for 28 days prior to application.

The information in this handbook is general as there are changes which are still being implemented.

Please check the Home Office website www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk which will always have the most up-to-date information. If you have any specific questions after reading this booklet and the website information, please contact the International Student Officer at the University of Winchester.

Under the Home Office Points Based System, the University of Winchester will be obliged to report to the Home Office any student who does not enrol on their course, suspends, withdraws or defers from their course, moves to another institution, does not attend the course or is withdrawn by the University for any reason.

It is a criminal offence to switch to another institution without first applying for permission to do so from the Home Office. Arriving at the University without the correct visa, for example a visa issued to another university, will result in delays that could prevent you from enrolling here. It is also essential that you inform the University of all updates to your personal information including changes of address, changes in personal circumstances and course information. Tier 4 students are also advised that they are not allowed to claim any public funds during their time in the UK.
EEA (European Union countries plus Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) and Swiss nationals

If you are an EEA or a Swiss national, you only require your passport or your national identity card to enter the UK. As your passport will not be stamped, there is no official record that you have entered the UK. We would advise you to apply for a residence permit after you have arrived in the UK to confirm your right of residence in the UK and prove that you are living here. You can apply for a residence permit on application forms EEA1.

Non-EEA dependants of EEA nationals

If you are bringing dependants who are non-EEA nationals, please check with the British Embassy in your home country to see if your dependants require visas to travel here or to obtain EU family permits.

Health Insurance

You should apply for your European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) in your own country before coming to the UK, or pay for health insurance if this is your preference. You will need to show evidence that you have an EHIC card for the purposes of obtaining a registration certificate.

Tuition fees

If you are an EU national and you have been living in the European Economic Area (EEA) and/or Switzerland for three years before your course begins, you are probably eligible for a loan to help you pay your tuition fees. You repay the loan when your studies are over and when you are earning above a certain amount. Depending on whether or not you meet certain eligibility criteria, you may also be entitled to apply for a loan to help you with living costs. You should research your eligibility thoroughly before finalising your plans to study in the UK.

Working in the UK

Most EEA and Swiss nationals are allowed to work in the UK without restrictions. However, Croatian students must first obtain a registration certificate confirming that you are a student. This applies to courses involving work placements as well. Once you have obtained this, you may work for up to 20 hours a week during term time and full-time during vacation periods. Once you have been working legally as an employee for 12 months without a break, you will have full rights of free movement and will no longer require the UK Border Agency’s permission to work. You should then apply for a registration certificate to confirm your right to live and work in the UK.
Useful links
www.gov.uk/browse/visas-immigration/eu-eea-commonwealth
www.ukcisa.org.uk/International-Students/Preparing--planning/EEA-and-Swiss-students/
www.ukcisa.org.uk/International-Students/Study-work--more/Working-during-your-studies/EEA-and-Swiss-students-working-while-studying/
www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/eea_fees.php
www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/information_sheets.php#student_support
Restrictions on bringing meat and food in to the UK
If you are planning to bring foodstuff with you, please be aware that some food products especially meat, fish and other animal products from outside the EU cannot be brought into the UK. For full details please check www.defra.gov.uk/food-farm/food/personal-imports and https://www.gov.uk/duty-free-goods
There are strict limits on the amount of alcohol and tobacco you can bring. You are not allowed to bring unlicensed drugs or offensive weapons. For full details please check the following Revenue and Customs website www.hmrc.gov.uk/customs/arriving/arrivingnoneu.htm

Arrival in the UK
Please book your flight to arrive in time for our free Heathrow airport pick-up service:

Saturday 28 June 2014
(for 10-week pre-sessional students)
10.30a.m
3.30p.m

Saturday 02 August 2014
(for 5-week presessional students)
10.30a.m
3.30p.m

Saturday 13 September 2014
10.00a.m
3.00p.m
7.30pm

Thursday 8 January 2015
10.30a.m
3.30p.m

You can book a space on the free Heathrow pick up service by downloading the form from our website: www.winchester.ac.uk/Studyhere/internationalstudents/afteryouhaveapplied/Pages/default.aspx

There will be International Student Buddies at Heathrow to meet and welcome you. We recommend that students book flights that land at Heathrow at least 1.5 hours before the coach departure time to allow for Immigration clearance and baggage collection.

Your university accommodation will only be available from that date. If you are planning to
arrive earlier, you will need to find a hotel or bed and breakfast locally. See the Winchester Tourist Board details at the end of this guide. Tier 4 students on courses of six months or longer may enter the UK up to one month before the start date of the course. If your course is less than six months long and is not a course to prepare you for a main programme of study you may enter the UK only up to seven days before the start date.

On arrival in the United Kingdom, you may be asked by immigration officials at the airport to provide the documentation listed in the 'To bring' list.

If you need to travel independently to Winchester, it can take two to four hours to reach Winchester from either Heathrow or Gatwick. Travel from the airport to Winchester is easy – see details in the following table.

**National Express Coach**
National Express coach website: www.nationalexpress.com

**From Heathrow Airport**
You need to take a coach (most are number 032) from Heathrow airport to Winchester. The coach leaves from Heathrow Central Bus Station. Just ask for directions from the Information desk in the terminal.

Approx length of journey 1 hour 30 minutes
Approx coach times Coaches every 2 hours
Tickets can be purchased from the information desk in each terminal or it may be possible to pre-book online at the website above.

