New Student Orientation
4th & 5th September 2017

Your Aberdeen experience starts here
Welcome

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Aberdeen. We know that moving to a new country or city can be both an exciting and challenging time. To help you transition into your new life in Aberdeen and at the University we have created a New Student orientation event. Running on 4th and 5th September the event will be made up of a number of sessions designed to give you all the information you need to settle in and for the duration of your studies.

Each 30 minute session will run multiple times over the two days, allowing you to create a bespoke schedule that suits your individual needs and will help ensure that you benefit fully from all of the activities during your first week.

There will be many other events happening during Welcome Week including the activities and events of the International Centre, AUSA, and of course the Academic Induction for your course of study.

Read through the following pages, and think about which sessions apply to you. We have added helpful guides and icons to each session to tell you if the session is for ‘ALL’ students, or primarily International students ‘Intl’. (Although you are welcome to attend any of the sessions)

Good luck during your time in Aberdeen, and remember to visit the International Centre to find out what fun activities are happening week to week.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contents</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session Descriptions</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Populate your diary</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Job Hunting in the UK
Find out where to look for work experience and graduate jobs, when to apply and what UK employers look for. We will also give you a brief introduction on how to impress UK employers with your effective CVs and covering letters and how the Careers Service can help you with your career planning and job search.

Careers Service

Studying in the UK
This session aims to explain what is expected of university students in the UK. Areas of discussion will cover; independent learning, the differences between lectures / tutorials / seminars, the role of a Personal Tutor, the role of a Programme Co-ordinator, assessment and coursework.

Student Learning Service

Part Time Work
Students often look for part time work alongside their studies to supplement their income from their parents, government bodies, or student loans. However; some times it can be difficult to know how to find a part time job and how to present yourself at the interview. This session aims to alleviate those concerns and explain how you can find part time work while you study.

Careers Service

Money and Banking
A very to-the-point session about how to set up a bank account, including the documents you require, how to make an appointment with a bank, and what you get with different kinds of bank accounts.

Santander (Bank)

Personal Finance: how to manage your money and budget effectively
Led by our own in-house Money Advisors, they will walk through how you can best manage your monthly or weekly finances, whether that’s a student loan, an allowance from your parents, a scholarship or funds from a sponsorship body.

Student Support & Advice Financial Advisor (Linda Ibbotson)
Health & Well Being
Moving away from home (or coming back to formal education) can cause a lot of stress, and can cause an upheaval in your routine. This session will go through how to maintain a good ‘study-life-work’ balance.

**Directorate of Health, Safety & Wellbeing**

Studying for University
Moving from High School or A Levels up to University can be a big step, or if you’ve been out of formal education for a while. Therefore, this session will go through what you should know about university, and the various nuances that you should be familiar with and language used before your courses start the following week.

**Student Learning Service**

Explore: Scotland
If you’re interested in how to best maximise your time while you’re here in Scotland, where the best and easiest to access castles are, the best places to go hiking, or exploring in the different areas, and how to get there without a car this is the session for you...

**Visit Scotland/Visit ABDN**

Know your rights: Private Accommodation
This session will explore how students who are living in private accommodation can ensure they have the knowledge to manage the renting process with private landlords, HMOs and letting agencies.

**Shelter Scotland Charity**

Adjusting to Scotland: a Student Panel
Moving to a new country and culture can be difficult and present a series of small challenges. This session gives you a chance to speak directly to students who may have gone through a similar transition as you. Ask the student panel your questions.

**International Centre**

Navigating the Scottish NHS
Learn how to navigate the NHS system, from registering with a GP, to collecting a prescription from a pharmacy.

**Dr. Karen Foster**

**NHS SCOTLAND**
Safety First – staying safe while at University
Aberdeen has won the award for ‘Safest city in Scotland’, but it’s important to understand some of the laws in place, and what to do if you ever feel in danger. The Aberdeen Police will be coming along to lead this session!

Estates & Security in combination with Police

Library & IT Essentials
Making effective use of the library and computing services and facilities available to you at the University will give you more time to concentrate on your studies, and enjoy an active social life! We’ll present key information related to borrowing books, accessing electronic collections, study spaces in the library, your computing account, email, personal file space, wireless network, printing, IT security, and conditions of use.

Sir Duncan Rice Library

Library Tour
Come on a guided tour of one of the most beautiful libraries in the world. Being better informed about library layout, facilities and services will help ease you into your studies. Discover the practicalities of PINs, borrowing and returning books, the short loan collection (Heavy Demand), study spaces, bookable rooms, and printing/scanning.

Sir Duncan Rice Library

AUSA: Your Students’ Association
AUSA plays an important role in student life. AUSA represents you, supports you, runs campaigns on things that matter to you, offers hundreds of societies, sports clubs, and volunteering opportunities for you to explore your interests and talents, and works hard to make your time in Aberdeen a fantastic experience. AUSA is a democratic organisation with a range of committees for you to get involved in, and hosts meetings throughout the year where you can put forward policy to create changes within AUSA, the University, and the local community.

AUSA
**Your Place in Aberdeen**

Aberdeen is a diverse city, as is the University of Aberdeen community. To understand how a drive towards equality has shaped the city, and how this will affect your time here, be sure to attend!

*Janine Chalmers (HR)*

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**Simply Living**

General session about navigating life in Scotland, and in Aberdeen. Hear the secrets about how to save money while shopping, the best stores to get groceries, how the transportation here works, and what’s available through the International Centre throughout the year.

*International Centre*

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**Your Visa & You: Understanding the limitations of T4**

This session looks at the responsibilities you have in holding a Tier 4 Visa and how this relates to your studies with us. It also covers the options you have to change your programme once you have started studying, taking time away during your studies and the visa check process. The session also outlines the support services available for our Tier 4 visa students.

*Registry & International Student Advisor(s)*

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**Student Advice & Support**

We offer impartial and confidential advice and support on a range of issues, including finance, disability information and more. There are many people who want to help you with information and/or advice. Come and meet people from the team and learn what they can help with.

*Student Advice & Support*
Online Etiquette
Most of us communicate through text message, social media or email now on a regular basis. It’s important to understand how to structure, and tone your communication when you’re dealing with different people. The way you text your friends is different than making an appointment with a lecturer or complaining to a company. This session covers all the major aspects of how to effectively communicate online.
Dr. Emily Nordmann & Gabi Lipan

Transfer/Transition Students
You’re a new student, but you’re not coming in to first year, which means that you may have missed out on some information that the students on your courses learned last year. This is a drop-in session (running Tuesday afternoon) designed for you to have a space to ask any questions you still have about starting in second or third year, or coming from a foundation programme, or from a different college or university, or any question you haven’t had answered
Mel Viney & Dr. Sally Middleton

My University
Understanding the ins and outs of ‘MyAberdeen, MyCurriculum, Mytimetable, and the various other systems that you need to use to manage your time at Aberdeen’
Mel Viney

That Department does what?
It can be difficult when you arrive to know which responsibilities each office/department has and who you should speak to with different concerns, issues, questions or problems. This session will take you through and clearly explain all the different offices that you might come into contact with while at university.
Dr. Steven Tucker
STEP 1

Complete e registration
www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/new-students/registration

STEP 2

Orientation registration
www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/new-students/new-student-orientation
Populate your own diary

Monday

Time
Populate your own diary

Tuesday

Time