Transport

If you are arriving during Welcome Weekend, please check abdn.ac.uk/new-students/when-you-arrive for parking and traffic information.

The bus and train stations are located within Union Square. The taxi rank is by the train station, with fares to King’s College Campus costing about £15 and fares to Hillhead around £25. You can also check stagecoachbus.com and firstgroup.com for the various bus services to University campus and accommodation.

The airport taxi rank and bus stop are located outside the terminal building. Taxi fares to University Accommodation will range from £25-30.

The Jet Bus 727 takes 35 minutes to reach the City Centre. Check stagecoachbus.com for details.

Accommodation

You can collect your keys from the date your contract begins. You cannot move into your accommodation before this date. If you are arriving early please ensure you have made alternative accommodation arrangements.

You can also join your hall’s Facebook group where you can meet your flatmates and chat prior to arriving in Aberdeen.

Visit abdn.ac.uk/accommodation
How to Register

All students are required to register online and should ensure they complete the steps below prior to arrival at the University. If you have any issues, contact infohub@abdn.ac.uk

For all Students

1. **Registration (Before You Arrive)**
eRegistration is designed to confirm your personal, financial and academic details, and enable you to set up your University computer and email account. It must be completed before you pick your courses. You should ensure you take a note of your username and password, as this is used to access your IT account and the wireless network. For more information, visit abdn.ac.uk/infohub/new-students/registration

2. **Photo Upload**
In order to collect your ID card upon arrival, please upload a photo as soon as possible, and no later than 2 weeks before arriving at the University. Remember to check back to see if it has been approved. abdn.ac.uk/photoupload

3. **Choose Your Courses**
After completing eRegistration, please visit abdn.ac.uk/mycurriculum for information about how to choose your courses (note that there is a short processing delay between completing eRegistration and accessing MyCurriculum). Most students will choose their courses online in advance of the start of term: refer to your joining letter for further information.

3a. **Once your course choices are confirmed you will be able to choose your tutorial/lab groups online using MyTimetable; visit abdn.ac.uk/mytimetable/session/login** You can then download a personal timetable (Note that there is a 2 hour processing delay between completing MyCurriculum and accessing MyTimetable).

**For Students Based on Campus**

- **For Undergraduate and Taught Postgraduate Students**

4. **Upon Arrival: ID Card, Fees and Visa Checks for International Students**
For information on how to collect your student ID Card, visit abdn.ac.uk/infohub/new-students/registration-visa-check-id-collection

If you have not yet provided a copy of your sponsorship letter to show who is paying for your tuition fees, registration venues will be available for such queries. Please check the above webpage for details and locations.

4a. **For all Students**

- **Upon Arrival: ID Card, Fees and Visa Checks for International Students**

*You need to do a visa check if you:
• need a visa or residence permit to live in the UK
• have a Tier 4 visa that we sponsor or
• your offer letter shows you as paying overseas fees.

5. **For all Students**

- **Academic Induction and Course Information**
All students should attend their school induction session, if applicable. Information on where these induction sessions take place can be found online at abdn.ac.uk/newstudents or by visiting your school notice board. Here you will get information about courses. Information can also be found on MyAberdeen, the University Virtual Learning Environment.

- **Research postgraduate students should make contact with their Supervisor prior to arrival at the University and meet with them shortly after arriving.**

- **Academic Induction and Course Information**
All students should attend their school induction session, if applicable. Information on where these induction sessions take place can be found online at abdn.ac.uk/newstudents or by visiting your school notice board. Here you will get information about courses. Information can also be found on MyAberdeen, the University Virtual Learning Environment.

**Quick Checklist**

1. **Registration (Before You Arrive)**
2. **Photo Upload**
3. **Choose Your Courses**
4. **Upon Arrival: ID Card, Fees and Visa Checks for International Students**
5. **Academic Induction and Course Information**
Choosing your Courses

As a new undergraduate* student based on campus you are normally required to study 8 courses (each worth 15 credit points) during your first year – 4 in your first half-session (September to December) and 4 in your second half-session (January to May). Students starting study in January do not select first half-session courses.

Depending on your degree programme, some of your courses will be required for your degree (prescribed) and you may be able to choose some yourself (optional). Before you choose your optional courses, spend some time thinking about your degree programme and the courses you might like to take. Try to keep open as many degree pathways as possible by choosing groups of courses rather than picking single courses at random.

The courses you can take will depend on your entry qualifications, any entry conditions (pre-requisites), and your timetable. You will use MyCurriculum to make your course choices. MyCurriculum will guide you through the course selection process step-by-step.

