

MANCHESTER  
1824

The University of Manchester

**GET READY  
FOR MANCHESTER**

A Russell Group university



# THIS IS YOUR FUTURE



**Tim Pickin**  
BA History graduate, 2022



**I can't wait for you experience life  
at Manchester.**

When I moved here to study at The University of Manchester four years ago, I was blown away by how quickly I fell in love with it all.

Through joining societies, starting my studies and experiencing the sheer dynamism of both the city and the University, I found friends and a community that made Manchester feel like home.





**We are number one in Europe and second in the world for social and environmental impact (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2023)**

That's not to say I wasn't nervous about coming – I had a few worries and there was plenty I didn't know before arriving. This guide has been made to help you get ready for Manchester so that when you arrive, you'll soon settle in. Everything you need to know is here in one place, but we'll also be adding more content and information to our Get Ready webpages, so be sure to check them out.

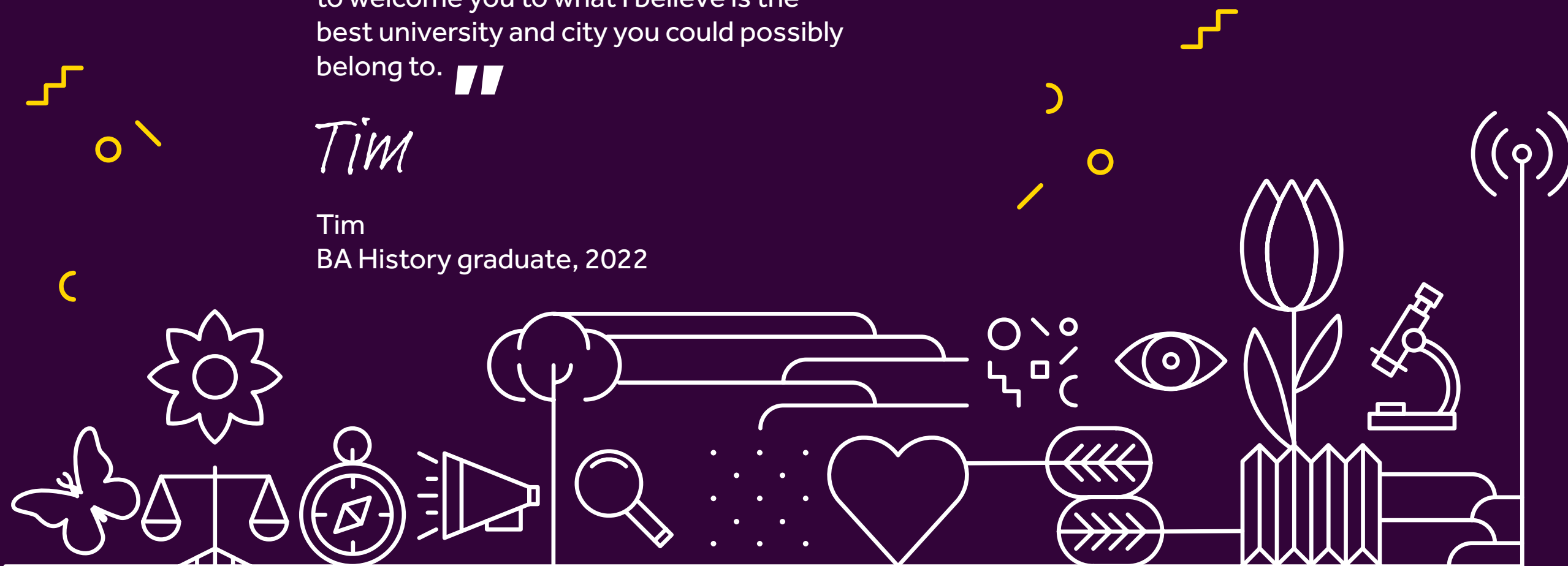
Have a read of this guide and you can start to get the essentials ticked off. I can't wait to welcome you to what I believe is the best university and city you could possibly belong to. //

*Tim*

Tim  
BA History graduate, 2022

**Get ready to make your mark at Manchester.**

[uom.link/get-ready](https://uom.link/get-ready)





# ***WHAT'S IN THIS GUIDE?***

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# ARRIVAL, WELCOME AND INDUCTION



To kick off your time at Manchester, we're organising an extensive programme of Welcome events – all with the goal of helping you settle in, make new friends and get fully prepared to start your course.

## Key documents to remember

There are a few important things you'll need to bring with you, especially if you're coming from abroad.