Approx cost of journey Single fare: approx £16

**From Gatwick Airport**
You need to take a coach from Gatwick Coach station to Heathrow airport. Just ask an airport official for directions if it is not clear. Change at Heathrow for coach to Winchester.

Approx length of journey 3-4 hours
Approx coach times Coaches every 2 hours
Tickets can be purchased from Gatwick Coach station main desk or it may be possible to pre-book online at the website above.

Approx cost of journey Single fare: approx £25

Please be aware that services are not as frequent in the evening and all day on Sunday. Journeys in this instance may also take longer and stop at more places. You can also look on the National Express website for coach services from other UK airports.

**Taxis**
If you plan to travel by taxi you could try contacting a taxi or private hire company. A few options are listed below but please note that other companies are also available. We are providing you with information for comparison only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Heathrow to Winchester</th>
<th>Gatwick to Winchester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACE Private Hire</strong></td>
<td>44-7776-237310</td>
<td>£80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:a.c.ecars@hotmail.co.uk">a.c.ecars@hotmail.co.uk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wright Private Hire</strong></td>
<td>44-7557-529915</td>
<td>£75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:aw1@timicomail.co.uk">aw1@timicomail.co.uk</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>City taxis</strong></td>
<td>44-1962-841212</td>
<td>£80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Citytaxis2011@gmail.com">Citytaxis2011@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please bring sufficient cash to pay the driver. There may be an additional parking charge if the driver has had to wait a long time for you.
**Trains**
If you are arriving by ferry/Eurostar or into another UK airport, travelling by train to Winchester will probably be your best option. For more information see www.nationalrail.co.uk

**Money on arrival**
You may need approximately £200-£250 in British currency on arrival in the UK, more if you are travelling by taxis and other public transport. Do not carry any more than this in case it gets lost. It is advisable to bring some travellers cheques with you for emergencies; they can be cashed at airport bureaux de change offices and in banks. It may take up to three weeks to open a UK bank account so be prepared with cash and travellers cheques until then. You can also withdraw money from ATMs using your credit or debit card.

**Arriving at the University**
Please arrange to arrive in Winchester on the set arrival date as listed on page 8.

If you have made your own way to Winchester city, you can take a taxi to the university from either the Winchester railway or bus station. The journey will take between five and ten minutes and will cost approximately £5.

For pre-sessional and semester 1 intake, ask the taxi driver to take you to the West Downs Campus, Romsey Road where you will collect your key.

For semester 2 intake you will collect your keys from Main Reception, Sparkford Road. If you are arriving after 6.00pm, please ring the Site Steward (Security) from the reception area who will give you your key. There is a phone by main reception and the number for Site Security will be listed by the entrance.

If you are not using the free coach service from Heathrow, please advise the International Student Officer of your anticipated arrival date and time by emailing these details to Geoff. Titchener@winchester.ac.uk We will do our best to ensure that an International Student Buddy is on hand to help you out. If you do not have access to email, please see page 28 for fax and telephone details.

**Orientation programme**
By arriving on time, you will have the benefit of attending the relevant events and introductions which will help you settle into life at Winchester more easily.

During your orientation you will:

- be welcomed to Winchester and to the University
- have your passport and visa checked and scanned
- have the originals of your academic qualifications checked if this has not already been done
- enrol with the University, your Faculty and your programme of study (all students should...
register online prior to arrival but will still need to enrol in person

• receive important and essential information about life at Winchester, student visas, culture shock, the computer systems, email, and much more

• meet your International Student Officer and fellow students

• meet your faculty administrative staff

• pay your fees and accommodation bills

• receive your student ID card

• have a tour of the campus and of Winchester city

• be able to settle in and familiarise yourself with your new environment before lectures start and importantly, make friends and have fun

Making contact with home

We are making arrangements to provide every new student with a free SIM card which can be used in an 'unlocked' mobile/cellphone. This SIM card will have a small amount of credit on it which will be sufficient to send several texts (SMS) or make a quick call home. It will be given to you in your Welcome Pack on the university bus when travelling from Heathrow or from the International Student Buddies on campus for those arriving at the University independently. If you subsequently wish to keep using the SIM card, you can register with the company online and purchase additional credit. The University takes no responsibility whatsoever for your use of the SIM card, the network provider and for any contract you may enter into with the company.

You will be also be able to phone home using pay phones on the campus, and use the internet from direct access computers on campus. You will be offered a guest ID to log on to our internet system until your University email address has been activated after enrolment.

Pre-paid phone cards, sometimes called calling cards, are a cheap and easy way to make long distance overseas phone calls from your home or mobile phone. There is a variety of international calling cards available that can be purchased from the Post Office and many newsagents. All cards will carry clear instructions for you to follow when making your call from a pay phone or landline telephone.

Some students find that the option of a mobile telephone, although sometimes more expensive, provides a convenient method of communication. There are a number of mobile phone shops in Winchester and you may be able to find a special deal for phoning overseas if you decide not to use the SIM card provided upon arrival.

