

2018 / 2019

# Chemistry PASS

A quick guide on  
Chemistry PASS and  
starting out in  
Manchester

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



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# Welcome

Congratulations on getting a place at The University of Manchester!

This guide has been put together for you by PASS Student Coordinators to ensure your arrival to Manchester is as smooth as possible, and to help you settle into your first few weeks here.

PASS stands for **Peer Assisted Study Sessions** and as Student Coordinators we are current 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Year students that help oversee the scheme. PASS sessions make up an integral part of your experience here at Manchester, these sessions are run by leaders (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year students) that have experienced the course before so know how to help the best. The sessions are 1 hour long a week and cover a range of topics from the academic side, helping cement ideas covered in lecture, to the pastoral side where you can learn more about University Life and get tips for your later years here.

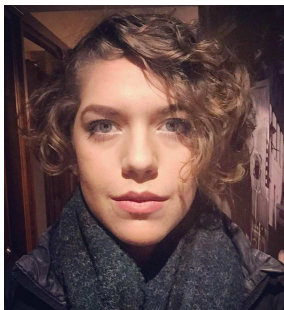
You can find out more about PASS, and specifically Chemistry PASS, on page 10 of this booklet.



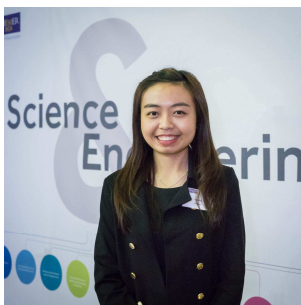
# Your Student Coordinators

Hi everyone! We're your student coordinators, and we're really looking forward to running events and PASS sessions over the course of the year to help you settle in and make the best of your first year!

You can contact us by emailing [chemcoordinators@gmail.com](mailto:chemcoordinators@gmail.com)



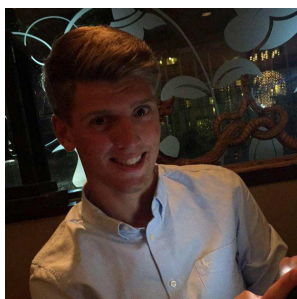
**Anna Krowitz**  
4<sup>th</sup> Year MChem



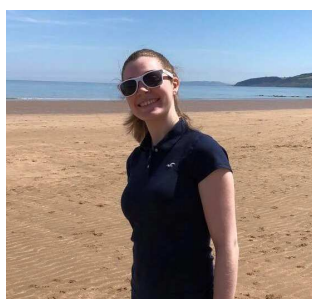
**Yi Ni Ong**  
4<sup>th</sup> Year MChem



**Ioanna Pallikara**  
4<sup>th</sup> Year MChem



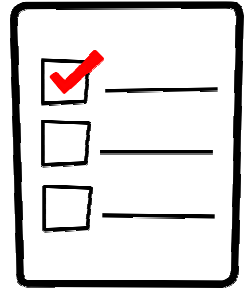
**Will Leising**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year MChem



**Beth Rotherham**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Year MChem

# The University Checklist

When you are moving to university it can be quite chaotic making sure that you have everything, so below is a small checklist you can tick off to make sure that you have all the items you need.



University accommodation provide you with a lot of household items such as noticeboards, mirrors, microwaves, kettles, chairs, bookshelves etc. so you don't need to buy these.

## Essentials:

- Stationary – inc. calculator
- Bedding
- Towels
- Toiletries – bring loo roll!
- Pans, cutlery, crockery and food
- Laptop
- Laptop & phone chargers
- Bank details
- ID – Passport/driving license

## Recommended:

- Pack of cards
- Clothes horse
- Laundry bin
- Waterproof coat & umbrella – it rains a lot in Manchester!
- Bottle opener/corkscrew
- Doorstop
- First aid kit with cold/flu remedies

## Don't forget:

- Confirmation letter from the University
- Offer letter from the University
- Student Finance information
- Hall rental agreement

# Welcome Week 2018



Welcome week (sometimes referred to as fresher's week) starts Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September. It is one of the busiest and memorable times of the year where you will learn your way around Manchester, sign up to societies, socialise with new people, meet fellow chemists as well as discover Manchester's nightlife.