Passport

Visa (if applicable)

Accommodation  
licence agreement

Record of any vaccinations  
you've had (if applicable)

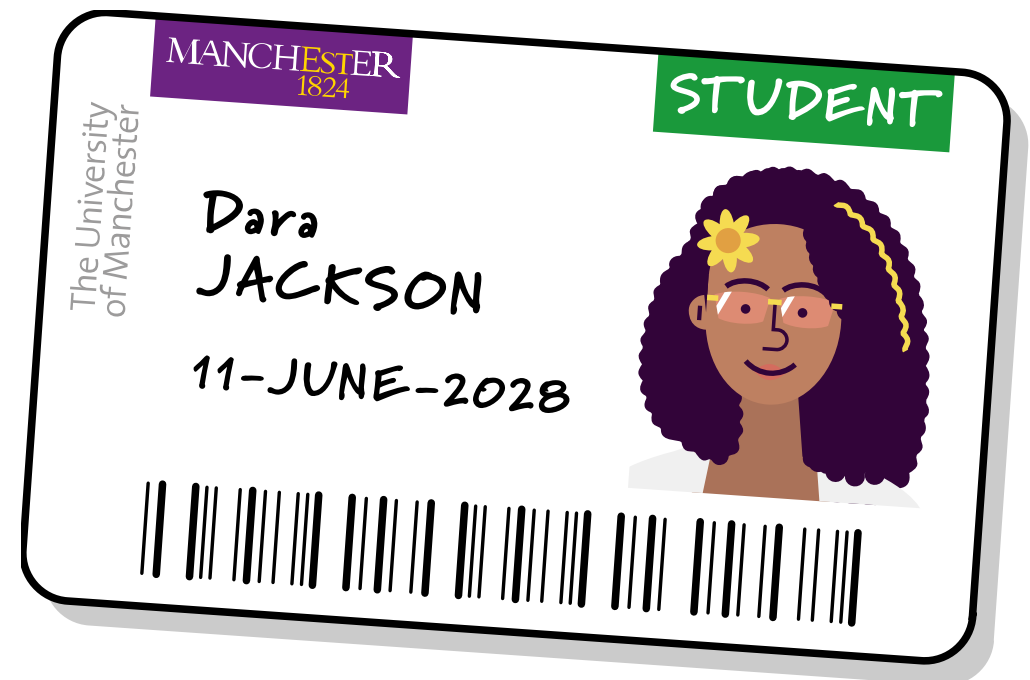
University acceptance letter

# IT AND COLLECTING YOUR STUDENT CARD



**Getting your University email address, IT access and student ID are key steps for starting your studies.**

- You'll be sent details for setting up your IT account via your email address during the admissions process.
- In early September you'll receive an email instructing you to complete your registration. You must have completed the IT sign-up process in order to do this.
- Once you've arrived and completed your student registration, you'll be invited to collect your student card.
- Your student card is your student ID. It gives you access to areas of campus such as the Library, and gets you student discounts in a range of shops and restaurants.





### **Welcome and induction**

Our induction takes place over two weeks, beginning online on Monday, 11 September, with in-person events starting on Monday, 18 September. There will be several Welcome events hosted by the University, the Students' Union and the ResLife teams for residents in halls.

You'll have plenty of opportunities to get involved in a range of activities that will help you get to know the University and connect with people who share your interests.

### **Teaching and learning at Manchester**

Students at The University of Manchester are part of a dynamic and inclusive community of learners. Much of your time will be spent on campus, working with teaching staff and your peers in seminars, labs and lectures. You'll also have continuous online access to content and materials to enhance and support your learning.

Much of your learning will take place in real-time, where you'll be interacting with teaching staff and other students in a room on campus, or online. At other times you'll be working through materials at your own pace, following a framework provided by your programme and supported by appropriate tools for your learning.

This blended approach allows you to engage with some of your learning at a time and place that works best for you. The exact mix of activities and how they'll be delivered (on-campus or online) will depend on what works for each subject area. You'll receive further information about what your course will look like from your local programme team.

**[uom.link/get-ready-blended-learning](https://uom.link/get-ready-blended-learning)**



# TRAVEL AND VISAS



Understand  
visa requirements

Wherever you're coming from, we're looking forward to welcoming you to Manchester, and are here to support you.

[uom.link/get-ready-travel](https://uom.link/get-ready-travel)

## Visas

Those who need to apply for a visa to study with us must have a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) issued by The University of Manchester.

When you are applying for a visa, we strongly recommend you choose the University as the place where you will pick up your BRP card, using the collection code 2HE372.

