KENT SUPPORT FOR STUDENT CARE LEAVERS
2019
Kent support for student care leavers
Starting university is an exciting time in your life: a new environment, new people and new experiences. However, most students feel a bit daunted when they first arrive, regardless of their background, where they went to school or how confident they may appear.

At the University of Kent we are committed to ensuring that every young person who has the intellectual ability and desire to pursue higher education should have the opportunity to do so. For young people leaving care, there are many practical elements to consider, which can make the transition to university more of a challenge. Therefore, we have put in place a range of support services specifically to address the needs of care leavers.

Designated contacts
The University has designated members of staff for care leaver students. You can contact them if you are having any problems while studying and they will help you to find any support you need (see p7 for contact details).

Financial support for care leavers
The University is committed to offering support to all of its students and has identified that key areas of concern for young people leaving care include the level of financial support and the availability of accommodation, particularly out of term time.

Financial support from Kent
At Kent, we believe that all students who have the academic potential to benefit from our courses should have the opportunity to come to the University and we have established one of the most generous financial support schemes in the UK.

We have a £4,500 financial support package for eligible students across three (or four where applicable) years of study. Eligible students will receive a £1,500 cash payment in year 1; £1,500 in year 2; and £1,500 in year 3. This is paid in two instalments, in December and March each year.

In order to be eligible for Kent’s financial support, you must fulfil the eligibility criteria, which can be found in full on our website at www.kent.ac.uk/fees

Kent Care Leavers Pack
In addition to the support you could receive from the financial package, we also provide tailored support for those leaving care, which includes:
- guaranteed access to University accommodation for the duration of your course, including the summer vacation (see p5), subject to you remaining in good financial standing with the University
- a one-off, £600 cash bursary towards the costs of starting life at university
- support for travel to University interviews may be available
- help with graduation costs.

Are you eligible?
You may apply for the Kent Care Leavers Pack if you meet the following criteria:
- you are a new student
- you are under 25 years of age
- you are a home UK fee-paying student
- you have spent a minimum of 13 weeks in the care of a UK local authority with at least one day being since the age of 14, including on, or after, your 16th birthday
- you can provide written evidence from your personal adviser or social worker to confirm your status as a care leaver.

Where to apply
Please contact the Student Advice Centre at your campus (see p7 for contact information).
Kent support for student care leavers
University of Kent Scholarships
The University offers a range of scholarships, including the Kent Scholarship for Academic Excellence, worth £2,000 per year if you achieve AAA at A level, or specified equivalents.

We have extended this scholarship to include those who achieve AAB at A level (or specified equivalents) where one of the subjects is either Mathematics or a Modern Foreign Language. We recognise the effort required to excel in these subjects, as well as the strategic importance of these disciplines in a global economy. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/excellence for further details.

We also offer scholarships in sport and music, as well as scholarships to schools and colleges that are in partnership with Kent.

Access to Learning Fund
This is available if you are experiencing financial hardship during your course. You may be able to get help with the following:
- Course or living costs not already covered by other grants and loans, eg living costs, childcare costs or support over the summer holiday period
- Emergency payments to cover unexpected financial crises (eg repairs to household equipment)
- Further support in order to continue your studies if financial worries are making you consider giving up your course.

All UK home fee-paying students are entitled to apply to this fund. However, care leavers, students from low-income families, lone parents, mature students, Foyer students, final year students and disabled students are deemed as priority groups. You will be expected to have applied for all other financial help to which you are entitled before applying for help from the Access to Learning Fund.

You will not have to repay any money you receive from the Access to Learning Fund.

Support with your application
If you are looking for support in making an application to the University or have any questions about studying at Kent, please contact dmstaff@kent.ac.uk or telephone Rebecca Jones on 01227 827143. We will respond to any questions you might have about your application or studying at the University.

Ask a student
We may also be able to put you in touch with a current student so you can get their perspective on what life at Kent is like. Email dmstaff@kent.ac.uk for more details.

Kent Buddy Scheme
The Kent Buddy Scheme introduces applicants with an offer from Kent to current students. You will be able to get a sense of what it’s like to be a student at Kent from those who are already enjoying the Kent experience, and be assured of a friendly face to meet you when you arrive.