Students can access Skype from computers on campus but will need their own headphones and microphone. You can also find cheap rates to make international calls from your mobile phone by searching online. www. cheapestinternationalcalls.com is one example; there are many others.
Student Services – support for you
The Student Services team is based in Main Building on the main King Alfred campus site. There are 5 main areas:

Wellbeing
• Counselling
• Health
• Disabilities
• Dyslexia
• Mentors

Academic and Career Development
• Employability
• Study Skills
• Careers
• Volunteering
• Placements

International
• Welfare Support
• Visas
• Study Abroad

Student Advice
• Welfare Support
• Financial Guidance

Foundation
• Chaplaincy
• Foundation Music

Please come to ‘The Zone’ which is the Student Services reception area, Main Building to find out more about all the support available for you, or to arrange to see the right adviser. You can also email: International.Students@winchester.ac.uk

Safety information
For many of you this will be your first time living away from home in an unfamiliar country. By international standards, the UK is a safe country, with low levels of violence and street crime, and by UK standards Winchester is particularly safe. A recent survey by the British Council showed that the vast majority of International students who filled in the survey had not been victims of crime whilst in the UK.

However, it is still very important not to take any unnecessary risks. This safety information is not intended to cause alarm but it is important that you use this common sense advice in order to ensure that your time in the UK is safe and enjoyable.

Getting around
• Carry a personal attack alarm – especially if you are walking around at night or in quieter areas (you can get a personal attack alarm from Security on King Alfred Campus)
• Do not travel alone after dark
• When walking around or waiting for a bus, look confident and stay alert
• Study a map before you leave your room so that you know where you are going
• Often the longer, less direct routes that are well lit and busy are the safer ones. Avoid shortcuts through dark alleys and parks
• Be alert and brief when using a mobile phone and try to conceal it
• Carry your bag close to you keeping zips and pockets shut
• Only use cash points (ATMs) that are in well lit and busy areas, try to avoid using them at night and always memorise your PIN (personal identification number) to access your money from a cash machine. Never write it down or give it to anyone else
• Don’t carry any more cash than is necessary

Nights out and socialising
The following are a few suggestions to help you enjoy your nights out:
• Don’t accept a drink from a stranger
• Don’t swap or share drinks – be alert for drink-spiking
• Always leave your drink with someone you know and trust. If you feel odd or unusually drunk, ask a friend to take you home – make sure it is someone you can trust
• Always look out for yourself and your friends
• Avoid taking drugs
• Avoid drinking too much (binge drinking).

Burglary prevention
• Lock doors and windows when you are going out, even if it is just for a few minutes
• Make sure that doors are not left propped open
• Make sure that your valuable items are out of sight, especially in ground-floor rooms.

Who to contact if you have a problem
If you are worried about your safety or the safety of any other students, contact the site stewards on campus who can put you in touch with the University security officer. The numbers for the site stewards are listed below and should also be on your wall planner in your room.

Site Stewards and contact numbers:
King Alfred Campus/Queens Road security:
Internal 7666, External 01962827666
West Downs security: Internal 7667, External 01962 827667
Reception: Internal 2525, External 01962 841515
Duty Warden: Internal 7640, External 01962 827640
Police Liaison: PCSO Helen Carthew: Tel: 07901 102497

Emergency:
Fire/Police/Accident or Medical Emergency: 999
Emergency calls are free - you do not need to put money in the telephone or have credit on your mobile phone. Add an extra 9 if you are calling from an internal phone.

If something happens to you on campus, please do not panic. There will always be someone to help you. You can contact the numbers above, your Faculty office, your residential assistant or Student Services for advice and/or assistance.
If you have an accident and are with someone who can accompany you, ask them to take you to the Accident and Emergency (A & E) Department at the hospital in Winchester (next door to the campus). Do not call an ambulance if you are able to get yourself to hospital. But do not hesitate to call for an ambulance if the situation is extremely serious.

Finances

If you are receiving funding from overseas, your financial sponsor will normally calculate the amount of funding you require at the current exchange rate. As exchange rates fluctuate, sometimes dramatically, we strongly recommend you exchange such funding into sterling (pounds and pence) as soon as you receive it. Make sure you put this money straight into your bank in order to avoid carrying large amounts of cash around with you.

If you have a financial query, the Finance Office on the first floor of the Main Building is open from 10.00 to 15.00 Monday to Friday. Any queries regarding your payments can be discussed with our Credit Controller on +44 (0)1962 827265. Annual tuition fees for full-time international students should be paid at the beginning of the first term. All invoices should be paid promptly.

Please note if you are a Visiting (Study Abroad) or an Erasmus student, you are required to pay your tuition and accommodation fees before your arrival (an invoice will be sent to you in due course).

Opening a bank account

International students do not always find it straightforward to open a bank account in the UK as different banks have different policies and apply different conditions. Banks usually require the student’s course or visa to be at least six months long. Please assume that it may take at least two to three weeks to open a UK bank account. Also, please make sure you have access to the money that you will need during this period by making financial arrangements similar to those you might make if you were on vacation.

The Bank that you choose will ask for a specific letter addressed to them from the University, confirming your status as a student. If you require such a letter or if you experience problems opening a bank account, please contact Geoff Titchener.

There are several banks in Winchester which offer bank accounts for International Students, namely: Barclays, NatWest, HSBC, Lloyds TSB, Santander and Royal Bank of Scotland. (All the branches in Winchester are within 5 minutes walking distance of each other.) Deciding who you should open a bank account with is your personal choice and you should look around before making a decision.

Transferring money to the UK

Bringing money into the UK is straightforward if you plan ahead. There are a number of ways of getting money into the country and the various
options open to you are listed below.

Credit card: most banks in the UK will accept MasterCard, American Express or Visa Cards. These can be used to withdraw cash from ATMs (cash dispensing machines) with an additional charge.