Check our latest guidance on immigration and visas:

[uom.link/get-ready-visas](https://uom.link/get-ready-visas)



If your course requires an ATAS certificate, this must be obtained before applying for a visa. More information can be found online:

[uom.link/get-ready-atas](https://uom.link/get-ready-atas)

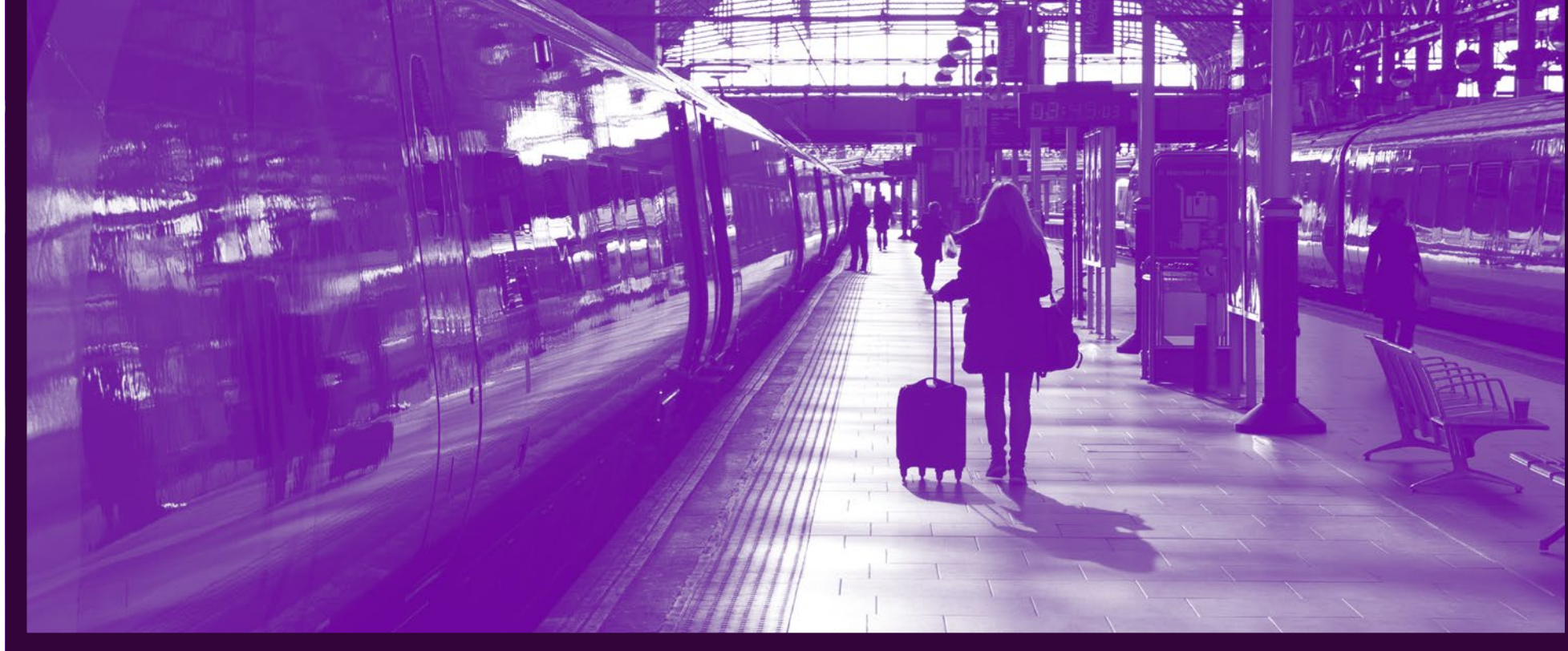


BRP  
collection code  
**2HE372**





Watch our student life  
TikTok playlists



## Getting to Manchester

Whether you're arriving by air, rail or road,  
check our website for our latest advice  
and guidance.

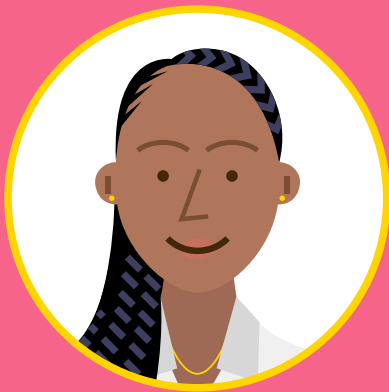
[uom.link/get-ready-getting-to-manchester](https://uom.link/get-ready-getting-to-manchester)

Please check the latest UK government entry  
requirements before travelling.