You will select Prescribed Courses first followed by any optional courses. Optional courses fall into two categories: Enhanced Study and Other. Single Honours students normally take one Enhanced Study Course each half-session for their first two years of study and 30 credits across years three and four.

There are three types:

1. Sixth Century Courses

The University’s Calendar (abdn.ac.uk/registry/calendar) gives details of the courses you must study as part of your degree. The example to the right shows the courses a full-time Single Honours student in Year 1 of the MA Business Management programme must study.

Each course has a code which starts with two letters. These represent the course discipline, eg EC stands for Economics. The letters are followed by 2 digits representing the programme year (eg 1) and then the half-session in which the course is taught (0 means first half-session and 5 second half-session). In the example a student must register for the prescribed courses EC1006 and MS1009 in the first half-session and AC1515 and MS1509 in the second, totalling 60 credit points.

This leaves space for 60 credit points of optional courses to be chosen.

2. Enhanced Study Courses

Enhanced Study Courses are those which are not compulsory for your degree and are normally from another discipline.

Enhanced Study allows you to develop an appreciation of disciplines other than your own and broadens your experiences. Single Honours students normally take one Enhanced Study Course each half-session for their first two years of study and 30 credits across years three and four.

There are three types:

2.1 Sustained Study

Sixth Century Courses invite you to consider different approaches to knowledge and enquiry as you look at issues affecting the world in which we live today. They are designed to help you develop a deeper critical understanding of your chosen area of study by setting the subject in a wider context.

2.2 Discipline Breadth Courses

Allowing you to focus on an area of study that is not your core subject for the duration of your first two years. Choosing this will cover your Enhanced Study requirements for both years.

2.3 Other Courses

Having chosen your Prescribed and, where applicable, Enhanced Study Courses, you should make up your remaining credits from courses of your choice. You should be aware that MA students must take no more than 30 credits from “science” courses, and BSc students no more than 30 credits from “arts” courses. More information on courses can be found in the University’s Catalogue of Courses (abdn.ac.uk/registry/courses) and the Taught Postgraduate Guides available from the MyCurriculum website.

* Taught Postgraduate Students

Taught postgraduates follow a similar process to select their courses and should consult the Taught Postgraduate Guides available from the MyCurriculum website.

3. Discipline Breadth Courses

These allow you to choose courses out of your core subject. They might be related to your core subject or entirely unrelated - the choice is yours. You have the whole Catalogue of Courses to choose from.

Other Courses

Having chosen your Prescribed and where applicable, Enhanced Study Courses, you should make up your remaining credits from courses of your choice. You should be aware that MA students must take no more than 30 credits from “science” courses, and BSc students no more than 30 credits from “arts” courses. More information on courses can be found in the University’s Catalogue of Courses (abdn.ac.uk/registry/courses) and the Taught Postgraduate Guides available from the MyCurriculum website.

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Aberdeen University Students’ Association

AUSA welcomes you to the University of Aberdeen with a celebration of new places, exciting events, new activities and new faces - Freshers’ Week.

Class Reps
AUSA provides support and training to Class Reps, who function as a vital link between staff and students, fostering and maintaining open dialogue to improve students’ learning experience. Class Reps are elected at the beginning of an academic year or semester and they represent your views and concerns, ensuring your courses and programmes are the best they can be.

Don’t forget to buy your wristbands!
For all Freshers’ events visit ausa.org.uk

Nightline
Nightline is a confidential, anonymous, non-judgemental overnight listening and information service. Run during term time, 7 days a week, 8pm-8am.
T: +44 (0)1224 272829
E: listening@aberdeen.nightline.ac.uk
aberdeen.nightline.ac.uk

As a student at the University of Aberdeen, you’re automatically a member of the Aberdeen University Students’ Association (that’s AUSA for short). AUSA plays an important role in student life. AUSA represents you, supports you, runs campaigns on things that matter to you, offers hundreds of co-curricular activities for you to explore your interests and talents, and works hard to make your time in Aberdeen a fantastic experience.

Student Advice Centre
AUSA Student Advice Centre has a comprehensive resource of private accommodation and advice on living on your own for the first time; has services to help you find part time work; and represents you in academic appeals.
T: +44 (0)1224 274200
E: ausaadvice@abdn.ac.uk
ausa.org.uk/supportingyou

Sports
Do you want to try a totally new sport or are you a budding Olympian? At AUSA there are many different ways you can stay active and get involved in sport. You will find a host of dedicated staff and full-time volunteers creating opportunities for you to stay on top of your game. AUSA boasts one of the biggest Sports Unions in any Scottish university, and with nearly 55 different sports clubs there is a sport for everyone.

