

MANCHESTER  
1824

The University of Manchester

arrival

Preparing you for your  
journey to Manchester

guide 2018



# welcome to manchester

**You are joining a modern and dynamic institution with some of the best facilities in the world, while still retaining a strong sense of its long and proud history.**

With 25 Nobel Laureates among our current and former staff and students, ideas and innovations developed right here at Manchester have helped to shape the modern world, and can be seen clearly through our distinguished academic history.

Today, we continue to push boundaries through interdisciplinary research and offer teaching by experts at the forefront of their subject. We are ranked among the most respected institutes of higher learning worldwide.

By joining us, you are becoming part of a truly international community of students from more than 170 countries. Manchester is one of the UK's most vibrant cities, with a rich and diverse social and cultural life.

It is also a hub of enterprise and development, and has a long tradition of embracing people from all around the world. Whether you are here as part of an exchange or study abroad programme or undertaking your whole degree with us, I'm sure that you will be pleased to call Manchester home during your studies.

**We look forward to welcoming you to The University of Manchester.**

**Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell**  
President and Vice-Chancellor

## KEY DATES 2018-19

**Orientation:** 13-16 September 2018

**Welcome:** 17-21 September 2018

**Semester one:**

17 September 2018-27 January 2019  
(break 14 December 2018-14 January 2019)

**Semester two:**

28 January-7 June 2019  
(break 5 April-29 April 2019)

# how to use your arrival guide

This booklet will help you prepare for coming to the UK, and give you an insight into what to expect when you get here.

The information is split into three sections, setting out what you can do in advance of your journey to ensure everything runs smoothly.

- **What to do now**
- **Before you leave**
- **Arriving in Manchester**

You can contact the International Office on +44 (0)161 275 2196 or email [offer@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:offer@manchester.ac.uk).

**We can't wait for you to join us in September!**

🐦 @admissionsUoM

📘 admissionsUoM

📘 orientationUoM

[www.manchester.ac.uk/arrival-guide](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/arrival-guide)

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# here to guide you

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Relations  
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International Relations  
USA



Di  
China

"Plan to actively participate in various aspects of school activities, seize every opportunity to meet people with different backgrounds. Don't be shy, you need to sustain yourself outside of your comfort zone and have a sense of adventure."

**planning**  
**ahead**

# your offer

If you're coming to Manchester as a **Study abroad** or **Erasmus** student, you should have already had details about the requirements of your admission.

**If you're an undergraduate** offer holder, you should always check UCAS Track for details of your offer and the status of your application.

**If you're a postgraduate** offer holder, the specific conditions of your offer are set out in your official offer letter, which you should have already received. That letter will also tell you exactly what you need to do to accept your offer, and to meet any conditions.

"I love Manchester Art Gallery – the exhibitions are great, and I love their coffee too!"

CLARA

# what next?

## **If your offer is conditional**

You'll need to meet certain conditions before we can confirm your place. Conditions vary, but they usually include achieving certain grades or qualifications, and sometimes an English language requirement. Occasionally a conditional offer will include non-academic requirements such as a health screening or enhanced DBS check (criminal record check).

If you have any questions about the conditions of your offer, please contact the appropriate academic School at the University.

## **If your offer is unconditional**

You have already met the academic entry requirements.

It is still possible you may still need to meet some non-academic requirements such as a health screening or criminal record check but this will be made clear in your offer letter or on UCAS Track.

In most cases, however, if you're an unconditional offer holder, you just need to accept your offer to confirm your place.

## Tuition fee deposits

**If you are an international (non-EU) student studying on a one-year taught master's course,** you are required to pay a mandatory tuition fee deposit of £1000 before an electronic Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) can be issued.

The deposit is then deducted from your tuition fees.

If your tuition fees are **fully funded by a third-party sponsor**, if you are funded by a **US student loan**, or if you are attending an **English language pre-sessional course** at The University of Manchester, you are exempt and **do not need to pay** a tuition fee deposit.

## **Further information**

UCAS Track  
[www.trackucas.com](http://www.trackucas.com)

Pay tuition fee deposits  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/tuitionfeedeposit](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/tuitionfeedeposit)

# immigration

**It's essential that you obtain the correct immigration permission before you start your studies with us. We encourage you to apply for it as soon as possible to avoid any complications.**

## EEA and Swiss students

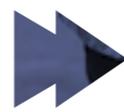
**If you are a citizen of the EEA or Switzerland, you are entitled to enter the UK freely and have the right to reside here while you are studying.** You do not need any documentation to confirm this right, but we recommend that you apply for a Registration Certificate if you want to work in the UK.

If you're from **Switzerland**, EEA rules generally apply to you. If you're from **Croatia**, slightly different rules apply:  
[www.gov.uk/croatian-national](http://www.gov.uk/croatian-national)

## **The European Economic Area (EEA) consists of:**

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, the Republic of Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

**Now, skip to page 16 – the rest of this section is for international (non-EU) students.**



## International students

### (non-EEA or Swiss)

**If you're enrolled on a programme of study which is longer than six months, you will need to apply for a Tier 4 (General) Student visa.**

You can apply for a Tier 4 Student visa up to three months before the start of your course, and we advise you do it as soon as possible.

A Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) number is a unique 14 digit reference given to you by The University of Manchester. UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) will use this number to confirm that you are a genuine student.

You do not need to request a CAS. If your offer is unconditional, we will send you your CAS number by email. We'll also include any additional information for your visa application. You should receive it around four months before the start date of your programme.

If you already have a Tier 4 Student visa which is linked to another institution, you cannot use it to study with us. You must apply for a new Tier 4 Student visa before the start date of your course.

If you are granted immigration permission for more than six months, you will initially be issued with a single entry visa that is valid for travel to the UK and a stay of one month. Once you enter the UK you need to collect your visa, called a Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) within ten days of arrival.

**If you're studying on a short course of six months or less, or an English language course of up to 11 months, you can apply for a Short Term Student Visa as long as you do not intend to extend your stay or work in the UK.**



"Taking a deep breath and staying organised is the best approach to handling your visa. Since I knew there were many steps in the process, I first learned about what government forms and verification is required and created a list for of what I needed for every step. The whole process can seem daunting, but if you are informed and give yourself enough time it is very painless."

LILY

### **Your duties and responsibilities under Tier 4 (General) Student visa**

Under the terms of a Tier 4 (General) Student visa, you have a number of specific duties and responsibilities imposed by UKVI. These include:

- Complying with the conditions of your immigration permission.
- Attending your timetabled teaching periods and laboratory classes.
- Maintaining satisfactory academic progress.
- Keeping the University up to date with your immigration documents and contact details.

### **Your passport**

Ensure that you have a valid passport before you travel to the UK. If you need to get a new one or if your current passport needs to be revalidated, do this as soon as possible because the process can take several months. You must have at least one page that is blank on both sides, and we recommend that your passport be valid for at least three months after your arrival in the UK.

Your passport does not have to be valid for the duration of your course or for the full duration of your immigration permission.

### **Academic certificates**

When you come to Manchester to start your course, remember you need to bring original copies of your academic and English language certificates for the University to check.

### **ATAS (Academic Technology Approval Scheme) certificate**

ATAS requires all international (non-EEA/Swiss) students subject to existing UK immigration permissions, who are applying to study certain sensitive subjects, to apply for ATAS clearance certificate before they can study in the UK.

Your offer letter will tell you if you need an ATAS certificate.

You can apply for your ATAS certificate up to six months before the start date of your course even if your offer is still conditional. It takes at least 20 working days to get an ATAS certificate, and at busy times of the year (June-October) it will take longer, so apply as early as possible at [www.gov.uk/guidance/academic-technology-approval-scheme](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/academic-technology-approval-scheme)

If you have further questions about ATAS, please contact us at: [atas@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:atas@manchester.ac.uk)



"I love Albert Square – you can just walk around and soak up the culture."  
CLARA

### Health requirements

Depending where you live, you may need to obtain a certificate confirming that you are free from infectious tuberculosis (TB) before you can apply for your UK visa. [www.gov.uk/tb-test-visa](http://www.gov.uk/tb-test-visa)

You should be vaccinated against Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) and Meningitis ACWY before you leave your home country. If you are unable to be vaccinated before leaving your home country, vaccines for MMR and Meningitis ACWY are available from your GP (General Practitioner or doctor) in the UK.