[www.gov.uk/uk-border-control](https://www.gov.uk/uk-border-control)

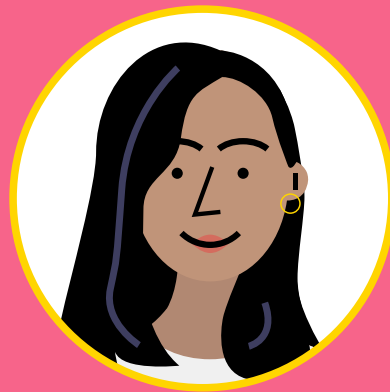


# TOP TIPS ABOUT COMING TO MANCHESTER



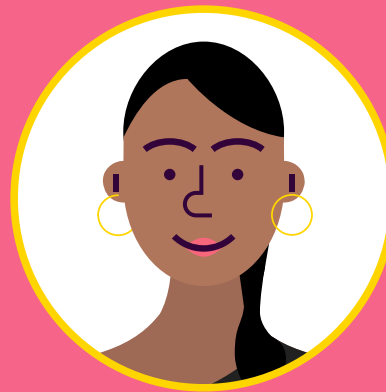
**Khadijat**

"You can make friends before you start university. I joined the African-Caribbean Society through their Instagram. The people you meet might not be your best friends in the end but at least you feel more comfortable".



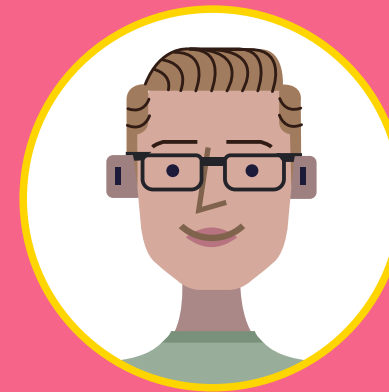
**Maansi**

"When I was coming here, I thought 'I need to bring everything!'. Actually, everything is available here – clothes, cutlery, everything A-Z. So, you don't have to get every little thing."



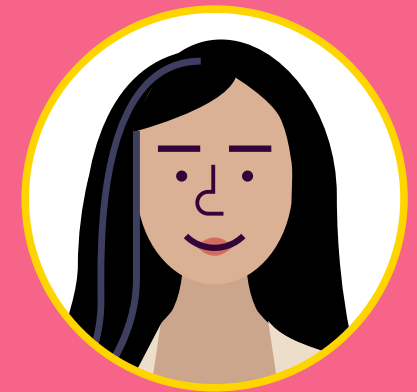
**Georgia**

"As soon as my Mum and Dad dropped me off, I went on a walk. I like to know my surroundings and to know where everything is, so I went on loads of walks in my first few weeks."



**Aidan**

"I ride my bike every day to campus. I was in Victoria Park in first year and that meant I could get in in five minutes! I can't recommend cycling enough."



**Irene**

"There can be four seasons in one day here...always bring an umbrella!"

**Listen to our podcasts**





# ***KEEPING YOU SAFE***



**You'll be fully briefed on health and safety as part of your Welcome and induction activities, but in the meantime, explore how we're ensuring our campus is a safe and healthy environment for your studies.**

[uom.link/get-ready-health-safety](https://uom.link/get-ready-health-safety)





### **Campus Support and Security**

## **Safety on and off campus**

The city of Manchester is generally safe, but as in any large city, you should take precautions. We recommend students visit our Student Support site for tips on keeping safe in the city.

You can call our Campus Support and Security team 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Their phone number is on the back of your student ID card.

We also encourage you to download the SafeZone app, which allows you to contact the closest university security team for help in the areas of Fallowfield, The University of Manchester campus, Manchester Metropolitan University campus and University of Salford campus.

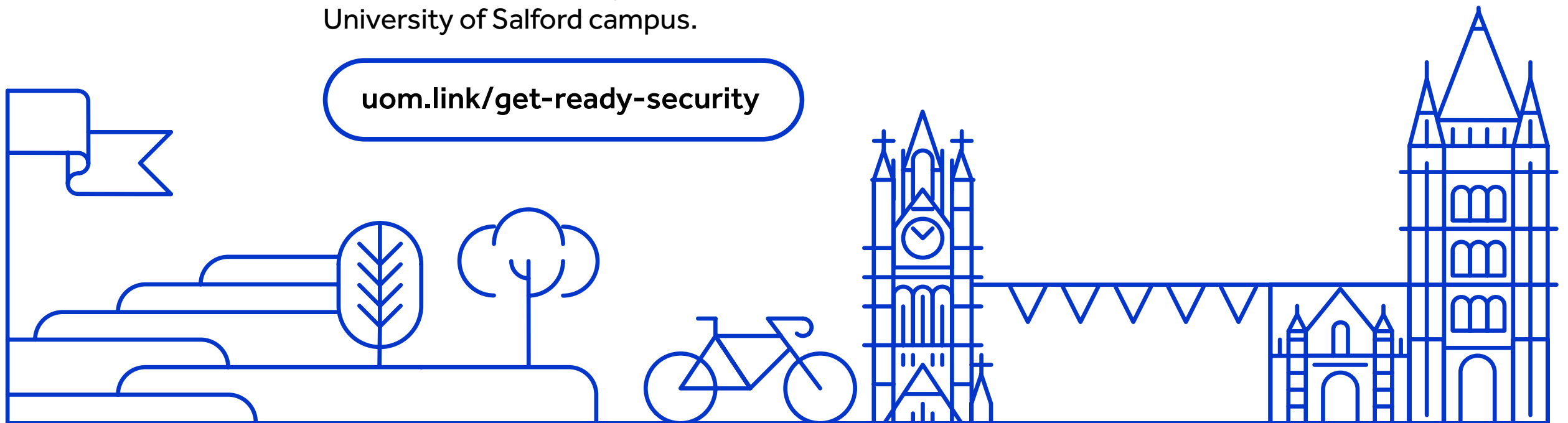
[uom.link/get-ready-security](https://uom.link/get-ready-security)