Societies
With over 50 clubs and societies, AUSA and the University of Aberdeen have a vibrant community spirit. Whether you are looking to learn salsa, panhellen or just appreciate a fine whisky, we will have a society for you. You are encouraged to attend the Societies Fayre that is put on during Freshers’ week to find out where you can join. Joining a club or society is a great way to meet new people and have new experiences. To view a list of current clubs and societies visit ausa.org.uk/societies.

Volunteering and RAG
AUSA has a great volunteering support service to help you find the opportunities and charities you are looking to work with to expand your skills and meet new people. Looking to lead on some fundraising of your own? Get involved with our Raising and Giving Committee (RAG) to raise funds for your new local area.

ausa.org.uk/volunteer

Bookends
Bookends is a second hand bookshop where you can buy and sell textbooks, fiction, DVDs and more – and also help raise money for RAG.
E: bookshop@abdn.ac.uk
ausa.org.uk/eatdrinkshop/bookends/
For our International students we have dedicated support, services and facilities, including the International Centre, that can help you adapt, meet new friends, and settle in to your new home.

## International and European Students

### International Pre-Degree Guide

Your ‘Pre-Degree’ guide that you have been sent is a great resource to use for checklists on what you can and cannot pack, and health and vaccinations checks. Click here to download.

### New Students’ Website

- **Events & Activities**
  - There are plenty of events and activities to get involved with when you are here in Aberdeen. Make sure you check out the ‘events’ link, visit abdn.ac.uk/infohub/events.
- **Induction & Registration**
  - All students can use the induction and registration information that is available on the New Students’ Website, visit abdn.ac.uk/infohub/new-students/postgraduate-taught-students-january.php.

### International Pre-Degree Guide

- **Go Abroad (single semester) Students**
  - You will have a specific special orientation just for you, so make sure you speak to the Go Abroad team so you know this information, or visit abdn.ac.uk/infohub/new-students/international-induction.
- **Postgraduate Students**
  - Your programme will have specific sessions based on what you are studying. As well there will be several sessions both in person and online that you can attend or watch to ensure you have all the information that you need, visit abdn.ac.uk/infohub/new-students/new-student-orientation.

## Tier 4 Students and Immigration

Visit our website for more details
abdn.ac.uk/infohub/study/tier-4-students-1321

### International Centre

The International Centre offers a variety of activities, language groups, events and volunteering opportunities to meet new people and get involved with student life at the University. It is your Centre on Campus. Visit us at 110 High Street between 10am-4pm Monday through Friday.

Visit our website for more details and up to date information on everything on offer.
E: internationalcentre@abdn.ac.uk
abdn.ac.uk/international-centre
@groups/abdninternationalcentre

### January Jumpstart

The International Centre is offering a variety of events and activities for students joining in January.

These include: Treasure Hunts around Aberdeen, Trips to Local Museums, Movie nights/afternoons, Bowling and Trips around Scotland.

Visit our website for more details
abdn.ac.uk/infohub/life/international-centre

Check page 3 for information on arrival, including transportation to accommodation, where to collect your keys and more!

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### Support for Students

Our student support services continually rank with the best in the UK and we are here to help you with any aspect of your academic, personal or social life.

#### Infohub

The Infohub is a one-stop shop for all student queries, and can help you by:
- Taking payments for tuition fees and accommodation. Please note that the University does not accept cash as a form of payment for this.
- Preparing letters, including bank letters and council tax exemption letters
- Providing proof of study and student record cards
- Issuing student ID cards
- Providing directions
- Accommodation information
- Information on Personal Tutors and Peer Mentoring
- Access to Registry Officers.

Visit the Infohub Helpdesks on the ground floor of the Students’ Union. All year round.

### Contact the Infohub

Monday - Thursday 9am-5pm
Friday 10am-5pm
infobus@abdn.ac.uk
abdn.ac.uk/infohub
@studentlifeuoa
@studentlifeuoa

### Student Advice and Support

Located on the top floor of the Students’ Union Building the Student Advice and Support Office provides a wide range of support and information services across three main areas: disability, international and general advice and guidance.

You may need support and guidance for a variety of different academic and non-academic issues during your time at University.