If you are applying for immigration permission (visa) for more than six months, you need to pay an additional fee to entitle you to free healthcare under the National Health Service (NHS). The charge is £150 per student for each year for the duration of your visa. If you are bringing family, the charge is the same for each of your dependants.

You must pay the healthcare charge as part of your visa application, even if you have private medical insurance. You will receive an email with a confirmation reference number which you should keep safe in case you need it later.

### If your visa application is refused

If your visa application is refused, read carefully through the Refusal Notice that you are given – this sets out the reasons for the refusal. Try not to worry, and contact the University's Student Immigration Team who will be able to advise you on what to do next. We will need to see a copy of the Refusal Notice, so please email a scanned copy to [visa@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:visa@manchester.ac.uk) as soon as possible. If you are advised to apply again following the refusal, you will need a new CAS.

### Extending your stay in the UK

The endorsement in your passport or Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) will show how long you are permitted to stay in the UK.

If you need an extension, you may need to apply for this from your home country. You must check your status with the Student Immigration Team at least three months before your immigration permission expires.

It's important that you don't stay in the UK after your immigration permission has expired, or you risk being deported and banned from returning to the UK for at least one year.

For more information on extending your stay or working in the UK after you graduate, visit [www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/extend-your-visa](http://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/extend-your-visa)



### UK immigration support

The Student Immigration Team is trained to provide you and your family with specialist advice on complex immigration matters before you arrive and during your time as a student. If you experience any immigration problems please contact us immediately.

The Student Immigration Team is regulated by the Office of the Immigration Services Commission.

Student Immigration Team  
[www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/immigration-and-visas](http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/immigration-and-visas)  
tel +44 (0) 161 275 5000  
email [visa@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:visa@manchester.ac.uk)

#### Further information

- Tier 4 (General) immigration  
[www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa](http://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa)
- TB testing  
[www.gov.uk/tb-test-visa](http://www.gov.uk/tb-test-visa)
- ATAS certificate  
[www.gov.uk/guidance/academic-technology-approval-scheme](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/academic-technology-approval-scheme)

# english language requirements

It's important that you have enough knowledge of English to fully benefit from lectures and tutorials. For that reason, we need to ensure that you meet specific English language requirements.

**If you have a conditional offer**, one of the conditions might be to achieve a certain score in an English language test approved by the University. If this is the case, it will say on UCAS Track or your offer letter.

We currently accept the following qualifications for admission onto our courses at degree level or above:

- IELTS Academic (both the UKVI and non-UKVI tests)
- Trinity College London Integrated Skills in English (ISE) – modules ISE II, ISE III or ISE IV
- Pearson Test of English (PTE)
- Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) and Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE)
- Internet-based TOEFL

We accept a range of English language qualifications - see our website for an up-to-date list:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international/admissions/language-requirements](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international/admissions/language-requirements)

## Pre-sessional English courses

If you haven't fully met the English language requirements for your course, you may be eligible to study a pre-sessional course in order to meet those requirements – check with the relevant academic School.

Find out dates and prices online at [www.manchester.ac.uk/preessional](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/preessional)

## IELTS

One of the most popular globally recognised English language tests is the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) academic test. It is available from most British Council offices, and places fill up quickly, so early booking is essential. Our University Language Centre (ULC) is also an IELTS testing centre, so if you need to re-take IELTS you can do so here in Manchester. [www.manchester.ac.uk/languagecentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/languagecentre)

### Further information

IELTS

[www.ielts.org](http://www.ielts.org)

Pre-sessional English language courses

[www.manchester.ac.uk/preessional](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/preessional)

University Language Centre  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/languagecentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/languagecentre)

# planning your finances

## Tuition fees

All university students in the UK are required to pay tuition fees. We have assessed your fee status according to the information you provided, and your offer letter will state the amount of tuition fees you are required to pay.

[www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/finances/paying-tuition-fees](http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/finances/paying-tuition-fees)

When you start planning to come to university in the UK, you need to make sure you have funds (or a sponsor or scholarship) to pay the fees. Tuition fees are paid as part of registration in September, although you can make a pre-payment if you wish. See page 45 for details.

## Applying for a Tier 4 Student visa?

You'll have to prove you have a certain amount of money (currently £9,135) available for living expenses.

[www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa](http://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa)

## International (non-EU) students

Students from outside the EU are not normally eligible for any UK state benefits (social security, welfare) so it's important you make sure you have sufficient funds to complete the duration of your course before you apply.

We recommend that you have access to enough money to cover your immediate expenses such as accommodation deposits, rent and food, as it may take up to three weeks for you to open a UK bank account.

We advise against bringing more than £200 cash with you, as most ATMs will accept foreign bank cards (although there may be a small charge) and credit and debit cards are widely used in most shops. Alternatively, you could consider bringing a prepaid credit/debit card.



"I plan a budget so I know how much I have to spend each day. It's important to look at what you buy and think about it."  
MARIA



## Cost of living

The cost of living in Manchester is similar to other major UK cities, and how much you spend will depend on your lifestyle. In addition to money for tuition fees, we estimate that a single student on a full-time course will require enough funds per year to cover the following living expenses:

[www.manchester.ac.uk/costofliving](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/costofliving)

Expenses	Undergraduate (40 Weeks)	Postgraduate (52 weeks)
Accommodation (self-catering)	£4,995	£5,925
Meals	£1,525	£2,025
Books and stationery	£420	£505
Clothes	£400	£505
Local transport	£450	£685
Other general living expenses	£1,600	£1,930
<b>Total</b>	<b>£9,390</b>	<b>£11,575</b>

## Budgeting and managing your money

We offer all our students free access to our online money management resource, Blackbullion. It gives you control over your finances and will help you to make small changes to ease the stress of managing your money. It includes quick tips on making your money go further, ways to save as a student, food shopping tips and managing a budget.

If you do experience any financial difficulties during your course, please take a look at our online Student Money Advice. If you can't find the answer you are looking for, you can book an appointment to speak to a specialist adviser.

### Further information

Student Money Advice  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/ssa/finances](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/ssa/finances)

International student calculator  
[www.international.studentcalculator.org](http://www.international.studentcalculator.org)

Cost of living  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/costofliving](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/costofliving)

# how much?

To give you an idea of how much things cost in Manchester, here's a list of average prices for some things you might want to spend your money on.

STUDENT CINEMA TICKET	£5.65
TAKE-AWAY FISH AND CHIPS (£1 EXTRA FOR MUSHY PEAS - A MUST-TRY!)	£5.70
EIGHT MONTH STUDENT GYM MEMBERSHIP	£100
DAY RETURN TRAIN TICKET TO LONDON ON A SATURDAY (IF BOOKED IN ADVANCE)	£44
WEEKLY GROCERY SHOP (AVERAGE)	£41.59
POSH AFTERNOON TEA (A TREAT FOR WHEN YOUR PARENTS VISIT!)	£22.00 PER PERSON (£28 WITH CHAMPAGNE)
TRADITIONAL SUNDAY ROAST DINNER	£14 PER PERSON
STUDENT THEATRE TICKETS	£6
MANCHESTER UNITED TICKETS	£19
MUSIC CONCERT	£10-30 (DEPENDING ON THE BAND)
HAIRCUT	£30 WOMEN £10 MEN
RICE COOKER	£19
LAO GAN MA CRISPY CHILLI OIL	£1.48
GUIDED TOUR TO OXFORD WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY	£26 (MEMBERS)

# bringing family to manchester

**Further information**  
UKVI definition of family members  
[www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/family-members](http://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/family-members)

Immigration permission for dependants  
[www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/immigration-and-visas](http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/immigration-and-visas)

Family information service  
[www.manchester.gov.uk/childcare](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/childcare)

**Not bringing family with you? Skip this section and go to page 26.**



**Many students choose to bring their partner and children with them when they come to study in Manchester. If you are thinking of bringing your family with you, make sure you understand all the rules and find out exactly what is required before you and your family travel to the UK, especially if you're coming from outside the EU.**

## Immigration

### **Citizens of EEA countries (and Switzerland)**

If you and the family members you wish to bring are all citizens of an EEA country (or Switzerland), they can live in the UK without restriction.