## **Avoid scams**

You should only use approved methods to pay your fees to The University of Manchester, and remain vigilant of scams that offer to pay fees on your behalf at a discounted rate.

If you have any questions or are concerned you have been the victim of this type of fraud, please contact the University's Student Support Centre.

[uom.link/get-ready-money-tips](https://uom.link/get-ready-money-tips)



# HEALTHCARE



**While studying with us, if you have an illness or injury that won't go away then it's best to make an appointment with your general practitioner (GP).**

All students should register with a GP so that, if you ever need one, you can book an appointment. A GP:

- provides primary and continuing medical care in the community;
- refers patients to hospital clinics for further assessment or treatment;
- may run specialist clinics within the practice for patients with specific conditions.

They provide a range of services by appointment, including:

- medical advice;
- examinations;
- vaccinations;
- prescriptions;
- access to other NHS services such as non-emergency medicine.

## Vaccinations

We strongly recommend you're vaccinated against the following before coming to university:

- Measles
- Mumps and Rubella (MMR)
- Meningitis ACWY

If you're from the UK, you'll have probably had these immunisations – but it's worth asking your GP to check your health records.

If you're coming from outside the UK, it's important to make sure you get these vaccinations before you leave. If you are unable to do so, you can get them from your GP (local doctor) once you arrive.

Depending on where you are from, you may also need a certificate to prove you are free from infectious tuberculosis (TB) as part of your visa application.

Our on-campus University GP Service is in Crawford House and you can register without knowing your term-time address.



**Check vaccinations are up to date**



**Register with a GP**

To register for a local off-campus GP, use the NHS' 'Find a GP' tool. You'll need to know your term-time address.

[uom.link/get-ready-health-safety](https://uom.link/get-ready-health-safety)

## Mental health support

If you have previously been diagnosed with a mental health condition, please let us know. It will not affect your application but will allow us to signpost you to our support and wellbeing services should you need them during your time with us.





## **EEA and Switzerland (with settled/pre-settled status):**

Treatment is available for free on the NHS to all students from the EU/EEA and Switzerland who are studying in the UK for six months or longer and who have successfully applied for settled/pre-settled status.

## **International (except EEA with settled/pre-settled status):**

If you are studying on a student visa, as part of your visa application you'll pay an immigration health surcharge which will give you access to NHS treatment.

Citizens of Australia and New Zealand are exempt from paying the immigration health surcharge.

If you're not eligible for free NHS treatment, you should take out private medical insurance.



# ACCOMMODATION



Find out what  
moving day is like

**Whether you're looking to get a room in one of our residential halls, a private rental, or plan to continue living at home while you study, explore the available options and what you should do next.**

[uom.link/get-ready-accommodation](https://uom.link/get-ready-accommodation)

## **Accommodation guarantee**

All new students coming to Manchester will qualify for an offer of a room in university halls. Find out more:

[uom.link/get-ready-guarantee](https://uom.link/get-ready-guarantee)





**Take our accommodation quiz to see which halls best suit you**

## University accommodation

The University's range of accommodation means we've got something for all tastes and budgets.

You can apply for University accommodation by completing an online application. Applying is free, but if you wish to accept an offer of accommodation you'll need to make an Advance Licence Fee Payment of £400 to secure your room. You'll need an email address to complete the application and a valid student ID number, which will be on your offer letter.

With our accommodation guarantee you can apply for a place in halls with the reassurance that your Advance Licence Fee Payment is fully refundable should you be unable to take up your offer to study at Manchester.

[uom.link/get-ready-uni-halls](https://uom.link/get-ready-uni-halls)

## Private accommodation

There are also options for private accommodation across the city.

Manchester Student Homes can provide details of privately rented properties, independent housing advice and a free contract checking service.