Travellers cheques are very useful because they enable you to obtain money before you have organised a bank account. However please note that travellers cheques are becoming less recognised these days, as electronic transfer systems become easier and more secure.

Electronic transfer of funds – the easiest and quickest way to send money from a bank in your country to one in the UK. You can use this method once you have opened a bank account in the UK.

Your health

Adjusting to a new climate, different food and the emotional strains of being away from home can often result in feeling ill in the first few weeks of staying in a new country. Please do not panic – this is normal!

Help yourself to stay well by eating healthily and taking sufficient rest. Should you require medical or dental treatment whilst you are in Winchester, this section gives advice and information about the services available to you.

The National Health Service (NHS)
The NHS is the UK’s state health service, which provides treatment for UK residents through a wide range of health care services. The National Health Service provides medical treatment through three main routes:

General Practitioners (GPs) Surgery, Clinic or Health Centre
UK residents register with a GP surgery in the area in which they live. Your GP (Physician/doctor) is usually the first point of contact for medical treatment. Most illnesses and other problems can be treated by a GP, but if you need to see a specialist, the GP will refer you to the appropriate hospital department. Be aware you may be treated by a nurse or other health service professional.

Hospitals
If your GP refers you to a hospital for treatment, you will usually be sent an appointment to see a specialist doctor at a hospital. You may be seen as an in patient (where you stay at the hospital for treatment) or as an out patient (where you visit the hospital each time you require treatment).

Accident and Emergency (A&E) department
This department is open 24 hours a day and deals with patients needing emergency treatment. If you need immediate medical assistance (for example, because of an accident) telephone 999. The call is free. The same number can be used to contact the police or the fire brigade.

If your programme of study is for six months or more, you can get free health care from the National Health Service (or NHS), right from the beginning of your stay, on the same basis as
anyone who is ordinarily resident in the UK. Your spouse and children under the age of sixteen, or nineteen if still at school, will also be entitled to NHS treatment. If you are from a country with which the UK has a reciprocal health agreement you will be covered even if your programme is less than six months, but only if the need for your treatment arose while you were visiting Britain.

**Meningitis Vaccine**

We recommend that all students be vaccinated against Meningitis C, a serious and potentially life threatening disease. Please make arrangements to receive this vaccine before coming to the University.

If your programme is for less than six months, you are strongly advised to take out health insurance from a reputable company, to cover yourself and your dependants as you will not be covered by the NHS for anything more than accident and emergency (A & E) treatment.

EEA nationals should bring their European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) with them to access free NHS treatment.

**Medical Insurance**

If you do not already have medical insurance and will be here for less than 6 months, please see the International Student officer for details of how to obtain private medical insurance.

All eligible International students (non-EU students on a programme over six months long, and all EU students) should register with a doctor as soon as possible upon arrival, even if you are well. Please do so at The Zon.

**Students with disabilities or learning differences**

If you are an International or EU student with a disability, you must contact the Head of Wellbeing before arriving in the UK to discuss individual support requirements and for support provision to be arranged. You will be required to provide evidence of your disability in advance of your arrival. You are advised to seek funding from your home country to cover the cost of any non-academic support that your disability may incur. Please contact our Head of Wellbeing, on 01962 827439 (internally 7439) or email Lesley.Black@winchester.ac.uk to arrange an appointment.

**Academic life in the UK**

You may find, as many international students do, that the teaching methods used by lecturers can be very different from any you have been used to. The relationship between staff and students is often more relaxed and informal and high importance is placed on students' abilities to take responsibility for their education and organise their own time. The UK system assumes students will develop through independent learning.

Degree programmes consist of a series of lectures, seminars and tutorials. In addition to timetabled activities, much emphasis is placed on private study and you will be expected to spend at least as much time studying on your own as being taught.
The website www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk is another excellent resource for international students to prepare for academic life, and to improve your English language skills if necessary. There are interactive activities such as ‘Understanding course assignments’, ‘Differences in University Study’, ‘Academic Writing at University’ and many more. There is also a section on ‘Adapting to a new Life’, which deals with cultural challenges.

**Working in the UK**

Most international students are allowed to do some work whilst they study in the UK. However, students are advised that the main purpose of their stay in the United Kingdom is to study.

International students do not need to obtain a work permit in order to work but, providing your visa permits you to work, you are restricted to working either 10 hours or 20 hours a week during term-time, depending on the type of course you are studying. This will be marked on your visa. If it says no work or work prohibited, it means no work at all, including unpaid work. There is no restriction on the number of hours worked during vacation periods.

Most EU and EEA students are not restricted in the number of hours they can work. However, students from Croatia will need to obtain a Workers Registration Certificate before they can start to work in the UK, and have a 20-hour per week restriction on work.

Student visitors are entirely prohibited from working, doing work placements and internships, whether paid or unpaid.

If in doubt, please show Geoff Titchener your passport and visa and he will confirm your work status for you.

**What work could I do?**

Providing your most recent conditions do not say that you cannot work, you may be allowed to work for up to 10 hours or up to 20 hours a week during term-time, depending on the type of course you are studying. This will be stated on your visa. If you are looking for a job, please go to the jobs database: Intranet > Information Bank > Careers > JobShop

**I have started work – how do I get a National Insurance number?**

As soon as you have started working or have started looking for a job, you will need to contact the Job Centre Plus National Insurance Allocation Service by telephoning 0845 6000 643 (lines are open 9.00-18.00 Monday to Friday.)