## Welcome Week Fair

The Welcome Week fair allows you to meet and greet the members from all kinds of societies. With over 400 societies to choose from, whether you want to help out a charity through the Oxfam Society, culture yourself with the Cheese and Wine Society, go on an adventure with Pirate Society, or fall from the skies with the Skydiving Club, there is something for everyone. The event is sponsored by Domino's so be sure to grab as many free pizza slices as you can!

## Get out and enjoy yourself



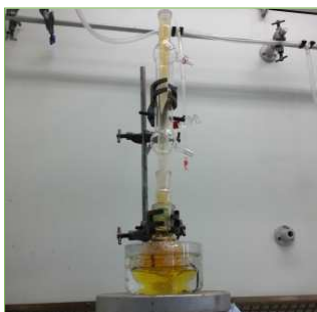
The University Halls usually offer a 'Welcome Week pack' for you to go out with your flatmates. It is a great way to explore different locations around Manchester and also includes a ticket to Pangea – the largest student festival in Europe! With 15 rooms of music, there's always something you like. Pangea always has a theme, so plan ahead what you're going to wear!

# Chemistry

Manchester and the University has a long and rich history with the physical sciences. Rutherford shaped the face of modern Chemistry and Physics by splitting the atom in his Manchester labs, the proton was discovered in Manchester and it was Manchester graduates who first discovered the electron and neutron, so you're in good hands!



This is the Chemistry building and soon to be your second home! Most, if not all, of your first year lectures will be held here so you will soon know your way around.



# Lectures



In your first semester you will have six lectures a week of “Introductory Chemistry” – this is a core module, designed to ensure everyone is at the same level and covers the three main areas of Chemistry; Organic, Inorganic and Physical – building on your previous A Level knowledge. In the first week you will get to see the University’s famous “Flash Bang Show” – definitely a lecture not to be missed!



In your first couple of weeks you will get to choose a subsidiary module that you will have twice a week. The modules available to you may depend on your specific course and range from Chemistry-based subjects such as ‘Properties of Medicines’ or ones from other disciplines such as Physics or Maths. If you are

unsure which to pick, PASS is a great place to get advice from those who have done the units.

You will also take part in a unit called ‘Chemist’s Toolkit’. This builds on non-Chemistry specific skills that you will need such as a Maths component and team-work activities such as a poster exercise.

# Labs

In your first year you will have one day of labs a week. They will expand your skills through various experiments such as Grignard additions and ketone reductions. The year will be split into two labs –Synthesis and Measurements.

The names are pretty self-explanatory; in Synthesis labs, you will be making compounds using mechanisms that will complement your lecture material. In Measurements, you will use all different types of analytical equipment allowing you to become an expert in data manipulation with the help of Excel!



You have to complete a few lab reports based on different experiments you do throughout your first year. This at first may seem difficult, but don't worry as there is plenty of help

at hand. You will have a bay demonstrator (the ones in the blue lab coats) and of course your PASS leaders who can provide tips and run PASS sessions to help you with this, so before you know it, you will be a lab report writing pro!

As well as lectures and labs, you will have the benefit of tutorials and workshops. These are a great time to ask questions in a less intimidating atmosphere. They give you a chance to work through the material in smaller groups with an academic professional.

In your first semester your tutorials will be with your personal tutor every week – this is a member of staff allocated to six students for your whole degree course. In second semester you will get a tutor in each section of Chemistry that you will move around each week on a rota. You will be given a sheet of work to complete and then the next week you will have the chance to go through it with other students and your tutor.

Workshops are when the year is split in two and you work through a question sheet with academic staff on hand to help you.

# PASS



As mentioned earlier, PASS is a scheme run by students in higher years who go over topics they have previously covered to help students in younger years. Chemistry PASS was the first scheme at the University and turned 22 last year!