[uom.link/get-ready-private](https://uom.link/get-ready-private)

## Living at home

Many students choose to live at home while studying at Manchester.

The Students' Union runs tailored support services if you're living at home to make sure you get the same opportunities to socialise with other students and, ultimately, as much out of university life as those living on campus.

[uom.link/get-ready-home](https://uom.link/get-ready-home)



# MONEY



**From setting up personal banking and getting budget-savvy to paying your tuition fees and finding scholarship information, we're here to help.**

[uom.link/get-ready-money](https://uom.link/get-ready-money)

## **Tuition fees**

All university students in the UK are required to pay tuition fees. Your offer letter from the University will state how much you need to pay.

If you have a UK bank account, you can pay your fees in instalments. You'll start to pay your fees during the registration process at the beginning of the year.

## **Financial support**

There's lots of financial support available to help while you're studying. Find out more online.

[uom.link/get-ready-finance](https://uom.link/get-ready-finance)

Need advice on managing your money? We've pulled together resources on how best to manage your financial wellbeing.

[uom.link/get-ready-budgeting](https://uom.link/get-ready-budgeting)



## Setting up a bank account

### UK students

It's worth setting up a student bank account – they offer a wider range of services than current accounts, so it's important to consider your options. A main benefit of student bank accounts is an interest-free overdraft, which can be very handy during your studies.

### International students

If you want to pay your tuition fees or University accommodation fees in instalments by Direct Debit, you'll need to set up a UK bank account.

It's also more convenient to have a UK bank account, as you can avoid transactional or currency conversion charges incurred through using a foreign bank card.

More information about setting up a UK bank account can be found on our finance pages.

[uom.link/get-ready-banking](https://uom.link/get-ready-banking)





**Watch our students  
discussing their finances  
at university**

## **Cost of living and budgeting**

Manchester is consistently shown to be one of the cheapest places for students to live, however the UK is currently in a cost-of-living crisis, meaning things are generally more expensive.

We offer a range of initiatives and support services to help you through this period. A few examples are:

- Cost of Living Support Fund for those who need it the most;
- Free counselling, mental health and wellbeing support through our on-site Wellbeing Advisors;
- Students' Union Emergency Loan;
- Regular free food events, cheap eat options across University and Students' Union food outlets, and a Community Fridge on campus;

- 20% discount on Food on Campus for students who use Food In Advance;
- Free period products in 100 toilets;
- Part-time job support;
- Work experience bursaries;
- Free furniture from our on-site store.

[uom.link/get-ready-cost-of-living](https://uom.link/get-ready-cost-of-living)







## Budgeting tips

- Choose supermarket own-brand groceries
- Take a pre-made lunch to avoid overspending each day
- Never go grocery shopping when you're hungry
- Consider a bus pass to save on individual fares
- Make a budget plan
- Get your hair cut at the Students' Union for £6
- Talk to our Careers Service about paid part-time and casual work options
- Visit charity shops
- Boost your income – consider selling on Vinted or completing online surveys

You can find more information on estimated living costs at:

[uom.link/get-ready-living-costs](https://uom.link/get-ready-living-costs)



# ***WELLBEING AND STUDENT SUPPORT***



**Looking after you is our key priority and your wellbeing will be central to your experience at Manchester. Our six ways to wellbeing will support you to feel good and live well throughout your studies.**



**Listen to three students  
talk about wellbeing on our  
podcast channel**

We also have a comprehensive range of support services to help you with anything from employability and finances to counselling and study support. Check these out online.

**[uom.link/get-ready-support](https://uom.link/get-ready-support)**



“

**The University's framework for wellbeing encourages everyone to take care of themselves. When I was a wellbeing champion, we held yoga afternoons outside and smoothie-making competitions. It was great because you met like-minded people.**

”