You will be given a 10 minute telephone interview about your personal circumstances, when you entered the country and other such details. You may either be given an appointment at the Job Centre in Southampton (St Cross House, Bernard Street – you can get a bus or train into Southampton for your appointment), or you may be sent an application form by post. You will need to fill in the form and send it back.
to the address provided.

In either case, if you are invited to attend an appointment, make sure you ask what documents they want you to take with you. These will include a letter from your employer confirming the employment (or details of interviews if you are still looking for work), your passport and probably some other document confirming your identity. When you get there, you will be asked to fill in a form and the staff will give you a letter to show your employer, confirming that you have applied for a National Insurance number.

It is legal to start working without a National Insurance number, provided you are in the process of applying for one. Your local employer should know this but sometimes they can be hesitant about employing International students who do not have a National Insurance number. If this happens, please let Geoff know and he will help you.

Do I have to pay income tax?

Generally, you will have to pay income tax on your earnings. However, if your total annual income from all sources (apart from student loans, scholarships and educational grants) is not more than £10,000 (this figure is for the tax year 2014/2015), you might be able to receive your wages without tax being deducted.

You and your employer have to complete form P38(S). For information about how to claim your tax back and about using form P38(S), see the Inland Revenue website, where you will also find a tax checker to help you calculate if you have to pay tax: www.hmrc.gov.uk

Food and shopping

Supermarket shopping

Supermarkets in the UK are self-service. You can walk around and choose items that you like. Supermarkets often have an information desk where you can get information about what you need to buy. The larger supermarkets have a selection of international and speciality foods such as wheat-free foods. When you go into a supermarket, always collect a trolley or basket. Shoppers are encouraged to use their own shopping bags in an effort to reduce waste and protect the environment but plastic bags are still available at the checkouts for your use. You may be asked to pay for your bags.

The main supermarket chains in the UK are: Sainsbury’s, Tesco, Waitrose, Morrisons and Asda. There are large Sainsbury’s, Tesco, Waitrose and Aldi a short bus/taxi distance from the university.

You can get a number 5 bus from Romsey Road to the much larger Sainsbury’s store at Badger Farm:

Sainsbury’s
1 Badger Farm Road, Winchester, Hampshire SO22 4QB Tel: 01962 867896

The number 1 bus from Cromwell Road will take you to another large supermarket, Tesco, off Easton Lane:
Tesco
Easton Lane Winchester Hampshire SO23 7RS England Tel: 0345 6779723

This is open 24 hours (Monday to Saturday) but is on the other side of the city. There are regular buses.

There is also a large new Waitrose supermarket on Stockbridge Road, approximately 1.5 miles from the University, with an Aldi next door. There are smaller supermarkets such as Iceland and Co-op in the centre of Winchester, and a small Sainsbury’s supermarket, a Marks and Spencer’s store that also sells a small selection of food.

On most days of the week you will find an outdoor market in Winchester which sells fruit and vegetables. This is generally a cheaper option.

International foods
There is an oriental supermarket in Winchester that stocks Chinese, Thai, Filipino, Korean, Indonesian and Vietnamese foods.

Chinatown Oriental Supermarket, 51 Upper Brook Street, Winchester Tel: 01962 850909

Halal, Indian, Arabic, European and Asian foods are also available in Southampton at supermarkets such as:

International Foods, 83-95 Derby Road, Southampton, Hampshire SO14 ODQ Tel: 023 80 22 0914

Yau Brothers, Princes Street, Northam, Southampton SO15 5RP Tel: 023 80 22 5668 website: www.yaubros.co.uk

You can take a bus (www.stagecoachbus.com) or train (www.nationalrail.co.uk) into the centre of Southampton and a taxi to the supermarkets.

Eating out
If you go to a restaurant, you will usually be taken to a table by a waiter/waitress. If the restaurant is a popular one, it is best to telephone and book a table in advance to ensure that you get a place. Most restaurants serve vegetarian dishes as well as meat dishes, and many are halal – just ask. It is usual to leave a tip of 10% at the end of the meal, except where service charge is already included in the bill.

Cafés are good places to go for a drink (usually non-alcoholic, hot and cold drinks). They always have a range of snack foods. In some cafés, a waiter/waitress will serve you; in others, you need to go to a counter to order and collect your drink/food.

Eating On Campus
The food outlets on campus are open from Saturday 13th September as follows:

Food Hall
Monday-Friday: 8am-2.30pm (term time only) Monday-Sunday: 5pm-7pm

Learning Café
Monday-Friday: 8am-8pm Weekends: 10.30am-6.30pm

Games Room
Monday-Friday: 12-3.30pm, 4-7pm Saturday-Sunday: 12-3.30pm, 5-7pm
West Downs Café Life
Monday-Thursday: 8am-7pm
Friday: 8am-3.30pm

Cyber Italia
(Kenneth Kettle Building)
Monday-Friday: 8am-8pm
Saturday-Sunday: 10.30-6.30pm
Out of term: Monday-Friday: 8-3.30pm

(Note that times may be subject to change – always check with the food outlet for the correct times)

Your student ID card acts as your Catering Card if you are in catered halls. It is loaded with the weekly amount every Sunday evening on a “Use it or lose it” basis.

If you are in self-catered halls, you can also use your Student ID card for buying food and drink on campus by transferring money from your bank account to a Campus Card Web account. Please type ‘Smart card’ in the search bar on the Intranet.