Although the focus is on helping 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students with course materials; it's also a great way to meet new people, get helpful tips for University life and network with other years.

PASS sessions are run in groups of about 12 students with two trained leaders from a higher year that have done the course before – so know how to help you the best!

As well as sessions each week we also run events across the year including the PASS pub quiz, revision sessions with free pizza and the liquid nitrogen ice cream session. PASS is designed to help you get the most out of your time at Manchester, and gives you the opportunity to go over topics in a new way, playing (non-alcoholic) beer pong, (giant) battleships or PASS the parcel to cement your knowledge!

“I’ve really enjoyed my first year of PASS activities and can’t wait to start 2<sup>nd</sup> Year knowing that support is there!”



“I like how the leaders are only a year or two older than you. It means they know what you’re going through and makes them really approachable.”

**In Welcome week** there will be a quick presentation on PASS and you will find out more details – like group numbers, time and location then. In the next week your first session will be a big welcome event where you can meet your leaders, revise topics from your previous studies and try to find your way around the campus! And lastly keep an eye out for the **PASS Pub Quiz** which will take place in week 5!

## ChemSoc

ChemSoc is the Chemistry Social Society and is run by a group of Chemistry students. They hold events open to Chemistry students so joining the society is a great way to make friends in your own and other

years. The events range from guest lecturers from world-leading scientists to nights out with fellow students.

You can become a member by signing up during the Welcome Fair, but if you are interested in helping organise events and meeting lots of new people in the process, then becoming part of the committee is a great way to really get involved!

ChemSoc holds a variety of social events throughout the year, which are a great way to meet new people across different years, over the page there are a few pictures from some events the society held last year!



The Christmas Social, a fancy dress night out just for Chemists, is a great way to let off some steam after the 12 weeks of semester 1!

The Chemistry ball is held at the end of the year. The ball usually has a theme and is a very posh affair.



Last but by no means least, the most popular event of the year. The Lab Coat Pub Crawl, usually held in the first few weeks of Semester 1. We recommend ordering a cheap lab coat now as there is often lots of lab coat graffiti involved!

# Around Manchester

## Transport



Getting around Manchester is easy, Oxford Road is the busiest bus route in Europe so you'll never have to wait too long to catch a bus! If you live in Fallowfield buying a Unirider bus pass at the start of the year, which allows you to travel on any Stagecoach bus in the Greater Manchester area, will save you money on your travel to and from lectures. The number 141/142/143 Magic Buses are the cheaper options if you're without a bus pass.

## Entertainment



Manchester is well known on the music scene, and the University alone is home to 4 music venues, including the Academy, the Manchester Arena and Apollo play host to major acts whilst smaller venues, such as The Deaf Institute, will have weekly live acts.

If you're into films, Manchester has a number of cinemas to choose from, in the city centre there's an Odeon in the Printworks or an AMC near Deansgate – which is great for cheaper tickets! Further out, and nearer to Fallowfield, Parris Wood is home to a Cineworld, as well as a Bowling Alley and Laser Quest.



There is plenty of choice when it comes to nightlife in Manchester, and there will always be something to on any day of the week! The Printworks in Exchange Square is an entertainment building and is home to the clubs TigerTiger and Birdcage, venturing closer to Piccadilly Gardens takes you to

Canal Street – Manchester’s Gay village lined with fun, friendly bars and clubs. Deansgate has a number of more upmarket bars and clubs, including the renowned Cloud 23 in the Hilton Hotel.

Along Oxford Road there are plenty of clubs, bars and pubs that have nights focused more towards students (and especially their budgets!) This includes Font, a cocktail bar that has drinks staring from £2!



A must for any Chemistry is The Alchemist, in Spinningfields or just off Piccadilly Gardens, home to a large range of exciting cocktails, often served in laboratory glassware. These are a bit pricier than those found in Font, so it’s worth a visit closer to loan day!