Nancy McDonald  
Alumna BSc Psychology



**Our six ways to wellbeing are:  
Connect,  
Give, Take Notice,  
Be Active, Be Healthy,  
Learn and Discover.**



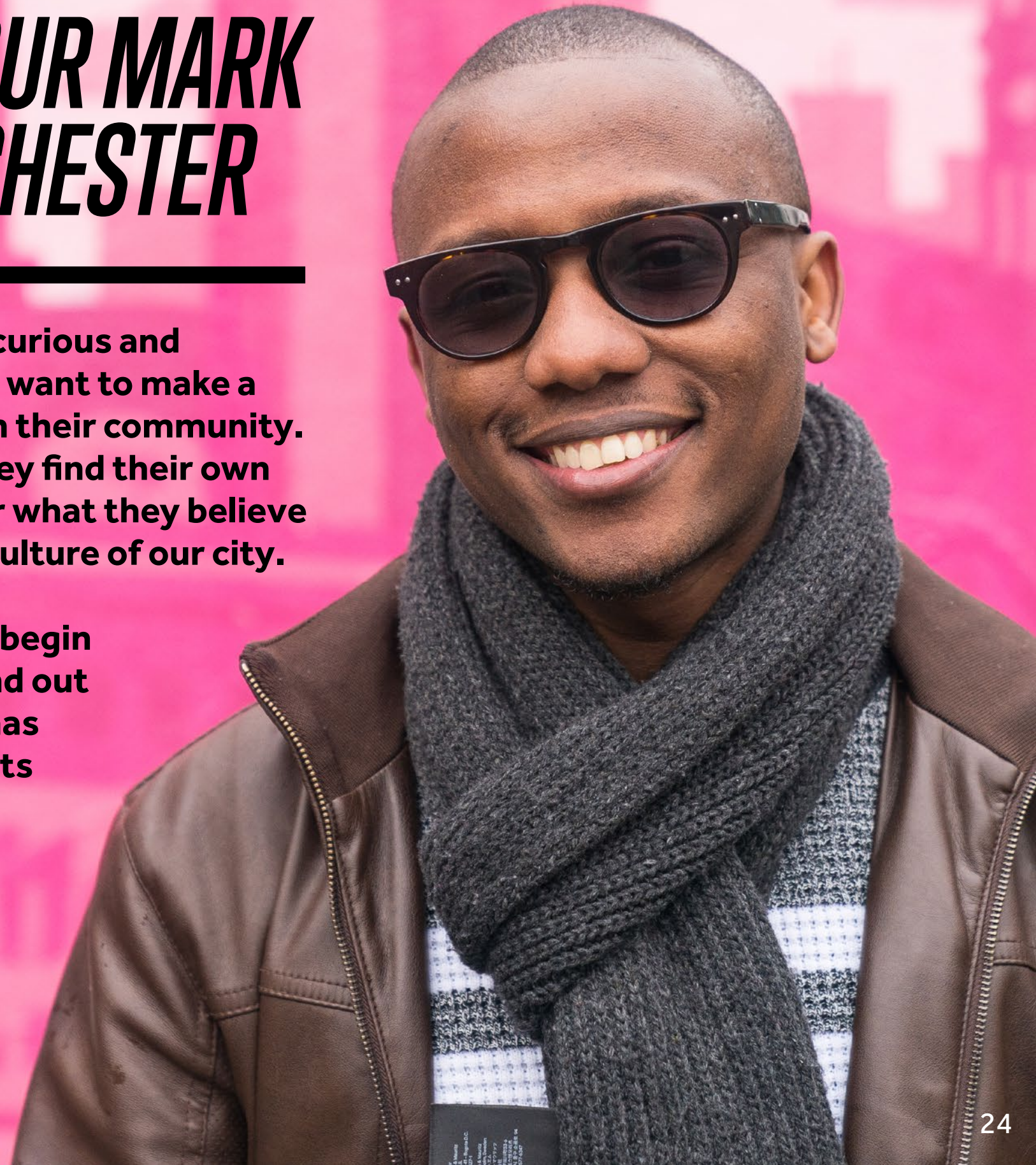


# ***MAKE YOUR MARK AT MANCHESTER***

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**Our students are curious and creative, and they want to make a positive impact on their community. At Manchester, they find their own voice, stand up for what they believe in and enrich the culture of our city.**

**As you prepare to begin your time here, find out how Manchester has helped our students make their mark.**





“

**Manchester is a place that enabled me to reach the ultimate goal: a balanced life, with time for studying, relationships, relaxation and fun, as well as the resilience to hold up under pressure and meet challenges head-on. A place that I am now grateful to call home. ”**

Angela Popovska  
MEng Computer Science



“

**Moving to Manchester for university was one of the best decisions I have ever made. The friends I have made here are going to be ones for life. Living in such a vibrant city with so many opportunities has been absolutely amazing.**

”

Teya Fountaine,  
BSc Biomedical Sciences





“

**Manchester is a never-ending hub of activity and full of like-minded people who are involved in amazing things. Manchester's cultural history, connectedness and strong identity make it a truly one-of-a-kind city!**”

Aidan Rhode  
BSc Geography





“

**What I'm most proud of about studying at Manchester is the opportunity it has given me to study alongside scholars and academics with a wealth of different experiences from a range of different backgrounds over a multitude of knowledge.**

”

Alexandra Robinson  
BA English Literature





# ***THINGS YOU CAN DO NOW***



**Why not use your summer to get ready? Talk to a current student, make a to-do list, explore our clubs and societies or think about your goals for the coming year. Now is the time to get excited!**

Apply and confirm accommodation

Check if you need a visa and how to get one

Book your travel

Make sure you have copies of your ID and travel documents

Register with a doctor/GP





Let us know if you've previously been diagnosed with a mental health condition. This will allow us to signpost you to our support and wellbeing services should you need them during your time at Manchester. It's confidential and won't affect your application.