If you are a citizen of an EEA country (or Switzerland) but your family members are not, you might still be able to bring them with you.

Each family member will need to apply for an EEA Family Permit before travelling to the UK, which is free of charge. The application can be made online or using the application form VAF5.  
[www.gov.uk/family-permit](http://www.gov.uk/family-permit)

### **Citizens of non-EEA countries**

If you and your family members are citizens of a non-EEA country, you may be able to bring them with you. Each family member you wish to bring must apply for immigration permission as a Tier 4 Dependant Partner or Child before travelling to Manchester.

It will save money and time if you all apply at the same time, even if you are planning to travel to Manchester at different times.

If you are coming to Manchester to study an undergraduate degree or for a course of less than six months you can only bring dependants with you if you're financially supported by your government.

If their applications are successful, your family will be granted immigration permission for the same length of time as you. You need to provide official documents confirming your marriage and/or your relationship to children you are bringing, for example marriage or birth certificates, along with financial documents to prove you can support them while they are in the UK.

### **Which family members can you bring to the UK under Tier 4 rules?**

UKIV use the term 'dependants' instead of family members when referring to Tier 4. Full guidance regarding which family members can apply to come to the UK, and what documentation you will need, can be found at:  
[www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/family-members](http://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/family-members)



### University accommodation

General information on University accommodation and how to apply can be found on page 28.

We have limited accommodation for couples and families with children, and it does get taken quickly, so if you're looking for family accommodation, apply as soon as possible.

### Private accommodation

If you would prefer not to live in University accommodation, or if you are not able to secure a place, don't worry – there are plenty of privately rented apartments and houses across Manchester.

It can take time to find family accommodation within budget, and for that reason we suggest you wait until you have arranged suitable accommodation before bringing your family to Manchester.

Under the Right to Rent Scheme, landlords have a legal requirement to check that you have valid immigration permission (visa) to be in the UK. This means you will be asked to provide your passport and visa when you apply to rent a property.

Prices in the private sector vary depending on area, style and size, but as a rough guide prices (excluding bills) for the academic year 2017/18 are approximately:

- 1 bed property or studio apartment: £350 to £500 per month
- 2 bed property: £500 to £750 per month
- 3 bed property: £550 to £850 per month

### Childcare

If you have young children with you in Manchester, it's likely that you will require childcare. The range and cost of childcare varies considerably, and is generally quite expensive.

You should expect to pay at least £25 per day for each child at a private day nursery or with a childminder (childminders look after children in their own homes, and should be registered with the Local Authority).

All three and four-year old children, regardless of their nationality, are entitled to 15 hours of free nursery education for 38 weeks of the year.

There is usually a waiting list for these services – contact the Manchester Family Information Service for details of childcare in your local area.

**If you are an EU citizen**, you may be eligible for a UK government Access and Hardship grant to cover the cost of childcare, but these grants are not available to international (non-EU) students.

There are two nurseries affiliated with The University of Manchester which accept children between six months and four years of age, with fees ranging between £100-160 per week. Both of these nurseries have long waiting lists, so we advise you to apply as early as possible.

**The Dryden Street Nursery**  
tel +44 (0)161 272 7121  
**Echo Day Nursery**  
tel +44 (0)161 200 4979

### Your child's education

In England, most children start school in the September after their fourth birthday, and they must register in the year that they are five. They must either stay in full-time education or undertake an apprenticeship until they are 18.

Typical school hours are 9am to 3:30pm, with many schools offering after school activities. If your course will keep you in the UK for more than 12 months, your children are required by law to attend school.

The Local Authority will provide a place for them, free of charge, although the school where they are placed may not be the closest to where you live.

There are also fee-paying private schools in Manchester.

Many schools in Manchester employ specialist staff to support children for whom English is not their first language.

### Your family's health

**If you are an EU citizen**, you, your partner, and any children living with you in the UK are entitled to free healthcare on the UK's National Health Service (NHS). Make sure you get an European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) for you and your family members and bring it along to appointments.

**If you are a non-EU citizen** and require a visa to come to the UK for more than six months, you will have to pay a healthcare charge for yourself and any dependants.

### Family travel

#### Bus and Metrolink (trams)

Children under five can travel free on most buses and Metrolink trams in Greater Manchester. Children aged between five and 16 can travel for a discounted fare. If they are 11-16, children will need an 'Igo' pass, which costs £5, to prove their age and receive the discounted fare.

#### Trains

Children aged between five and 16 pay half fare on most trains. Up to two children under five may travel for free with each paying adult.

There are also a number of discounted passes for families, such as the 'family and friends' railcard which entitles you to a third off the price of rail travel.

#### Further information

Manchester Schools Admissions Team  
[www.manchester.gov.uk/education](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/education)

Manchester Family Information Service  
[www.manchester.gov.uk/fsdirectory](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/fsdirectory)

Manchester City Council Schools and Education  
[www.manchester.gov.uk/education](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/education)



Natasha

Malaysia

"I brought a long list of winter clothes, a raincoat, and lots of Malaysian food and spices. Also mentally, you need to gear yourself up. You know you're not going to be home for a year, so you need to get yourself ready for the new experience."

**preparing**  
**to move**

# accommodation

## University accommodation

You should have received a My Manchester brochure shortly after receiving your offer, with details of University accommodation and how to apply. You can access My Manchester at: [www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international/accommodation](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international/accommodation)

We strongly recommend that you submit your accommodation application as soon as you receive an offer from us – you don't need to wait for it to become unconditional.

## Accommodation guarantee

Remember, **if you're an international student (non-EEA citizen)** coming to Manchester alone, we will guarantee you a place in University accommodation for the duration of your course.

You must submit your application by 31 August in order to qualify for this guarantee and by mid-February in subsequent years.

If you are an **EEA or Swiss citizen**, you are guaranteed accommodation for the first year of your studies, as long as you apply by 31 August.

If you're an **Erasmus, Exchange or Study Abroad** student studying at Manchester for a full academic year, you are guaranteed a place in University accommodation if you apply by 31 July.



"My first year in halls was really fun. That's when you get to expand your circle and meet friends from outside your country. You meet so many people every day, and there's so many events."

NATASHA

## Private accommodation

Manchester Student Homes can provide details of privately rented properties as well as giving independent housing advice, information about finding accommodation, and a free contract checking service.

They can also give you a list of landlords who have been awarded the International Friendly Standard, which means you do not need to provide a UK-based guarantor or pay full rent up front. [www.manchesterstudenthomes.com](http://www.manchesterstudenthomes.com)

## Temporary accommodation

If you would prefer to find accommodation in the private sector, we recommend that you find temporary accommodation when you arrive in the UK rather than agreeing to take a property that you have not seen. You can search for a property and contact landlords before you arrive, but you should not sign a contract or hand over any money before viewing a property.

Temporary accommodation may be available in University accommodation but this is not normally available until September.

Manchester Student Homes can provide a list of hotels, hostels and short-term lets in Manchester.

## Council Tax

Council Tax is a local government tax which covers local public services (such as street lighting and waste collection). The majority of students are exempt from paying Council Tax, so if you are renting privately, you need to inform Manchester City Council that you are a full-time student and do not have to pay.

## Manchester City Council

tel +44 (0)161 234 5000

email [city.council@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:city.council@manchester.gov.uk)

## Television licence

In the UK all televisions must be licensed. A licence costs £147.00 per year, which can be paid in monthly instalments. If you have a television in your room in University accommodation or in any room in private accommodation, you will have to purchase a TV licence. [www.tvlicensing.co.uk](http://www.tvlicensing.co.uk)

## Insurance

Contracts for University accommodation include up to £6,000 of contents insurance against theft and loss, but not accidental damage.

If you are living in private accommodation, you should get insurance as soon as possible after arriving. As well as dedicated insurance companies, many banks, major supermarkets and the Post Office also offer insurance. Check the premium carefully to see what is covered by the insurance.