Internet Access

Networked internet access is available at computers throughout King Alfred campus, the Library and the Learning Café. A row of computers with direct access to the internet is also available in the Learning Café. If you wish to use the Learning Café or Multi-media Suite after normal hours, you will need to fill in a request online.

Wi-Fi access in student accommodation is available across the campus. West Downs is on the edge of the network and internet connectivity is better achieved there by using a data cable (RJ45) which will be provided in each room. The cable remains the property of the University and must be left in the room when you leave.

Students can access Skype from computers on campus but will need their own headphones and microphone.

Telephones and making calls

Mobile phones
Most students find that the option of a mobile telephone, while often more expensive, provides a more convenient method of communication. There are five main mobile networks operating in the UK – O2, Vodafone, T-Mobile (EE) and 3 (which also provides Skype mobiles). It is generally cheaper to make telephone calls to people who are on the same network as yourself.

All five networks offer two types of payment systems – monthly subscriptions and ‘Pay as You Go’. With a monthly subscription you are usually required to sign a minimum 6 or 12 month contract and pay monthly for the use of the phone network and the cost of the handset. With Pay as You Go, you initially buy your handset or use a mobile phone which has been unlocked for use by any network. You can then purchase top-up cards to use the network.

Top-up cards can be purchased from numerous outlets such as newsagents or supermarkets, normally in denominations of £10, £15 and £20.
As many retailers run different promotions on mobile phones, it is always advisable to shop around to find yourself the best deal and the most convenient payment system to suit your needs.

**Calling outside the UK**
If you are calling outside the UK (International calls) you must dial:

- 00 (access code)
- Followed by the country code
- Then the city prefix without its first 0 (except Italy which includes the 0 in the city prefix)
- Then the number

**Calling the UK**
- The UK country code is 44. If you give your family and friends your telephone number they need to dial:
  - The number to dial out of your home country (Access Code) followed by
  - 44 (to get into the UK) followed by
  - 1962 (the code for Winchester from outside the UK) followed by
  - The land line number. If your family and friends are ringing you from abroad on your mobile, they would dial 44 and then your mobile number without the first 0.

**Calling Within the UK**
- When ringing from a land line to another land line within the same area code, the area code does not need to be included.
- When ringing another mobile from a land line or another mobile, the first 0 must always be included.

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**Accommodation**

**Postal Mail**
If you live at West Downs your mail will be delivered directly to your house. Your address is:

Your name  
West Downs Student Village  
House No.  
Room No.  
Romsey Road  
Winchester  
Hants  
SO22 5HT (if you live in House 1-68)  
Or SO22 5FT (if you live in House 69-108)

If you live in Queen’s Road, your mail will be delivered into the post boxes by Block 2. Your address is:

Your name  
Flat No.  
Room No.  
Queen’s Road Student Village  
Queen’s Road  
Winchester  
Hants  
SO22 4DQ

If you live in Burma Road your address is:

Your name  
Flat No.  
Room No.  
Burma Road Student Village  
Burma Road
Winchester
Hants
SO22 5SB

If you live in other Halls, your address is:

Your name
Your Home Faculty
University Of Winchester
Winchester
Hants
SO22 4NR

Do not put ‘University of Winchester’ as University halls have different post codes to the University. You will then collect your mail from your Home Faculty Office.

**Electrical testing (PAT testing)**

All portable electrical items brought into the accommodation will be PAT tested for safety within a short time of your arrival. Exact details of when your items will be tested will be provided after you move in. Please see item 2.44 of the Student Residence Regulations for further details of this requirement. There is a one off charge of £15 per student for PAT testing. This amount will be shown on your accommodation invoice.

Portable electrical equipment is defined as a small appliance that is intended to be moved whilst in operation or an appliance which can easily be moved from one place to another, for example computers, printers, TVs, hairdryers/straighteners, Hi-fi equipment (including decks), plug in heaters, table lamps, microwaves. This can include items you bring with you, and items you purchase while here.

Each item tested will be given a sticker as evidence of the successful test. Any items that fail the PAT test and cannot be repaired will be removed from the residence and held by the Safety & Security Officer as they are not safe to be used. You will be left instructions of how to contact the Safety and Security Officer, and will be able to collect your items before leaving the University.

Please be aware that the UK uses 230 volts. If your home electrical supply is of a different voltage you will need a transformer so that it is compatible with the UK electrical supply.

If your item is not earthed to UK standards you may need to use an authorised adaptor. You will be advised of this when your equipment is tested. You will be supplied with one adaptor. Additional adaptors can also be obtained from the IT Helpdesk in the region of £5.00.

Some of your equipment will not be surge protected and so will not be suitable to be used with the common adaptor. The adaptor for this equipment will cost approximately £30 - £40 from any electrical store.

**Contents insurance**

Valuable personal possessions such as bicycles, laptops, cameras etc. should be insured against theft, loss or damage. The University is unable to provide insurance for personal effects. You can extend your contents insurance to include
“All Risks” cover by paying a small additional premium to insure against the loss or damage of valuable items.

The institution has Public Liability cover in respect of its legal liability in any case of damages. It does not cover the payment of compensation to students injured whilst participating in a course or sporting activities, unless a legal liability is established. You may wish to consider taking out Personal Injury Insurance.

Student contents insurance policies are available from insurance companies such as Endsleigh and are specifically designed to cover students’ personal possessions whether they are living in halls of residences, shared houses or student flats.