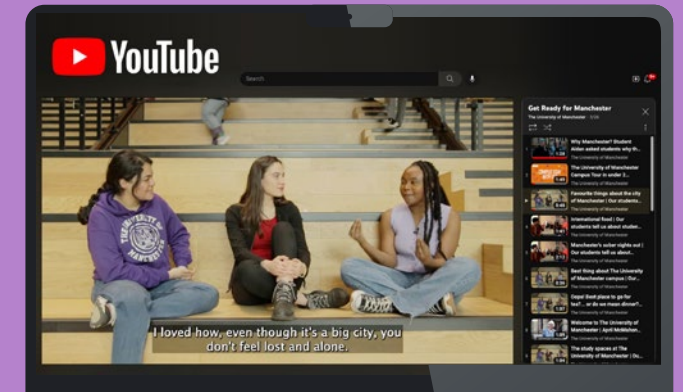
Talk to a current student on Unibuddy and ask any questions you have about student life  
[uom.link/get-ready-unibuddy](https://uom.link/get-ready-unibuddy)

Join us on one of our campus tours to get your bearings for when you arrive  
[uom.link/get-ready-tour](https://uom.link/get-ready-tour)

If you can't visit yet, watch our campus and city virtual tours  
[uom.link/get-ready-virtual-tour](https://uom.link/get-ready-virtual-tour)

Watch one of our webinars to discover more about life at Manchester  
[uom.link/get-ready-webinars](https://uom.link/get-ready-webinars)

Check out the Students' Union and see what it has to offer  
[uom.link/get-ready-su](https://uom.link/get-ready-su)



Research payment options – especially if traveling from abroad. Monzo and Revolut are online options with lower international transaction fees

Follow us

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Listen to the 'Manchester Voices' podcast on Spotify or Apple Music

Watch our 'Get Ready' playlist on YouTube

Watch our 'Your Questions Answered' series where students answer applicants' questions. You can even submit a question through our form

Create a TikTok about how excited you are to join us and tag @OfficialUoM for us to see



# ***THINGS TO BRING***

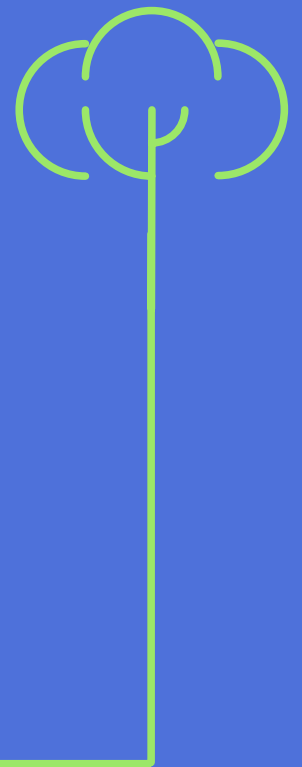
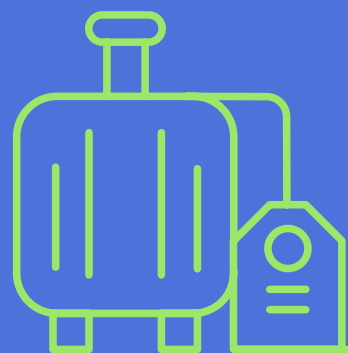
Use our checklist to make sure you have everything you need before heading off. Be sure to check what your halls provide as you won't want to bring extra things if you don't need to.



Also consider your room – there will be storage but not a huge amount, so pack sensibly and remember (for most of you) you'll be moving out again in June.

Packing list:

[uom.link/get-ready-packing](https://uom.link/get-ready-packing)



## IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS



### ID

Student discount cards such as a railcard

Details of accommodation and license agreement

University acceptance letter

## KITCHEN SUPPLIES



Scissors

Tupperware

Oven gloves

Tea towels

Bottle and tin openers

## ELECTRONICS



Chargers

Extension cable

Headphones

USB memory stick

## BEDROOM



Hangers

Laundry basket

Small first-aid kit with plasters, paracetamol and other medicine

## MISCELLANEOUS



Umbrella

Pack of cards

Small sewing kit

A weekend or 'home' bag

A reusable water bottle

All information in this document was correct at the time of publication, but is subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, please check our website.

[uom.link/get-ready](https://uom.link/get-ready)

If you need this information in an alternative format, please email our Study Enquiries Team.

[study@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:study@manchester.ac.uk)

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