## Eating

The infamous Curry Mile, in Rusholme, is only a short walk from the University campus and is home to a wide variety of foods, especially curry houses – it has more per square mile than anywhere else in the country! Further out, Didsbury offers great restaurants like Gourmet

Burger Kitchen and Greens (home to TV chef Simon Rimmer) if you feel like treating yourself.

Closer to the city centre, Deansgate is lined with restaurants offering worldwide cuisine – from British/American to Spanish, Turkish and Japanese. There's also Chinatown – dominated by the Imperial Chinese archway – provides great Cantonese and Pekinese cuisine along with shops originating from Thailand, Malaysia, France and Italy.



## Shopping



There are many places to shop in Manchester ranging from the large shopping centres and the quirky smaller shops littered in the Northern Quarter.

The Arndale Centre and Trafford Centre are the two biggest shopping centres in Manchester. The Arndale which in the centre of the city is home to the all-important fancy dress shops, as well as high street brands like TopShop and New Look. The centre of the city is also home to Primark, which is great for a student budget. If you're looking for

something more expensive, head south to the Trafford Centre, where you'll find a mix of high-street and high-end shops – as well as a cinema, Lego World and a Sea Life Centre!

Along with The Trafford Centre, Exchange Square and Deansgate are the places for high end brands where Selfridges and Harvey Nichols can

be found. If you're looking for something a bit different then head to the Northern Quarter – home to independent clothes, music and book shops alongside charity shops – it's perfect for a lower budget. Affleck's Palace, the three storey emporium of indie shops and cafes can also be found in the Northern Quarter of the city.

## Culture



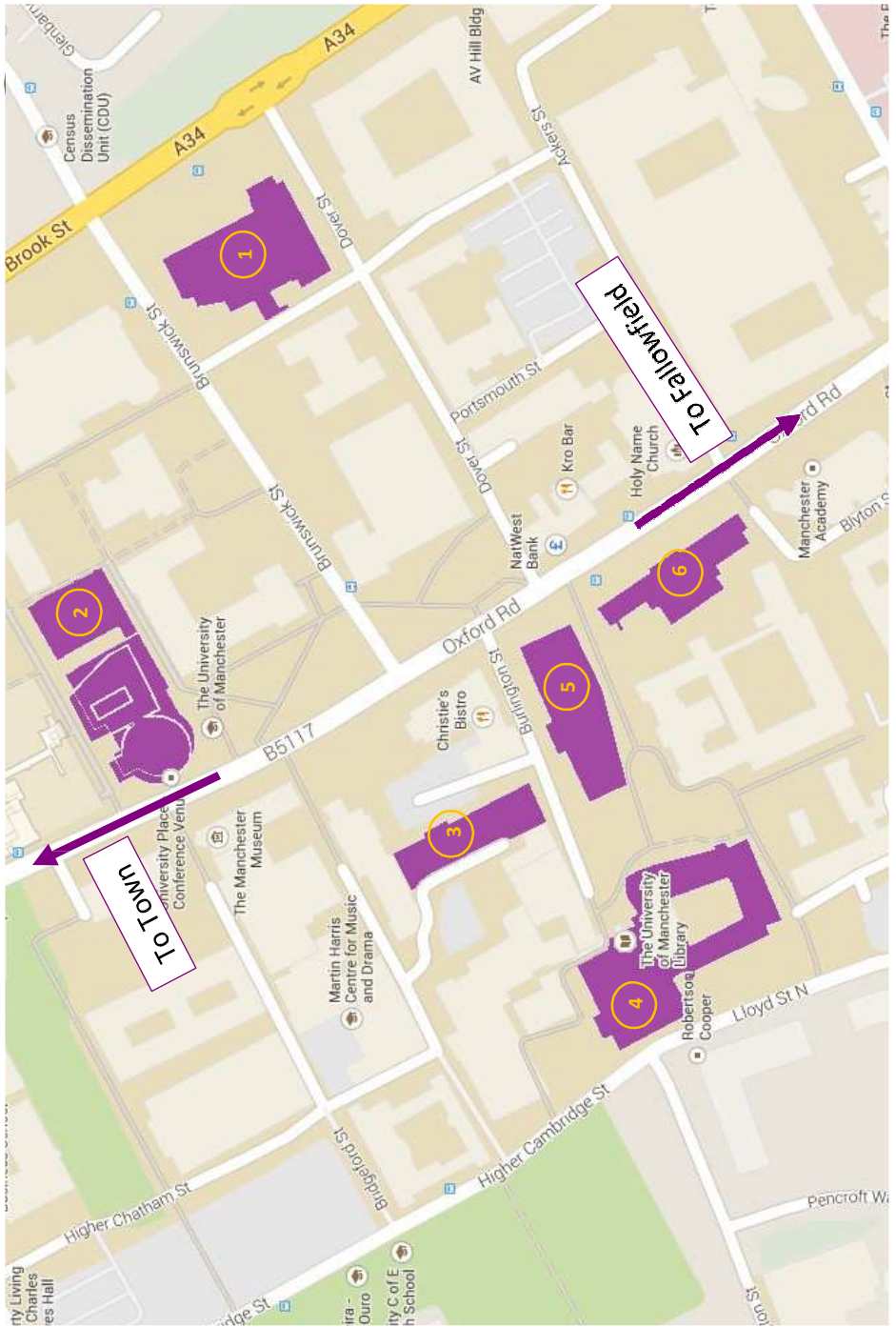
Manchester boasts 8 museums including The Manchester Museum, owned by the University of Manchester and found on the campus doorstep, is home to a variety of exhibits including Stan the T-Rex, a vivarium and a range of temporary exhibits throughout the year, other museums include the Football Museum and the Museum of Science and Industry – MOSI for short, that hosts informative events and talks throughout the year. The city and campus are full of listed buildings for fans of architecture, including the recently refurbished Whitworth Art Gallery, covering a wide range of styles in its various exhibits. Entry to these museums and galleries are all free of charge, so make sure you make the most of them!