Property Identification

Please mark your valuable personal possessions with an ultra-violet pen so that they are easily identifiable. You can register the serial numbers at www.immobilise.com which is a free service. This can increase the chance of your property being returned to you if it is found. Please contact Campus Security for further information and advice.

Laundry

Laundry Rooms are available at West Downs, St Edburga and Burma Road Block B. The wash cycle is £2.20 and the dry cycle is £1.20.

Bicycles

The use of bicycles is actively encouraged by the University. Bicycles and cycling equipment are available at several stores in Winchester including Peter Hansford Cycles, 91 Oliver’s Battery Road (South), Oliver’s Battery, Winchester, SO22 4JQ. Tel: + 44 (0)1962 877555. A discount on certain items is available to all students on production of their ID card.

Bicycles must be left in the racks which are provided outside all Halls of Residence and outside most academic buildings on the main campus. A limited number of secure Bikeaway lockers on the main campus are available on application to the University Security & Safety Officer. There are also some bicycles available for daily hire, subject to availability. Make sure your bike is always locked up when you park it.

Bus & Train Information

A selection of comprehensive timetables is available in the foyer at West Downs Student Village, in the foyer of the Dining Hall and Main Reception. The nearest bus stops are outside the Royal Hampshire County Hospital and The Stripe lecture theatre.

UK rail travel discount

If you’re aged between 16 and 25 or you are 26+ and in full time study, you can buy a 16-25 Railcard for just £30. Just one trip and the card could pay for itself. The card will save you 1/3 on all standard class advance rail fares (i.e. booked in advance) throughout the UK for a whole year.
If you plan to do more than a couple of trips on the train, buying one of these cards could save you money.

**Driving in the UK**

If you have an EEA/EC driving licence, you may use it to drive in the UK for up to three years or until you are 70, whichever is longer.

Holders of a driving licence from a country which has a licence exchange agreement with the UK may drive on the foreign licence for up to 12 months and exchange it for a UK licence before the end of the 12 month period.

If you have a valid driving licence from any other country, you may drive on it for up to 12 months during which you should apply to take a UK driving test. For more information please go to [www.dft.gov.uk/dvla/forms/onlineleaflets.aspx](http://www.dft.gov.uk/dvla/forms/onlineleaflets.aspx) and click on INF38. UKCISA also has a very useful information sheet on driving in the UK: [www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/info_sheets/driving.php](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/student/info_sheets/driving.php)

**Social life**

Making the most of Winchester and local areas

The best way to find out about local attractions, events, things to do, historical places of interest, local accommodation, options for visiting friends and family, and places to visit in and around Winchester, is to visit the Winchester Tourist Information website: [www.visitwinchester.co.uk](http://www.visitwinchester.co.uk)

There is also a Tourist Information Centre beside the Guildhall in Winchester just along the road from the King Alfred statue.

The Hampshire Chronicle Newspaper which is published every Thursday, the Student Union and the Portal (The University’s Intranet) are also good sources of information about local events.

**Culture shock**

“Culture shock” describes the impact of moving from a familiar culture to one which is unfamiliar. It includes the shock of a new environment, meeting lots of new people and learning the ways of a different country. It also includes the shock of being separated from the important people in your life, maybe family, friends, colleagues or teachers: people you would normally talk to at times of uncertainty, people who give you support and guidance. When familiar sights, sounds, smells or tastes are no longer there you can miss them very much. If you are tired and jet lagged when you arrive, small things can be upsetting and out of all proportion to their real significance.

Some of the symptoms of culture shock can be seen as feeling ‘homesick’. You may find your health is affected and you may get headaches or stomach aches or you may start worrying about your health more than previously. You may find it difficult to concentrate and as a result find it harder to focus on your course work. Some people find they become more irritable or tearful and generally their emotions...
seem more changeable. All of these effects can increase your anxiety.

**How to help yourself**

Though culture shock and feeling homesick is normally a temporary phase, it is important to know there are things you can do to help so that some of these worrying effects can be minimised. Don’t feel “This isn’t going to happen to me”. Culture shock can hit you whatever culture you come from and however experienced or well-travelled you are.

- Simply understanding that this is a normal experience may in itself be helpful
- Keep in touch with home
- Have familiar things around you that have personal meaning, such as photographs or ornaments
- Find a supplier of familiar food if you can. Eat a healthy and balanced diet
- Take regular exercise. As well as being good for your health it can be a way of meeting people
- Make friends with other international students, whether from your own culture or from others, as they will understand what you’re feeling
- Make friends with the local students so you can learn more about each other’s culture
- If things get tough, ask for help. Come in to see Geoff Titchener in the Internationalisation Centre.

**Faith & Religion**

The Chapel is open throughout the day during semesters and members of the University are welcome to use it for prayer, or as a place for quiet thought and reflection.

There is also a Muslim prayer room on Campus, located in the Main Building.

Students from many faiths come to Winchester and Chaplaincy staff are able to help locate places of worship in the surrounding area and provide links between students from similar traditions.

The Chaplaincy holds information on many different local faith groups including Baha’i, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Pagan, Sikh, Christian (Anglican, Roman Catholic, Free Church, New Church etc) and more.

If you would like to make contact or to link with your faith community, please email chaplaincy@winchester.ac.uk

**The Student Union**

All students at the University of Winchester automatically become members of the Student Union, a democratically run organisation which represents students’ interests at all levels within the University. The Union provides a wide range of sporting opportunities including all the major outdoor games (many are played in national leagues) along with squash, basketball, netball and a number of non-sporting societies such as the Newspaper and Radio society.
Entertainment includes student-run theatre productions, sports events, film shows, discos, live music and the annual Summer Ball.