- Disability Advisers offer support for students with physical and mobility difficulties, visual impairments, hearing impairments, medical conditions, specific learning differences such as dyslexia, mental health conditions and autism spectrum disorders. Disability Advisers can assist students who are eligible to apply for the Disabled Students’ Allowance (DSA).
- You are welcome to contact the advisers, in advance of your arrival or once you register, to discuss the support available at the University.

student.disability@abdn.ac.uk

- Finding your way around UK visa information can be complicated which is why our professionally trained International Student Advisers provide one-to-one advice to assist you with your Tier 4 visa application and advise you on many other issues related to your visa and your immigration status in the UK. To book an appointment please either telephone +44 (0)224 273935 or visit our Student Advice and Support Office reception on the top floor of the Students’ Union Building.

student.international@abdn.ac.uk

- Student Support Advisers provide free confidential, independent, and non-judgemental advice to students on a range of issues which include student loans, finance, legal issues, University procedures, benefits and personal problems.

student.support@abdn.ac.uk

- The University Counselling Service is a free, confidential and professional service for students who have personal, social, or emotional concerns. The service is student focussed and is located in Dunbar Street on the Old Aberdeen campus.

counselling@abdn.ac.uk

- The Community Liaison Officer and a team of Student Resident Advisers (SRAs) create a positive community in University managed accommodation. The SRAs provide a diverse programme of activities at the halls of residence throughout the academic year. The SRAs are on duty at University Halls during the night and at weekends.

For more information on Student Support Services please visit abdn.ac.uk/student-support or call +44 (0) 1224 273935.

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Check page 11 for details of the International Student Advisers.
The Careers Service offers a wide range of services and support to students at all stages of their degree programme. This includes:

- Help with individual career planning
- Advice on creating successful CVs and application forms
- Paid work placement opportunities
- Advice on preparing for interviews, psychometric tests and assessment centres
- Employer presentations and recruitment events
- The co-curricular STAR Award & BP Student Tutoring Scheme
- A comprehensive website with extensive career planning resources
- Credit-bearing careers education courses
- A career mentoring programme
- Enterprise & entrepreneurship events
- Online Professional Skills courses within MyAberdeen
- An innovative Leadership Academy.

Contact the Careers Service
The Careers Service is easy to find on the 2nd Floor of the Students’ Union Building, please call in, or visit our website abdn.ac.uk/careers careers@abdn.ac.uk

Multi-faith Chaplaincy Centre
The Multi-faith Chaplaincy Centre is here to help and support you. Whether or not you have a faith, our team of chaplains will assist you with any problems or crises that come your way. Drop in for a chat, a mug of tea or coffee or to sit and read in our Quiet Room. The Interfaith Centre also has rooms available for students to use for meetings, prayer and meditation. There are also a number of honorary denominational chaplains available for students wishing to contact someone specifically of their own tradition or faith. Furthermore, we are responsible for weekly ecumenical services of worship in King’s College Chapel every Wednesday during term-time at 5.15pm. All are welcome. For more information about the InterFaith Centre please visit abdn.ac.uk/chaplaincy

Computing (IT) Services
IT Services provides computing facilities for the University. Key services for students include:

- **Wireless campus**: free internet access in all buildings, including University Halls of Residence
- **Learners’ Toolkit**: full of useful apps, software guides, study techniques - see abdn.ac.uk/toolkit
- **Service desk**: your first point of contact for IT support at the University; find desks in G84 Edward Wright Building, or 1122 Polworth Building (Foresterhill)
- **Email**: a university email account, including 50GB mail storage, online address book and calendaring
- **Personal file storage**: up to 100GB network filesystem, backed up nightly.
- **PCs**: over 1600 high spec computers in classrooms, study areas and lecture theatres across campus.

For details of all IT services see abdn.ac.uk/it/student

Students 4 Students
Students 4 Students (S4S) is here to help you settle into University life with advice and support from a fellow student. Transition to life at university is a very exciting one, but it can also be challenging and demanding at times. Whatever background you arrive from, we want you to make the most of your time at the University. New students will be assigned a S4S Mentor, who is there to:

- Answer your questions about student life or direct you to the most appropriate source of advice.
- Help you to know the campus and University processes and procedures.
- Encourage you to make the most of opportunities to meet fellow students, become involved in campus life and develop your own support networks.
- Maintain contact with you during the first year of your studies.

Our S4S Mentors are all fully trained, and are current students who will normally be studying in the same discipline as you. You will be contacted by your S4S Mentor during Welcome Week, but you can always get in touch beforehand if you have any questions.

For more information visit abdn.ac.uk/s4s

Student Learning Services (SLS)
The SLS can help you to develop your academic skills throughout your time at university. SLS offers workshops, which run during term-time, and individual study advice sessions, which are available all year. Individual academic skills advice is also available for students with dyslexia and other learning differences. Places for workshops and study advice sessions can be booked online. Workshop topics will include: studying in the UK, note-taking, critical thinking, academic writing, presentation skills and time management.

