

Widening participation at The University of Manchester

Given the unusually [low participation](#) and [retention rates](#) of students from a care background, the University aims to support them as much as possible in their journey to and through higher education to ensure that they can learn and thrive regardless of their background. The University of Manchester is committed to [widening participation](#) by organising [outreach events, supporting current students](#) and offering [contextual admissions](#).

If a student has disclosed to you that she/he is care experienced/a care leaver you could ask their permission to make an email introduction to the [named care leaver support contact](#) responsible for care experienced students/care leavers at the University, or they can do this themselves.

If you would like advice on how to best support students from care experienced backgrounds you can contact [BECOME](#), a charity that is working to improve the lives of people from a care background and that has a designated care advice line (Freephone 0800 023 2033 or email advice@becomecharity.org.uk). It may also be useful to familiarise yourself and/or draw the student's attention to the [legal entitlements of care experienced students](#) and the [financial support granted by local authorities](#) to access higher education.