## Further information

University accommodation  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation)

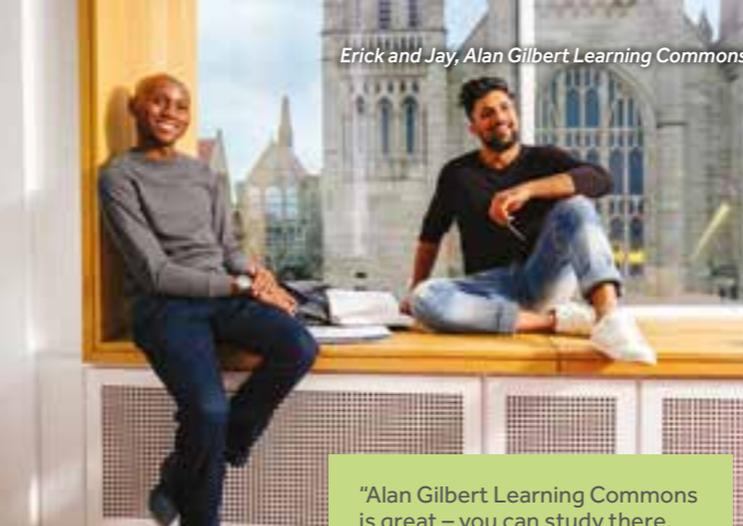
Privately rented accommodation  
[www.manchesterstudenthomes.com](http://www.manchesterstudenthomes.com)

My Manchester publication online  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international/accommodation](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/international/accommodation)

# around campus

Where heritage meets modernism, our bustling campus combines superb facilities for studying with significant cultural landmarks.

Start exploring as soon as you arrive – you might be surprised what you find!



Erick and Jay, Alan Gilbert Learning Commons

“Alan Gilbert Learning Commons is great – you can study there, but you can also socialise at the same time. And it’s 24/7 so you can always go there.”

JAY

**Alan Gilbert Learning Commons**  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/library](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library)  
Located at the heart of the campus, the Learning Commons is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and offers you an inspiring space to learn and relax. This ultra-modern building is the UK’s first digital library and provides the latest IT facilities, flexible learning spaces as well as a host of other services.

**Interesting fact**  
The lighting in the building adjusts automatically according to the level of natural light and occupancy.



🐦 @UoMLibrary

**Manchester Museum**  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/museum](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/museum)  
Manchester Museum is the UK’s largest university museum and is home to one of the most important collections of ancient Egyptian artefacts in the UK. The Vivarium houses a wide variety of live animals including frogs, toads, snakes and other reptiles and amphibians, whilst the fossil gallery showcases fossils dating back to the Ice Age.



Manchester Museum

**Interesting fact**  
The star attraction of the museum is T.rex, affectionately named ‘Stan’.



The Whitworth

**The John Rylands Library**  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/rylands](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/rylands)  
The John Rylands Library is part of The University of Manchester Library and is free for you to use and study in. It is home to around 1.4 million items as part of the Library’s Special Collections, which you can access. There’s also a vibrant and free exhibition and events programme for you to discover more about the stories behind this grand neo-Gothic building.

**Interesting fact**  
The library was founded by Enriqueta Rylands in memory of her husband John Rylands, who was Manchester’s first multi-millionaire.  
📌 JohnRylandsLibrary  
🐦 @TheJohnRylands

**The Whitworth**  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth)  
The Whitworth was founded in 1889 as the first English gallery in a park and is one of Manchester’s best-loved cultural treasures. It’s a free gallery with an internationally significant exhibition programme, displaying both its own collection as well as international artists. The Whitworth recently underwent a £15 million development and has been transformed into a 21st century gallery in the park.

**Interesting fact**  
The Whitworth has won a long list of awards, including Visit England Large Visitor Attraction of the Year and Art Fund Museum of the Year 2015.  
📌 TheWhitworth  
🐦 @WhitworthArt



University Place

# settling in

**Your first few weeks in Manchester will be an exciting time, with new places to discover, new people to meet and a new culture to explore.**

After the excitement and intensity of the first few weeks, some of you may feel a little homesick – but don't worry, it's completely normal, even among UK students! Make sure you get involved in University life and meet as many new people as possible – you'll feel at home in no time.

If you haven't lived in the UK before, it is natural for it to take some time to adapt to the differences from your home country.

Here are some things you can do before you arrive that might help you:

- Watch films and television programmes set in the UK or listen to British radio stations online.
- Connect with other new students through social media and find out more about Manchester online before you arrive.
- Talk to people you know who have lived in the UK about how they found it, and what they did to settle in.

## Volunteering

We encourage you to get involved with the local community through volunteering. This is unpaid activity that benefits a charity or organisation. There are many interesting opportunities including mentoring children, organising activities for older people, helping on conservation projects and fundraising.

If you are interested in volunteering, you should bring a certificate of good conduct from a police station in your home country before you travel.

## Once you're here, there are lots of things you can do to settle in:

- Orientation, includes a range of events to help you meet other new students. It's important to take time out from studying to socialise and build new friendships – make the most of social opportunities and say yes to invitations.
- Remember that you are not alone. Everyone studying away from home will be going through similar experiences – good and bad. Talking to other students can be a great support.
- Joining student societies can help you to meet people who share your interests. You can sign up for these at the Welcome Fair. A full list of clubs and societies is available on the Students' Union website: <https://manchesterstudentsunion.com>
- The International Society promotes international friendship and celebrates cultural diversity. It organises trips, offers classes, and has a great cafe! It also runs a families group offering support to those who have brought family to the UK.
- The University Counselling Service can provide support if you are finding it difficult to adjust to life in Manchester (see page 60).



"I did a lot of background research – looked on Google Earth, joining Facebook groups and looks of lots of pictures of the city online to get a sense of what it would be like".

CLARA

## Studying in the UK

At Manchester, you'll participate in a number of different teaching and learning activities and research experiences. You will be supported to take responsibility for your own study, and encouraged to reflect and analyse what you learn.

Find out more about teaching and learning at University: [www.manchester.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/teaching-learning](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/teaching-learning)

## Further information

Clubs and societies  
<https://manchesterstudentsunion.com>

International Society  
[www.internationalsociety.org.uk](http://www.internationalsociety.org.uk)

My Learning Essentials  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/my-learning-essentials](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/my-learning-essentials)



Old Quadrangle

# british culture

Depending where you're from, you may find culture in the UK very different from what you're used to at home.

## Key aspects of British Culture

- Men and women have equal rights in all respects.
- It is illegal to discriminate against anyone according to race, religion, gender, age, class, sexual orientation or disability.
- The UK has a relatively liberal attitude towards alcohol, gambling and clothing style but everyone is free to live by their own beliefs and you should not feel under pressure to adapt your behaviour.
- Punctuality is important and you will be expected to be on time for lectures and seminars. If you cannot arrive on time for an appointment, let the people you are meeting know as soon as you can.
- It is illegal to smoke in enclosed public spaces such as restaurants, lecture theatres, public transport, or University accommodation, as well as some outdoor public spaces, including bus stops and train stations.



"Before coming to UK, the only accent I'd heard was the one in movies. For the first couple of days, I had no idea what my flatmate from York was saying! He told me every place in the UK has a different accent. It takes time, but you get used to it."

JAY

# food

Although the UK has lots of traditional dishes, British people have adopted cuisines from around the world and enjoy a very international diet.

On Oxford Road, you'll find Indian, sushi and American milkshakes alongside a Korean café and an organic vegan restaurant. Large supermarkets stock a range of foods imported from other countries, and foods meeting religious requirements, such as vegetarian, Halal and Kosher, are easy to find.

Many areas in Manchester have speciality shops, delicatessens and local ethnic centres, including Chinatown, Cheetham Hill and Rusholme (Curry Mile), where you'll find a wide variety of international foods.

All British tap water is safe to drink unless it is labelled 'not drinking water'.

## Tipping

Tipping in restaurants is not compulsory, but if you wish to give a tip, it's normal to leave about 10% of the bill. Some restaurants automatically include a service charge (tip) on the bill, but usually only for large parties.