# Sport



Sport is a big part of student life here at Manchester, whether you've played all your life, or if you're just beginning! The Athletic union is home to more than 40 different sports clubs which are represented at the Welcome Week Fair and offer participation from competing at national level, down to just playing the sport socially. You can also take part in free Hall Sport organized by the University which is very casual and does not require much of your time. If you just want to exercise or to go swimming the University has some great facilities such as the Armitage centre behind Owens Park or the Sugden and the Aquatics centre closer to University. Sport in general is a great way to find new friends in and outside your course. The Chemistry department also has a girls' netball and a mixed hockey team.





## **1 Chemistry Building**

Where all your Chemistry lectures and labs will be.

## **2 University Place**

'The tin can', this building holds the largest lecture theatre on campus (look out for Brian Cox!) as well as a big, cheap restaurant that does a variety of hot and cold food if you fancy a change from the Chemistry café. This is most likely where your PASS sessions will be held.

## **3 Student Services Centre**

This is part of the old Quadrangle (the oldest bit of the university) It is where you can replace your student card if you ever lose it or if you have any issues with accommodation or council tax etc.

## **4 Main Library**

Chemistry books can be found on Blue 2 and is open until midnight during term time and 24/7 during exams! (We do not recommend staying in the library until 4am during exams)

## **5 Alan Gilbert Learning Commons**

Affectionately named 'Ali G', this is a 'library without books'. It has over 400 computers and 30 group study spaces, bookable only by students. It is new and was designed by students for students. It is open 24/7 right through term time and does get really busy during exams.

## **6 Students' Union**

The hub of student activity, there are over 300 societies, as previously mentioned, that call the union their home (but not all at once, obviously!) It also has 3 live music venues, a bar, a café, a hairdresser's, the exec team and the student advice service which can give you advice on budgeting and have lots of free stuff to give out including condoms and panic alarms.