Further information
If you are thinking about studying at University, Become publishes a free guide of support, see www.becomecharity.org.uk and look for the ‘Helping you Reach Higher’ factsheet. Support can also be found on the Buttle UK website at www.buttleuk.org
Other types of support available

At Kent, we believe that all our students should have a fulfilling and enjoyable experience while studying with us. We have a range of excellent support services and facilities:

**Financial Aid Office**
T: 01227 823488/824876/823851
E: financialaid@kent.ac.uk

**Careers and Employability Service**
Canterbury
T: 01227 823299
E: careerhelp@kent.ac.uk

Medway
T: 01634 202996
E: medwaycareers@kent.ac.uk

**Student Learning Advisory Service**
Canterbury
T: 01227 824016

Medway
T: 01634 888884
www.kent.ac.uk/learning

**Kent Union Jobshop**
If you’re looking for part-time work, register with Jobshop to search for available vacancies
T: 01227 824251
E: jobshop@kent.ac.uk
www.kentunion.co.uk/employability/jobshop

**Student Services**

**Student Support**
Canterbury
T: 01227 823158
E: accessibility@kent.ac.uk

Medway
T: 01634 888969
E: medwaystudentservices@kent.ac.uk

www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

**Student Wellbeing**
Canterbury
T: 01227 826573
E: wellbeing@kent.ac.uk

Medway
T: 01634 202984
E: medwaywellbeing@kent.ac.uk

www.kent.ac.uk/studentwellbeing

**Diversity and Equal Opportunities Advice**
E: equalityanddiversity@kent.ac.uk

www.kent.ac.uk/studentservices/equality

**Medical Centre**
(Canterbury campus only)
T: 01227 469333
www.umckent.co.uk

**Chaplaincy**
Canterbury
T: 01227 827491

Medway
T: 01634 883935
www.kent.ac.uk/chaplaincy

**Nursery facilities**

**Canterbury**
Oaks Nursery
T: 01227 827676

**Medway**
Busy Bees Nursery
T: 01634 890250

You can also contact the master of your college for advice and pastoral support:

**Darwin**
Dr Jonathan Friday
T: 01227 823049
E: DarwinMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk

**Eliot**
Stephen Burke
T: 01227 823141
E: EliotMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk

**Keynes**
Chloë Gallien
T: 01227 827010
E: KeynesMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk

**Rutherford**
Dr Peter Klappa
T: 01227 823175
E: RutherfordMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk

**Turing**
Dermot O’Brien
T: 01227 824018
E: TuringMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk

KENT SUPPORT FOR STUDENT CARE LEAVERS (CONT)
Need more information?
The University offers an information and guidance service where you can receive expert advice on any aspect of higher education from a team of highly trained staff. You can also find out more about Buttle UK at www.buttleuk.org

Recruitment and Admissions
The Registry
University of Kent
Canterbury
Kent CT2 7NZ
T: 01227 768896
www.kent.ac.uk

Designated contacts for information and advice

Student Advice Centre (Canterbury)
Careen Gadd
T: 01227 824741
E: advice@kent.ac.uk

Student Advice Centre (Medway)
Lesley Clifton
T: 01634 888899
E: lesley@gkunions.co.uk

University designated contacts
Email us at dmstaff@kent.ac.uk
Visit: www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport/careleavers.html

• For application advice, or if you have any questions about living or studying at Kent prior to starting your course, please contact Rebecca Jones at the email above or on 01227 827143.

• For on-programme support once you are at Kent, contact Rachel Levy directly on 01227 8216164 or by email, rlevy@kent.ac.uk to make an appointment. Rachel is based at the Canterbury campus but is also available at the Medway campus by appointment.

Woolf
Dr Jonathan Friday
T: 01227 823049
E: WoolfMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk

Medway
Jane Glew
T: 01634 888497
E: MedwayMastersOffice@kent.ac.uk

Other useful links
• Find out more about our campuses:
  www.kent.ac.uk/locations/
• Have a look at our accommodation:
  www.kent.ac.uk/accommodation/
• Find out more about the Students’ Unions including societies, volunteering and part-time work:
  www.kentunion.co.uk and
  www.gkunions.co.uk

This brochure was produced in August 2019. The University of Kent makes every effort to ensure that the information contained in its publicity materials is fair and accurate and to provide educational services as described. However, the courses, services and other matters may be subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, see www.kent.ac.uk Full details of our terms and conditions can be found at:
 www.kent.ac.uk/termsandconditions