When you receive your Student Union card, it will serve as evidence of your membership to Winchester Student Union and can be used to gain discounts on many products, services and in shops. You also have the chance to obtain a Winchester Student Union Student Activities Card, which you MUST have to enable you to participate in all the Student Union’s clubs and societies.

The International Students’ Representative

Savannah King, the International Students’ representative, is an elected member of the Student Union Council. Her role is to further the interests of international students throughout the University. Savannah provides support and assistance to international students by:

• providing additional information about the University of Winchester and the UK
• helping international students to participate fully in University life, and by ensuring that international students are welcomed and able to participate in Student Union activities

You can contact her by emailing: savannah.king@unimail.winchester.ac.uk

The International Society (IS)

IS is run by students through the Student Union. The role of the society is to help integrate international students into life at Winchester, providing a social group, day trips and other events. They also run a mentoring scheme for new international students.

These social gatherings are an opportunity to meet friends, share concerns, talk to other students and staff, and to mark memorable ‘international’ dates, occasions and the celebration of festivals. There will be plenty of opportunity for you to get involved yourself and if you would like to organise an event to highlight a key date from your own cultural/national/religious calendar, please do so! Please do come along – and feel free to bring your new British friends along with you to join in the fun!

If you would like to sign up to be on the social programme email list go on to the Student Union website or visit their Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/314394862043518/ (Note, this is a closed group, so you will need to request to join)

Have a safe journey!

We do hope this information will be useful to you as you plan your journey and as you prepare to live and study in the UK. If you have further questions or are unsure of anything, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to help and will be happy to do so.
Contacts

University of Winchester Main Switchboard
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 841515
www.winchester.ac.uk

Head of International Recruitment
David Street
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827489
Email: David.Street@winchester.ac.uk

Manager of English Language Teaching and Support Unit (ELTSU)
Ivan Preston
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827422
Email: Ivan.Preston@winchester.ac.uk

Housing Services
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827301
Fax: +44 (0) 1962 827264
Email: Housing@winchester.ac.uk

Finance Office
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827275
Email: Lisa.Clark@winchester.ac.uk

English Language Teaching and Support Unit
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827546
Email: Lorely.Ponce@winchester.ac.uk

Course enquiries and applications for CAS
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827234
Email: course.enquiries@winchester.ac.uk

International Recruitment
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827023
Email: International@winchester.ac.uk

Visiting and Exchange Student Officer
(American Visiting/Exchange Programme and Erasmus)
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827582
Email: Sarah.Hanford@winchester.ac.uk

Student Services
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827341
Fax: +44 (0) 1962 827515
Email: student.services@winchester.ac.uk
or student.advice@winchester.ac.uk

International Student Officer
Geoff Titchener
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827482
Fax: +44 (0) 1962 827515
Email: Geoff.Titchener@winchester.ac.uk

Head of Wellbeing
Lesley Black
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827439
Email: Lesley.Black@winchester.ac.uk

University Chaplaincy
Peter Waddell, Dean of Chapel
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827063
Email: Chaplaincy@winchester.ac.uk
Disabilities
Tel: +44 (0) 1962 827439
Email: Disabilities@winchester.ac.uk

Other useful information/contacts
UKCISA (The Council for International Student Affairs)
917 St. Albans Place, London N1 0NX, UK.
Tel: +44 (0)207 107 9922
Fax: 0(0)207288 4360
www.ukcisa.org.uk
The UKCISA website has a range of “Guidance Notes” which cover everything from immigration advice, culture shock and opening a bank account to study methods, working in the UK and financial support.

Visa information
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration

Student finance information for EU students, including tuition fee loans
www.gov.uk/student-finance/loans-and-grants

The British Council
www.britishcouncil.org

Education Information Service
www.educationuk.org

Universal Currency Converter
www.oanda.com

Embassy List
www.embassyworld.com

BT Telephone Directory Enquiries
UK and International: 118 500

Interfaith Network for UK
www.interfaith.org.uk

Weather
www.metoffice.gov.uk

Yellow Pages
Directory of local contact, information & businesses
www.yell.com

Insurance
Medical insurance and personal possessions insurance for students
www.moneysupermarket.co.uk

Maps
www.maps.google.co.uk

National Health Service (NHS)
www.nhs.uk
www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

General travel/travel discount information
General guide on travel
www.ukguide.org

Guide to travel and student life in the UK
www.ukstudentlife.com

Travel discounts and discount card information
www.statravel.co.uk
www.isiccard.com
General travel in the UK
www.traveline.org.uk
UK Traveline: 0871 200 22 23

National Coach/bus travel
www.nationalexpress.com

Local Winchester buses
www.stagecoachbus.com/south

Rail/train travel
General rail information; UK train times and fares
www.networkrail.co.uk

UK and Europe rail travel
www.thetrainline.com

Travel discount railcard for students
www.16-25railcard.co.uk

Rail travel in Europe, discount cards, interrail passes
www.raileurope.co.uk

Air travel/flight
www.britishairways.com
www.flybmi.com
www.flybe.com
www.ryanair.com
www.easyjet.com

Budgeting Tool
A free tool to help international students plan and manage their money for studies in the UK
www.studentcalculator.org.uk/international