"The best way I immersed myself into British culture was by asking questions. When one of my flatmates would talk about something that happened to them in school that seemed completely different to how it was in my school I would ask them about it. The first few weeks are very overwhelming because you are moving to a new place, far away from home; but you soon realise other people are feeling the same exact way."

LILY

# around manchester

If you're coming from far away, you might not get the chance to visit Manchester before you start your studies. Here's a selection of the city's highlights to give you a taste of all it has to offer!

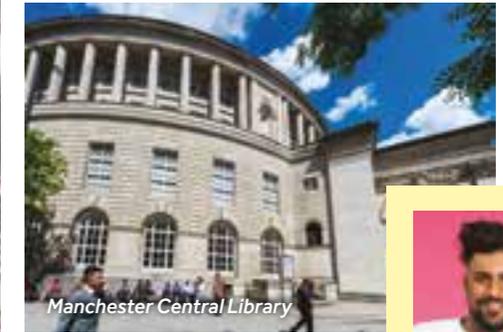


"I think one of the overlooked reasons for studying abroad is exploring. Take time to explore Manchester, including Manchester Museum right on our doorstep. Also, Manchester city centre and make sure you pass by Chinatown. If you are football fan like me (or not!) visit two of the best clubs in world of football currently – Manchester United and Manchester City. There are tons of places to explore in Manchester."

GODFREY



Chinatown



Manchester Central Library



"The Northern Quarter is my favourite place in the city – there are many bars and cafes."

JAY



"When I go to the city, I just like to explore. My friends and I just hang out, feed the birds and people watch."

NATASHA



HOME, First Street



Northern Quarter



Old Trafford



Kora player, Manchester International Festival

# staying safe

Manchester is generally safe, but as in any large city you should take precautions.

## Personal safety

Avoid walking alone at night and don't use poorly lit roads even if they are shortcuts. Try to plan ahead so that you can walk with friends or take a taxi which is a relatively cheap option in Manchester.

When walking on your own, take care when using your phone or listening to music with earphones when you're walking, as this will make you less aware of your surroundings.

Try to take money from cash machines during the day and don't forget that most places will take cashless or card payments so you don't always need cash when you go out. Most UK students carry no or very little cash even on a night out and will pay for even small purchases – a cup of coffee or a snack – using a card.

People in Manchester are mostly very friendly and helpful so if you feel unsafe you can go into the nearest shop or takeaway and ask for help or for them to call 999. This is the number you call for any emergency – police, fire or ambulance in the UK.

When using a taxi, take either a licensed black cab or book a taxi online. Private hire cars including Uber can be booked in advance.

The Students' Union run a safe taxi scheme with StreetCars and you can see all the detail of this at <https://manchesterstudentsunion.com/safetaxi>

In pubs and bars, don't leave your drink unattended, and don't accept drinks from strangers.

Violent assault is rare in the UK and it is illegal to carry guns, knives or pepper spray.



"Even though Manchester is a relatively safe city, it is still a city and you need to be aware. I am always conscious of the people around me at night time and I never walk with earphones in my ears. Along Oxford road at night, there are always people about and it has a lot of street lighting."

LILY

## Safety of your property

Due to the high value of phones, they are an easy target for thieves. Remember that most theft is opportunistic so try not to give anyone the chance to take your belongings. Small actions can then be useful in keeping your belongings safe;

- Never leave anything on the table in bars, cafes and restaurants even if you are only walking away for a moment
- Tempting though it is to use your phone as you are walking with the phone held in front of you, you are making it very easy for a thief just to snatch it out of your hand.
- Install a tracking application on your phone, it could help you trace it if stolen (or find it if it's lost!)

## Who to call

In an emergency you should dial 999. If the emergency happens on campus or in University accommodation you should also call Security on 0161 306 9966 and this number is also on the back of your student card. To report a crime after the event or for non-emergencies, call 101.

Call the Neighbourhood Helpline to report any complaints about student issues in the community on 0161 275 1863.

## Further information

Student safety  
[www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500210/student\\_safety](http://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500210/student_safety)

Crime Reduction  
[www.estates.manchester.ac.uk/services/security/ourservices/crimereduction/](http://www.estates.manchester.ac.uk/services/security/ourservices/crimereduction/)

# orientation and welcome

## Orientation

Orientation gives you the chance to find out everything you need to know about living and studying in Manchester and the UK. Participation in Orientation is strongly recommended for all new international and EU students, and is free of charge.

Over the summer you'll receive your Welcome Pack in the post with details of all the events we've got planned. You can also stay up to date online at [www.manchester.ac.uk/orientation](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/orientation) or on our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/OrientationUoM](https://www.facebook.com/OrientationUoM)

Most University accommodation contracts start on Thursday, 13 September, but check yours as they do vary.

If you need to move before the normal start date, the Accommodation Office may be able to help.  
Email: [accommodation@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@manchester.ac.uk)



"I gave myself a task of making one new friend a day especially on the welcome week - during that time everyone is new and lectures haven't really started. Making friends who are not from your home country will automatically force you to communicate in a mutual language which is English."

GODFREY

## Orientation dates 2018/19

September start:

Thursday 13 – Sunday 16 September 2018

January start: Monday 21 January 2019

## Welcome

The week beginning Monday, 17 September is known as Welcome. This is where all students, UK and international, are welcomed to the University before lectures start.

In addition to all the activities run by the University, the Students' Union puts on many events including fairs where you can sign up to join societies and sports clubs. Your Welcome pack will give you details about all the events and how to get involved.

You are also likely to have induction activities with your academic School or Faculty during this week. You will receive further details of these directly from your academic School before you arrive.

## Further information

[www.manchester.ac.uk/welcome](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/welcome)

Jay  
India

“What did I bring? A friendly attitude – that really made a difference!”



arriving in  
manchester

# preparing for registration

Registration with the University is an online process where you confirm your personal information and details of your course, and is when you pay your tuition fees.

If you're coming from a non-EEA country, you'll also need to attend international check-in once you arrive.

You'll receive a Get Ready guide this summer with instructions on how to register and complete international check-in if necessary - you don't need to do anything right now.



"If you follow the instructions, it's fine! It's easy - you just need to be organised and follow the steps."  
MARIA

## Early tuition fee payments

You can make a full or partial payment of your tuition fees in advance of registration, if you have firmly accepted an unconditional offer for an academic course at the University.

Advance payment is not available to MBA students or those attending pre-sessional English courses.

Information on how to pay early fees is available online:  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/earlyfeepayment](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/earlyfeepayment)

## Police registration

If you are studying with us for more than six months and come from certain countries, you will need to register with the police.

You will be able to make an individual appointment online once you have arrived in the UK and have completed registration.

Further details about how and where to register with the police will be provided in your Welcome pack, which you will receive this summer.



## Students with a financial sponsor

If you are sponsored by your government you will be required to provide a current letter of financial sponsorship or funding on official headed paper. Your sponsor organisation will be able to advise you if you are required to obtain a letter from your Embassy in London. The letter must indicate that tuition fees will be paid for the academic year 2018/19.

As soon as you receive your letter submit it to [sponsor.letters@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:sponsor.letters@manchester.ac.uk). This will ensure that you can register quickly and easily.

## US and Canadian student loans

For the purpose of US and Canadian government student loans, our name is listed as 'The University of Manchester' and the School references are G12136 (US student loans) and PUBO (Canadian student loans). For further details please see: [www.manchester.ac.uk/international/country](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/international/country)

# travelling to manchester

## What to bring

We advise you not to travel with a lot of luggage as it's often cheaper to buy things in the UK than to bring them with you.

Pay careful attention to your luggage allowance as charges for excessive baggage and unaccompanied freight can be expensive.

Label your luggage clearly with your name, your home address and your address in Manchester.