In addition, online learning resources are available in Achieve (for undergraduates) and Achieve+ (for taught postgraduates) on MyAberdeen. Full details of workshop schedules and all SLS services can be found at abdn.ac.uk/sls

Gaelic at the University of Aberdeen
Are you a Gaelic-speaker or interested in learning more about the language and culture? There are many exciting Gaelic initiatives underway to enhance the student experience at the University, including a number of Gaelic activities and events. To learn more, visit abdn.ac.uk/gaelicplan

SafeZone
The University is providing SafeZone, a free new smartphone app that connects you to our security team if you ever need urgent help, first aid or if you have an emergency while on campus. You can download the SafeZone app from your app store and sign up using your University email address. To find out more visit abdn.ac.uk/infohub/safezone

Sports and Exercise Team

- The Sport and Exercise Team passionately support high performance student athletes and university sports clubs by offering services such as sports bursaries, coaching, seminars and workshops.
- We are also committed to providing exercise, health and wellbeing opportunities to university staff and students.

For more information visit abdn.ac.uk/sportandexercise

Aberdeen Sports Village
Aberdeen Sports Village is the premier sport and exercise facility in Scotland and provides world class opportunities for everyone in the community.

To find out more visit aberdeensportsvillage.com

Healthcare

- **Registering with a local NHS Doctor**
  You should register with a local NHS doctor as soon as possible. The doctor’s surgery you register with depends on where you live in Aberdeen. An advice sheet on which surgery you should register with will be available from the Student Advice and Support Office, the Infoshub and the New Students’ Helpdesk in Welcome Week.
  The nearest surgeries to the University’s King’s College Campus are Old Aberdeen Medical Practice and Old Machar Medical Practice. For more information visit abdn.ac.uk/newstudents/healthcare

- **Registering with a local NHS Dentist**
  If you are already registered with a doctor based in Aberdeen, then there is no need to register with another GP. For information about registering with a local NHS dentist, please visit nhs24.com/findlocal

- **Tier 4 students who have paid the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) as part of their visa application will be able to access National Health Service (NHS) treatment when they arrive in Scotland.**
- **Payment will be required for dental treatment.**
- **Additional visa applications will require a further payment for the period of the extension.**
- **Students coming for short-term study must ensure that they obtain medical insurance before travelling to the UK.**
- **European Economic Area (EEA) and Swiss nationals should obtain a European Health Insurance card (EHIC) from their country of residence prior to coming to the UK. If this is not possible they should obtain private medical insurance.**

For more information about the University’s Student Health and Wellbeing Service please visit abdn.ac.uk/studentwellbeing

To find out more visit aberdeensportsvillage.com
Checklist

□ Arrange accommodation
  - If you are staying in University accommodation, you should complete the online induction at abdn.ac.uk/eaccommodation/login.php
  - Review the accommodation FAQs at abdn.ac.uk/accommodation

□ Complete Registration (see page 4)
  - Check your email for ezines which will guide you through some of the key registration points
  - Complete eRegistration
  - Choose your courses and tutorials/labs etc. online
  - Upload a photo for your ID card and check that it has been approved

□ Take out travel/personal insurance
  - Take this out for yourself as an individual

□ Ensure that you bring
  - Confirmation of who will be paying your tuition fees, if you are not paying them yourself
  - Certificate of Acceptance from the University
  - Relevant medical records and details of existing medical conditions
  - Accommodation contract and/or details of where you will be staying

□ For International Students
  - Check visa requirements and make necessary arrangements
  - Bring a valid passport or travel document with visa if applicable
  - Collect your Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) from the Post Office named in your visa letter
  - Make a copy of passport, including page that was stamped by immigration on arrival to the UK, and biometric card and bring to registration
  - Register with UK police (if applicable)

□ After Arrival
  - Pay tuition fees (via eRegistration - if you have not already done so)
  - Collect your Student ID card
  - Attend your School/Discipline’s induction and welcome events
  - Check out the Students’ Association’s programme of events for Welcome Week at ausa.org.uk
  - Join a campus tour
  - Connect your smartphone/laptop to the University’s Wi-Fi abdn.ac.uk/it/student
  - Register with a doctor
  - Open a bank account

Complete Registration (see page 4)

□ Download your Foresterhill Campus Map by scanning the code

□ Download our King’s College Campus Map by scanning the code

All set? Now it’s time to make friends, get involved and have fun!
Infohub
Students’ Union (Ground Floor)
Elphinstone Road
King’s College
Aberdeen AB24 3TU
Scotland

✉️ infohub@abdn.ac.uk
abdn.ac.uk/newstudents

@studentlifeuoa
@studentlifeuoa

The University of Aberdeen is a charity registered in Scotland,
No SC013683