**Information for Students who are under 18 years of age: International**

This information sheet is for students who will be under the age of 18 years at the start of their course at the University of Salford. We ask that you read all of the information provided and to contact the University if you or your parents/ carers wish to discuss any aspect.

**Arrival and Induction**

Before your classes begin, there will be a series of sessions and events to register you as a student, and to introduce you to the University, to your course tutors and to the resources you will use while you are a student here. This introductory period is known as Induction.

Most of your Induction events will take place in the week before classes begin, but depending on your course and your level of study, some of these events may take place earlier, and some may take place after your classes have begun.

You can find information on Induction activities on our website: <http://www.salford.ac.uk/welcome>, where you will be able to view and download a calendar of induction events. You may also find our checklist here helpful: <https://www.salford.ac.uk/welcome/international-students/key-things-to-check-before-you-travel> .

**Support**

The University provides a wide range of support services for all students, and you are welcome to make use of any of these services. A summary of the services can be found at <http://www.askus.salford.ac.uk/>

If you are 16 years or under when you arrive at University you will be contacted to make monthly mandatory pastoral support appointments with our specialist adviser, you will have to attend these appointments. If you are 17 years old at arrival and would like to have regular appointments with the specialist adviser then please contact us; E: askusU18@salford.ac.uk

**Attendance**

The Education and Skills Act (2008) requires full-time education for children up to the age of 18. University students who are under this age are required to maintain high levels of attendance and participation in their course, and will be required to return to state education if this is not done. The Programme Leader for the student's course will ensure that attendance and participation is monitored and will manage any concerns.

**Living and Studying Independently**

The University of Salford is an adult environment with relatively few students or visitors who are under 18. Although we make some additional provision for students who are under 18, we generally expect students to be self-sufficient and to live and study independently. If you experience difficulties, it is your responsibility to ask for help and assistance from the wide range of support available.

We would like to make you aware that as a student who is under 18 you will not be more closely monitored than other students (exception stated above for students 16 years or under) and it is up to you to ensure that you attend your classes, complete your work and that you take care of your day to day activities - such as cooking and laundry.

**Accommodation**

If you are under 18, our University Partner Accommodation provider will allocate accommodation to you provided that you fulfill the criteria for accommodation and the availability of rooms, see here for their website; <https://www.mystudentvillage.com/uk/salfordstudentvillage/>

All properties that are part of Salford Student Village do have 24 hour security cover, for any accommodation related questions please email askus-Accommodation@salford.ac.uk

**Safety and Security**

Guidance is provided for students on keeping safe and we encourage all students to familiarize themselves with security and emergency information once they arrive.

<https://www.salford.ac.uk/estates/security>

**Health**

If you are unwell you should seek medical care from the relevant National Health Service. <https://www.salford.ac.uk/askus/on-campus/gps-and-hospitals> gives details of health services.

Students must register with a local GP if they want to have access to NHS treatment and consultation. To register with a GP you must live within the **‘catchment area’** of that GP’s practice. Depending on where you live, you can register at the University-based Medical Centre, a practice close to accommodation, or at a GP practice nearest to your home.

 More information on healthcare is available from the [British Council](http://www.educationuk.org/global/articles/health/) and [UKCISA](https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Studying--living-in-the-UK/Health-and-healthcare)

Even if you are eligible for NHS treatment or have paid the surcharge, it is advisable for international students to take out health insurance *in case of unforeseen circumstances.*

Make sure you are covered if you need to be. Visit the [UKCISA website](https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Studying--living-in-the-UK/Health-and-healthcare?q=health+insurance&ExactMatch=#layer-3209) for more details.

Most students will register with a GP at one of the following:

* [Maxwell Health Centre](https://www.langworthymedicalpractice.co.uk/welcome-to-the-university-of-salford-health-centre/), based in Maxwell Building on the Peel Park Campus
* Clarendon Road Surgery (Pendleton Gateway – near Eddie Lester and John Coleman accommodation)

**Wellbeing**

The Wellbeing Service provides practical and emotional support for any difficulties you may be struggling with at your time at University. Click here for further information on how to contact the [Wellbeing Team.](https://www.salford.ac.uk/askus/our-services/wellbeing-and-counselling/contacting-us)

**Finance**

Should you have money worries during your course, seek guidance from an askUS money adviser. There may be additional support available to you to top up existing loans and grants you receive. Click here for further information on [Money Matters](https://www.salford.ac.uk/askus/our-services/money-matters)

The International Crisis Fund which is there to help international students who are experiencing a crisis that has arisen as a result of a significant and unexpected event that could not have been predicted in their financial planning. All international students (including European) undergraduate and postgraduate students who are registered on a course at Salford University are eligible to apply. To enquire about the International Crisis Fund please contact us at moneymatters@salford.ac.uk

**Opening bank accounts for students who are under 18 years old**

Most banks in the UK will not open student bank accounts for students under 17 years old, and some the rule is 18 years old.

For international students, you will not have a pre-existing bank account so will need to make arrangements. Remember not all student accounts will be open to any international students no matter what your age so you will have to check.

Please have a look at comparison websites – the Which? one is good <http://www.which.co.uk/money/bank-accounts/reviews-ns/bank-accounts/childrens-bank-accounts/>.

This student specific site is also good: <http://www.savethestudent.org/money/student-banking/student-bank-accounts.html>

There is also helpful advice for international students from UKCISA’s website on opening accounts if you are an international student:

<http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Living-in-the-UK/Opening-a-bank-account>

*Please remember it is your decision what type of bank account you open and the university cannot be responsible for this, so it is important to think carefully before opening an account.*

If you are international students under 16 you may have trouble opening any type on bank account in the UK. In this case please contact askUS at askUS@salford.ac.uk or 0161 295 0023 or askusU18@salford.ac.uk for advice.

**Legal restrictions**

Please remember that until your 18th birthday, there are certain facilities both on and off campus that are ‘off limits’ to you. We have listed some of these below:

* ***Alcohol*** – if you are under 18 it is illegal for you to buy alcohol or for anyone else to sell it to you. A court of law could fine both you and the seller. This means you must not drink alcohol in the bars on campus or elsewhere.

The Students Union bar, Atmosphere, does not allow Under 18s to remain in or enter the bar after 9pm.

* ***Tobacco* –** it is illegal to sell tobacco or cigarettes to anyone who is under 18.

The shops on campus will not sell tobacco or cigarettes to anyone under 18.

* ***Gambling*** – Under 18s are not allowed to gamble or work in betting shops or clubs. Over 18s are not allowed to place bets for underage people.
* ***Cinema/Videos and DVDs*** – There are restrictions on what you can watch in the cinema or on video/DVD.
* ***Students’ Union Clubs and Societies*** – There may be age restrictions in applications to certain societies and clubs, for example the Poker Society (due to gambling laws) and Sports societies (due to insurance cover or eligibility to compete).

**Emergency contacts**

You have been asked to provide emergency contact details which will be held by the University and may be used if there are serious concerns about your health or welfare. Except in an emergency situation we will not discuss details of your progress or any personal issues with your emergency contact or any other third party unless you have given permission.

**Further information**

If you have questions about any aspect of this information sheet or any problems, please contact **askUS** in the first instance on 0161 295 0023 or email askusU18@salford.ac.uk