## Hand luggage essentials

- Valid passport with UK visa (**International, non-EEA/Swiss citizens**), or a valid passport or national identity card (**EEA/Swiss citizens**).
- Your travel insurance details. (We advise you take out travel insurance to cover your journey and first two weeks in Manchester.)
- Cash and bank cards.
- Details of your destination in Manchester including address and contact telephone number.
- This Arrival Guide, your Welcome Pack, and any other information you have received from the University.
- If you are arriving by air and need to carry liquids in your hand luggage (such as essential medication or baby milk) please check the UK's current hand luggage rules.
- The academic qualification documents listed in your CAS statement as well as evidence of your English language proficiency. You must also include original documents to prove financial support for tuition fees and maintenance, and a print out of your CAS statement. You should also include your TB screening certificate if one was required to obtain your immigration permission. (**International, non-EEA/Swiss citizens only**).
- If you are eligible to apply for a Short Term Student visa on arrival, you should bring the offer letter from your academic School and evidence that you can support yourself and pay (or have paid) your tuition fees. (**International, non-EEA/Swiss students only**).

If you are planning on bringing any food with you, check the HM Revenue and Customs list of banned and restricted goods to see if you will be able to bring it into the UK.

[www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)

# arriving in the uk

**Manchester is one of the UK's major destinations and has excellent travel connections, with many airlines offering direct flights. Where possible, we recommend flying directly to Manchester Airport.**

## **Non-EU citizens**

If you are travelling to Manchester from overseas, you should fly directly into Manchester airport or transit through one of the other airports on the UK mainland.

## **What to expect at the airport**

If you obtained your visa before travelling to the UK, you will need to show the Immigration Officer the documents you submitted with your immigration permission application. You should have these documents easily available in your hand luggage.

If you are eligible to apply for a short-term study visa on arrival in the UK, you must show the Immigration Officer your short-term study letter or your offer letter, as well as evidence that you can support yourself and pay (or have paid) your tuition fees.

The Immigration Officer will ask you your reasons for coming to the UK, to check you are a genuine student and that you intend to leave the UK when you complete your studies. You should be able to explain your study plans clearly without having to use an interpreter. If you experience problems at immigration control, contact the Student Immigration Team as soon as possible (see page 61).

The Immigration Officer will date stamp your passport to confirm that you meet the immigration requirements to study in the UK. If you are unclear about anything that you have been told by an Immigration Officer, or about what has been stamped in your passport, please contact the Student Immigration Team.

Keep your boarding pass and ticket as you will need to provide details of how and when you travelled to the UK if you apply for another visa in the future.

## **Arriving via the Republic of Ireland**

If your course is shorter than six months and you are a non-visa national who intends to obtain a short-term study visa on arrival in the UK, you should not travel to the UK via the Republic of Ireland. If you do this, you will not pass through UK immigration control and you will not be able to obtain a visa to study.

### **Further information**

Manchester Airport  
[www.manchesterairport.co.uk](http://www.manchesterairport.co.uk)

Train information  
[www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

UKCISA  
[www.ukcisa.org.uk](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk)

## **Travelling to your accommodation**

### **Airport Collection Service**

During September Orientation, we offer an Airport Collection Service from Manchester Airport for students who are arriving on their own and staying in University accommodation. The service is run by staff and a team of our friendly students who will welcome you to the UK, help you with your luggage and answer any questions you might have.

## **Alternative transport from the airport**

Train to Oxford Road Station	20 minutes	£5
Metrolink tram to Manchester Piccadilly	25 minutes	£4.20
Public bus to Piccadilly Gardens	60 minutes	£4.20
Taxi	20 minutes	£25 (approx)

\*All prices correct at the time of going to print, but subject to change.

## **Travelling to Manchester from within the UK**

If you are arriving at another UK airport, we recommend you take a connecting flight to Manchester Airport and follow the instructions on the previous page.

If you'd prefer to travel to Manchester from within the UK by train or bus, you can find train times and book tickets online at [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) or on +44 (0)3457 484950. It may be cheaper to travel by bus, but the journey is likely to be significantly longer.

Two companies that offer long distance bus travel in the UK are [www.megabus.com](http://www.megabus.com) and [www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com). Information on transport in the London area is available from [ww.tfl.gov.uk](http://ww.tfl.gov.uk).

A taxi from the bus or train stations to your accommodation should cost around £15.

If you arrive before 9am or after 5pm and have a serious problem please contact the University emergency number free on 0800 838 907.



"I usually talk to my parents once or twice a week, and more to my friends – we usually talk through Facebook or online phone calls."  
JAY

## Telephone

### Mobile phones (cell phones)

International phone calls can be very expensive from a mobile in the UK so we advise you to compare the deals available from different networks to find one that suits you. Some popular networks in the UK are Vodafone, O2, EE, 3, Giffgaff and Virgin.

There are two main types of mobile phone plans available:

#### 'Pay as you go'

You pay a fixed price for the handset and SIM card and then pay for calls as you make them.

#### 'Contract' or 'pay monthly'

You pay a monthly charge for a set amount of minutes, texts (SMS) and an internet data allowance.

The contract periods are usually for a minimum of 12 months, and many are 18 or 24, so it can be impractical for international students to get contract phones.

# keeping in touch

### Landline phones

Landline telephone packages may include free calls at certain times of day or reduced price calls to favourite numbers. Calls to British numbers are usually cheaper or even free at the weekends and between 7pm and 7am on weekdays.

Popular networks include BT, Sky, Virgin and TalkTalk.

### Direct dialling overseas

To dial overseas from the UK you will need to dial in sequence: 00 + country code + area code (minus the initial 0 or 9) + local number.

[www.thephonebook.bt.com/area](http://www.thephonebook.bt.com/area)

### Online communication

Once you've registered as a student, you'll be given free access to WiFi on campus and a University email address. You can also access free WiFi in many cafés around the city.

You can easily keep in touch with family and friends back home using social media, online chat such as Google Hangouts or WhatsApp, and free voice and video calls through services such as Skype, FaceTime and VolPtalk.



"Nothing feels more fulfilling and joyful than talking to loved ones back home. It is quite manageable and easy to keep in touch compared to few years ago. There are number of online platforms that can be used to chat and means you are one click away from direct calling your family. Life abroad can be challenging, talking to our loved ones back home can help us overcome this challenge."  
GODFREY

## Postal services

Post (or mail) within the UK can be sent either first class (1-2 working days) or second class (2-3) and you can buy stamps from newsagents, supermarkets and card shops. You can also get next day delivery or 'signed for' services at the Post Office.

Royal Mail is the standard postal service in the UK, but you can use other services such as DHL or FedEx if you wish.

To send post internationally you will need special stamps and airmail stickers from the Post Office.  
[www.royalmail.com](http://www.royalmail.com)





# getting around

## Buses

Several bus companies operate services around Manchester including Stagecoach, Magic Bus and First. [www.tfgm.com](http://www.tfgm.com)

Daily or weekly tickets can be purchased on the bus and are cheaper if you will be making several journeys. Lots of students get an annual or semester student bus pass from Stagecoach. These can be bought online at [www.buymyunirider.com](http://www.buymyunirider.com) or in person at the Students' Union.

Citymapper is a great free app available on Apple and Android, to help you plan the best route around the city. It can be really useful when you first get here!

## Trams

The Metrolink tram system links Bury, Oldham and Rochdale (north of Manchester), Altrincham (south of Manchester), Manchester Airport and Salford to the city centre. The tram also runs through the city centre linking Piccadilly railway station, Piccadilly bus station, Shudehill bus station and Manchester Victoria railway station. Tickets should be bought from a machine on the Metrolink platform before boarding the tram.

Timetables are available at: [www.metrolink.co.uk](http://www.metrolink.co.uk)

## Taxis (Cabs)

Taxis can be relatively expensive if you are travelling on your own but they are a convenient and safe way to travel. Before you get in the cab, you should ask the driver for the likely cost of your journey and ensure that you have enough cash with you. You can stop a black cab in the street, but a private hire cab, which looks like a normal car, must be booked in advance.

## Trains

National and local train services are available in the city centre from Piccadilly, Victoria and Oxford Road railway stations. A 24-hour passenger information service is available on **+44 (0)8457 484950** or at [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk). Tickets must be purchased before boarding the train, either online or at the station ticket office or machine. Long-distance fares are often cheaper if booked in advance.

You are eligible to buy a Young Persons Railcard if you are between 16 and 25, or if you are over 26 and in full-time education. It entitles you to a 1/3 off rail travel across the UK, and you can get one at major train stations or online at [www.16-25railcard.co.uk](http://www.16-25railcard.co.uk)

## Cycling

Cycling is a quick, convenient and environmentally friendly way to get around the city, and there are an increasing number of safe cycle lanes across Manchester, including a new one on Oxford Road.

