Independent Student Meet-up's

We will be resuming our Independent Student Meet-up’s in October, and going forward we hope to have these on campus so that we can finally enjoy some cake together!

If you are a new student and are not sure what this is, each month we hold a monthly meet-up for all care experienced and estranged students at the University. It is an informal event and a chance to meet new people in an informal, supportive and friendly environment.

Wellbeing corner

Check out these...

Looking after yourself at start of year:
bit.ly/UoMstartofyear

Connect:
bit.ly/UoM6waysconnect

Rees Foundation - Celebrating Everyday People

The Rees Foundation support care experienced people of all ages, and understand the importance of a lifelong support network. As part of National Care Leavers Week, they are inviting care experienced students to come along to the Milk and Honey café on Oxford Road for lunch on Friday 29th October.

If you would like to come along, you also have the option of taking part in their 'Celebrating Everyday People' campaign where you would pose for a photo holding a banner with a message of your great achievements. There is absolutely no pressure to do this, and if you want to come along for just the lunch that is absolutely fine as well. If you're interested, let us know on studentsupport@manchester.ac.uk and we will send over more details.

Hannah & Ailsa
**£1000 Natwest Bursary Award for five first year students**

If you are a first year care experienced or estranged student, we’re inviting you to apply for the NatWest Group Bursary Award, where 5 UoM students will receive £1000! Students who are successful will receive two payment instalments during this academic year. This is an exciting opportunity to get some extra funding whilst boosting your CV and employability skills with a top graduate employer. You’ll need to complete a short application to apply and answer these three questions:

1. What excites you about this opportunity and what would you like to gain from it?
2. How do you plan to use the money from the Award?
3. What impact do you think you could make within your network as an Ambassador for the Award?

Successful recipients will join 3 developmental sessions via Zoom in January 2022. These sessions are designed to support development and to champion your potential, and you’ll be joined by Early Career recruitment experts and graduates currently on the NatWest Group Graduate Programme. On completion of these sessions, you’d receive the final £500. Here’s what you can expect at each session:

- **Employability Webinar:** Wednesday 12th January Discover handy tips to kickstart your job searching
- **Application Workshop:** Tuesday 18th January Demystify how to do well at assessment centres and video interviews
- **‘Day In The Life Of’ Panel Event:** Thursday 20th January Dive deeper into what it’s actually like working at NatWest Group

Applications are open now, and you can apply via the link in the attached email. Any questions just send an email on studentsupport@manchester.ac.uk.

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**NatWest Early Career Events**

Another great opportunity from NatWest! You may be thinking that now is very early to be thinking about careers and you just want to concentrate on the start of year... and we don’t blame you, but it is always good to have careers in mind and these early career events from NatWest sound too good to miss!

They are running a number of sessions aimed at helping students from diverse backgrounds, and these start from Tuesday 21st September. Topics include stories of diversity & inclusion, digital confidence and purpose and wellbeing at NatWest. If you’re interested in a career with a company like NatWest or similar, you can check these out at [https://jobs.natwestgroup.com/pages/early-career-events](https://jobs.natwestgroup.com/pages/early-career-events)

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**Manchester Rising Stars Fund**

UoM have recently partnered up with the Manchester Rising Stars Fund (MRSF). This is in the early stages and we hope to send you further details soon, but we wanted to flag this up now in case you think this might be something of interest to you.

MRSF welcome requests for grants to purchase equipment, to fund courses and accreditations, and to support other costs relating to moving into employment, training or entrepreneurship. If you would like to find out more about potentially making an application, get in touch with us at studentsupport@manchester.ac.uk

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**Stand Alone Online Support Groups**

Stand Alone are a charity that support estranged people. Every month they run a range of online support groups and workshops that you can join.

Their next workshop for estranged adult children will be on Sunday 26th September and you can head here to sign up: [www.eventbrite.com/e/digital-community-workshop-estranged-adult-children-tickets-161765381611](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/digital-community-workshop-estranged-adult-children-tickets-161765381611)

You could also head to standalone.org.uk to find out more about what they do and how you might benefit from their work.

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**COMING UP...**

- **28th September:** BECOME weekly link up
- **29th September:** Access Bank of America Disability Action Network (Check out on Career Connect)
- **8th October:** Managing Acute and Ongoing Stress (Counselling Service)