Bike theft does happen, but you can easily deter thieves by buying an inexpensive bike and securing it with a sturdy D-lock to bike stands, rather than lamp posts or railings.

It is compulsory to have lights if you will be cycling after dark and you should always wear a helmet.

## Driving

Manchester is a very convenient city to get around without a car and very few British students bring cars to Manchester. Fuel, insurance, licensing and tax are all expensive, as are the costs of any repairs.

Parking across the city is limited and expensive, especially around the campus.

# banking in the uk

You should open a UK bank account as soon as possible when you arrive. Unless you are paying your fees in full in advance or you're a sponsored student, you will need a UK bank account in order to pay tuition fees in instalments.

## Types of account

### Current account

This is a basic account for day-to-day purchases and deposits.

A current account is useful because it allows you to pay for things, including tuition fees and accommodation, in instalments by setting up a Direct Debit.

Some student bank accounts are only for UK students, so check the terms and conditions before applying. Certain banks offer Shariah compliant accounts.

### Savings account

It is a good idea to open a savings account if you intend to deposit a lot of money into an account, as you will receive a higher interest rate. This money may not be as accessible so you should check the details with your bank.

You will not be able to set up a Direct Debit from a savings account.

### International (non-EU) citizens

Think about choosing an account or a bank that issues monthly paper bank statements. Online statements cannot be used to support an immigration application and the bank may not be able to provide any further proof of your transactions. Keep and file your bank statements, as obtaining reprints can take time and can incur a fee.

## Opening your account

It may take up to three weeks for a bank account to be fully set up and for you to access the money in the account, but you should receive your account number and sort code (which you need to set up a Direct Debit) within a few days. Bank of China (UK) Ltd can open bank accounts for Chinese students before departure, with no fee.

Barclays offers two types of accounts that can be partially opened before you arrive in the UK.

For all other banks, accounts will need to be fully opened in person once you are in the UK and further information about opening an account will be included in your Welcome pack.

### If you're studying for less than a year

If you are in the UK for less than one year, it may be more difficult to open a bank account. Contact your bank before you come to the UK to make sure you'll be able to access your money while you're here.

At the time of writing, we are aware that only Bank of China and Barclays are able to offer current accounts to students staying in the UK for less than six months.

### Further information

Barclays  
[www.barclays.co.uk](http://www.barclays.co.uk)

Bank of China (UK) Ltd  
[www.bankofchina.com/uk](http://www.bankofchina.com/uk)

UK banks and Building Societies  
[www.bankofengland.co.uk](http://www.bankofengland.co.uk)

[www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/finances/a-z/banking](http://www.studentsupport.manchester.ac.uk/finances/a-z/banking)

## Types of Bank Cards

### Debit cards

If your account comes with a Visa Debit or Maestro card, this can be used to pay instead of cash in most shops and online. Solo cards work in the same way but are not as widely accepted. As long as you have sufficient funds, the money is transferred directly from your account.

### Credit cards

If you use a credit card the money is not automatically debited from your account; instead you receive a bill at the end of the month to cover what you have spent. If you have a Visa or MasterCard credit card from your own country, you will be able to use it at most shops and restaurants in the UK, and online.

You are only likely to be able to get a UK credit card if you will be staying in the country for at least 12 months. Ensure you read the terms and conditions carefully before using a credit card as there can be very high interest rates if you do not pay your bills in full each month.

### Store cards

Many department stores and some clothing shops offer a store card. Store cards usually work like credit cards but offer you special discounts in the store, but often have very high interest rates.

# healthcare services

**Emergency treatment is free of charge to everyone in the UK. Free healthcare is available on the UK's National Health Service (NHS) to all students studying in the UK for longer than six months, as well as students from EU countries and countries with reciprocal health agreements.**

If you are not eligible for free NHS healthcare you should take out private medical insurance. If you already have medical insurance in your home country, you may be able to extend it to cover your stay in the UK.

## **Registering with a GP (doctor)**

If you are entitled to NHS treatment you will be able to use most GP services free of charge, as well as having access to free emergency and non-emergency treatment in hospitals.

There will be opportunities to register with a GP on campus during Welcome. Alternatively you can search for a local GP online at [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) and then visit your chosen practice with proof of your address in Manchester to register.

GP surgeries provide a range of services by appointment, including medical advice, examinations, vaccinations and prescriptions. If you are issued with a prescription, you will need to redeem it from a pharmacy or chemist, for a fixed charge.

**If you are from the EU, you will need to obtain a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) before you come to Manchester. You'll need to bring it to doctors appointments to prove you're entitled to free NHS healthcare.**

## **Accessing other healthcare services**

### **NHS 111**

You should use the NHS 111 service if you urgently need medical help or advice but it's not a life-threatening situation. Free to call from a mobile and landline, it is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### **Pharmacist (Chemist)**

Your local pharmacist can give you advice on common illnesses and the medicines you need to treat them. They are highly trained healthcare professionals and most now have private consultation spaces.

### **999 and Accident and Emergency**

Accident and Emergency (A&E) hospital departments provide immediate emergency care for people with symptoms of serious illness or who are badly injured.

Although there are times when you might need emergency care, most of the time one of the other services mentioned will be able to help. Accident and Emergency departments and 999 should only be used in very serious or life-threatening situations.

### **Dental health**

You will need to register with a dentist separately. There is a charge for all adult dental treatment in the UK but if you are eligible for NHS healthcare you can register with an NHS dentist for subsidised treatment.

### **Opticians**

There are many opticians (optometrists) in Manchester where you can book an appointment whenever required. You do not need to register with a particular optician.

There is generally a charge for eye tests as well as glasses and contact lenses.

### **Further information**

NHS services  
[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

Disability Advisory and Support Service  
[www.manchester.ac.uk/dass](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/dass)

# Cara

Ireland

"Manchester is definitely grey and rainy sometimes, but when it's sunny everyone's really happy and they definitely make the most of it!"

# directory

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# support

## Careers Service

[www.manchester.ac.uk/careers](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/careers)

The Atrium, 1st floor, University Place (map 37)

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm

tel +44 (0)161 275 2829

email [careers.info@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:careers.info@manchester.ac.uk)

Provides personal appointments with careers consultants, job application checking, practice interviews, daily drop-in appointments and CV checking. Their helpful website advertises job opportunities and has a dedicated area for international students featuring events, webinars and overseas networks.

 yourcareersservice

 @ManUniCareers

## Student Services Centre

[www.manchester.ac.uk/studentsservicescentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/studentsservicescentre)

Student Services Centre, Burlington Street (Map 57)

North campus: Barnes Wallis Student Hub (Map 9)

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm (Tuesday, 10am-5pm)

tel +44 (0)161 275 5000

email [ssc@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:ssc@manchester.ac.uk)

A central point for all students to access information and services on practical administration of university life, including exams, certificates, transcripts, funding, fees payment and registration.

 @studentservicescentre

## Student Support and Advice

[www.manchester.ac.uk/ssa](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/ssa)

The Atrium, 1st floor, University Place (map 37)

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm in term time

tel +44 (0)161 275 3033

email [studentsupport@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:studentsupport@manchester.ac.uk)

Offering support and advice on issues relating to your studies, money, health and wellbeing, with signposting and referral to more specialist services. If you're not sure where to go, it's a good place to start.

 UoMSupport

 @UoM\_Support

## Students' Union Advice Service

[www.manchesterstudentsunion.com/advice-service](http://www.manchesterstudentsunion.com/advice-service)

Steve Biko Building (map 68)

Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm

tel +44 (0)161 275 2952

email [advice.su@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:advice.su@manchester.ac.uk)

A free, confidential and impartial service, which is independent from the University, offering advice on personal and academic issues, including specialist financial advice and support at University hearings. You can book an appointment in advance, or just drop-in.

 ManchesterSU

 @ManchesterSU

## Counselling Service

[www.manchester.ac.uk/counselling](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/counselling)

5th floor, Crawford House (map 31)

Monday- Friday, 9am-4pm

tel +44 (0)161 275 2864

email [counsellingservice@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:counsellingservice@manchester.ac.uk)

Offers free, individual and confidential help regarding your personal wellbeing or ability to study. Group support is also available, covering anxiety, exam stress, productivity, confidence and assertiveness.

## Disability Advisory and Support Service (DASS)

[www.manchester.ac.uk/dass](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/dass)

2nd floor, University Place (map 37)

tel +44 (0)161 275 7512

email [dass@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:dass@manchester.ac.uk)

Support for disabled students and staff at the University, including those with specific learning difficulties (such as dyslexia), mental health difficulties and medical conditions such as diabetes and epilepsy.

 @UoMDASS



"There are many support services here on campus. Having a peer mentor, who is in my course but older, has helped a lot because she can give me advice on my classes. Also teachers are more than willing to help students. Office hours with teachers have helped me clarify ideas studied in class, and allowed me to do better on my essays and reports."

LILY

## Student Immigration Team

Student Services Centre, Burlington Street

(map 57)

tel +44 (0)161 275 5000

email [visa@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:visa@manchester.ac.uk)

Dedicated advice and guidance for all international students on any immigration issues you or your family may have, including how to extend your visa, inviting visitors to the UK, and what to do if you lose your passport or visa.

# learning resources

## IT services

[www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices)

You can access IT support online, by phone, or at the walk-up service desks located in the Main Library, Joule Library, Alan Gilbert Learning Commons or the Kilburn Building. Telephone support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

🐦 @UoM\_ITS

## Alan Gilbert Learning Commons

Oxford Road (map 63)

[www.manchester.ac.uk/library](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library)

This modern study space is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and offers an inspiring environment in which to learn, socialise and relax. The UK's first digital library, it provides multimedia and IT facilities, as well as flexible learning spaces for group and independent study.

## The University of Manchester Library

[www.manchester.ac.uk/library](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/library)

Burlington Street (map 55)

The Main Library gives you access to one of the largest collections of electronic resources in the UK, more than four million printed books and manuscripts, and hundreds of online databases. There are also subject-specific libraries located across campus as well as group study rooms, social spaces, laptop zones, areas for independent study and quiet zones.

📘 UoMLibrary

🐦 @UoMLibrary

📷 UoMLibrary

## University Language Centre

[www.manchester.ac.uk/languagecentre](http://www.manchester.ac.uk/languagecentre)

Offering free English support classes, including academic writing, academic speaking and listening, pronunciation and grammar. The University Language Centre is also a regional IELTS test centre, and offers courses in a variety of other languages.

# social and wellbeing

## The University of Manchester Students' Union

[www.manchesterstudentsunion.com](http://www.manchesterstudentsunion.com)

Steve Biko Building, Oxford Road (map 68)

tel +44 (0)161 275 2930

email [info.su@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:info.su@manchester.ac.uk)

Manchester has the UK's largest Students' Union, run by an elected team of students who work to implement ideas, run campaigns and ensure your voices are heard. It's home to the University's student newspaper and radio station, as well as more than 480 societies. There's also a cafe, a shop, and the Union Bar, as well as the iconic Manchester Academy gig venues.

📘 ManchesterSU

🐦 @ManchesterSU

## International Society

[www.internationalsociety.org.uk](http://www.internationalsociety.org.uk)

William Kay House,

327 Oxford Road (map 69)

tel +44 (0)161 275 4959

email [info@internationalsociety.org.uk](mailto:info@internationalsociety.org.uk)

A thriving centre for international students with over 7000 members from more than 150 countries, the International Society runs a varied programme of social and cultural activities from across the world, and has a great cafe with an international menu.

📘 theinternationalsociety

🐦 @theintsoc

## Sport and wellbeing

[www.sport.manchester.ac.uk](http://www.sport.manchester.ac.uk)

William Kay House, 333 Oxford Road (map 69)

tel +44 (0)161 275 4962

You'll have the opportunity to join more than 40 Athletic Union clubs at all levels, play in numerous recreational sports programmes or take part in a wide range of free entry level activities through Sporticipate. If you're in University accommodation, you can access free sport and activity on your doorstep through our Hall Sport initiative. There's also health, fitness and wellbeing programmes, and discounted gym memberships for students at our campus-based fitness centres.

📘 sport.manchester

🐦 @SportManchester

# campus map

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Sackville Street Building                                      | 53 Roscoe Building                              |
| 6 Echoes Day Nursery   | 54 Schuster Building                            |
| 7 James Lighthill Building (formerly Paper Science)              | 55 Main Library                                 |
| 8 Renold Building  | 57 Student Services Centre                      |
| 9 Barnes Wallis Building / Student Hub / Wright Robinson Hall    | 58 Christie Building                            |
| 11 The Manchester Conference Centre /Weston Hall                 | 59 Simon Building                               |
| 12 Pariser Building  | 60 Zochonis Building                            |
| 13 Manchester Meeting Place                                      | 61 Chemistry Building                           |
| 14 The Mill  | 62 Dryden Street Nursery                        |
| 15 Morton Laboratory   | 63 Alan Gilbert Learning Commons                |
| 16 Manchester Institute of Biotechnology (John Garside Building) | 64 Environmental Services Unit                  |
| 17 George Begg Building  | 65 Mansfield Cooper Building                    |
| 20 Ferranti Building   | 66 Stephen Joseph Studio                        |
| 21 MSS Tower   | 67 Samuel Alexander Building                    |
| 22 Sugden Sports Centre  | 68 Students' Union Oxford Road                  |
| 23 Oddfellows Hall   | 69 William Kay House                            |
| 26 Alliance Manchester Business School East                      | 70 Dover Street Building                        |
| 29 Harold Hankins Building                                       | 71 Michael Smith Building                       |
| 31 Crawford House  | 73 Avila House RC Chaplaincy                    |
| 32 St Peter's House / Chaplaincy                                 | 74 Holy Name Church                             |
| 33 Crawford House Lecture Theatres                               | 75 AV Hill Building                             |
| 34 Prospect House  | 76 AQA  |
| 35 Humanities Bridgeford Street                                  | 77 Ellen Wilkinson Building                     |
| 36 Arthur Lewis Building   | 78 The Academy                                  |
| 37 University Place  | 79 Stopford Building                            |
| 38 Waterloo Place  | 80 Horniman House                               |
| 39 Kilburn Building  | 81 The Manchester Incubator Building            |
| 40 Information Technology Building                               | 82 Whitworth Park                               |
| 41 Dental Hospital   | 83 Grove House                                  |
| 42 Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama                      | 84 The Whitworth                                |
| 43 Coupland Building 1   | 85 Opal Hall                                    |
| 44 Manchester Museum   | 86 Core Technology Facility                     |
| 45 Rutherford Building   | 87 Denmark Building                             |
| 48 John Owens Building   | 88 Carys Bannister Building                     |
| 49 Beyer Building  | 89 James Chadwick Building                      |
| 50 Whitworth Hall  | 90 National Graphene Institute                  |
| 51 Whitworth Building  | 91 McDougall Centre                             |
| 52 Williamson Building   | 92 Jean McFarlane Building                      |
|  | 93 George Kenyon Building and Hall of Residence |
|  | 95 JR Moore Building                            |
|  | 100 Denmark Road Hall                           |
|  | 121 Victoria Hall                               |
|  | 122 Liberty Point Hall                          |



## key

- Campus buildings
- University residences
- Under construction
- i Student information
- P Principal car parks
- PC PC clusters
- v Defibrillators
- L 147 bus link
- ∞ Bollards
- |— Automatic / electrical barrier
- |— Manual barrier

**New traffic priorities**

Please note: Only buses, hackney carriages, emergency vehicles and cyclists are able to travel along Oxford Road between 6am and 9pm, 7 days-a-week. The restriction will affect general traffic between Hathersage Road and Grosvenor Street. This means that general traffic heading into the city from Wilmslow Road must now turn right into Hathersage Road and continue onto the adjacent Upper Brook Street. Please be sure to plan your journey before setting off by visiting the Transport for Greater Manchester website at [www.tfgm.com/oxfordroad](http://www.tfgm.com/oxfordroad).

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