What is the International Centre?

Think of the International Centre (or the IC) as a community centre for all things international. If you are international, or want to have an international experience you can come to us. We host events, activities, language groups, socials, and provide general information to help enhance your experience while you’re here in Aberdeen and studying at the university.

During the past academic year the International Centre has grown and developed in many ways. After being opened in 2015, we have set up language groups during the past academic year and run a variety of events and trips around Scotland. We have also set up a team of enthusiastic volunteers, the International Centre Activities Team (IC A-Team). The A-Team has been expanded for next year as these volunteers are a great resource for students new to Aberdeen and to those who participate in events organised by the IC!

We are looking forward to organising even more fantastic trips, events and activities for students from all over the world in the coming academic year. To find out what we offer, check out our events and find out how to get involved.

International Orientation

Moving to a new city can be difficult, especially if it’s in a new country away from all your friends and family. That’s why the International Centre and the University of Aberdeen have worked across departments and services to bring you a full comprehensive orientation programme.

The sessions will cover a variety of different topics, including:
- Money & Banking
- Safety in Scotland
- Library & IT Essentials
- Library Tour
- Support Services
- Health & Well Being
- Navigating Private Accommodation
- Working in the UK
- Studying in the UK
- Student Forum
- Equality & Diversity
- British Weather
- Your Students' Association
- Travelling around Scotland

Events and Activities

There are several series of events and activities throughout the year in which students can participate. Active in Aberdeen, which will take students around Aberdeen to try out the many different active – activities that they can take part in while studying here.
There is Discover Aberdeen, which highlights all the FREE activities that are really interesting and easy to get to in Aberdeen.

Taste of Aberdeen – which works with local restaurants to celebrate the diversity of ethnic cultures and culinary delights in the city.

North East Explorers which takes students on half day to full day trips around the North East of Scotland once a month. There is so many historical, and scenically beautiful places to visit, the IC will only be able to give you a taste of what’s possible.

The IC also works with RGU in order to provide another series of events called ‘International Welcome Aberdeen’ where we work together to welcome all the different students to Aberdeen. We jointly run ceilidhs, Robert burns nights and many other trips and events for students.

Language Groups
Every week the International Centre hosts a variety of language groups including English, where the idea is to practice your skills in a language that you have formal instruction in previously. We work with the student societies to help host these weekly sessions.

Go Abroad
The Go Abroad hosts Office hours for two hours a day, so if you’re a visiting student, or you want to study overseas at a partner institution you can visit the Go Abroad office hours. Make sure to check the website for more details.

International Peer Group
It can be difficult moving to a new place with none of your friends or family around, so the International Centre has developed IPGs or International Peer Groups, based solely on shared interests, placing people in a group led by a volunteer which will meet once a week for different socials.

The A-Team
To underpin and support all the activities, groups, events and trips that are run by the International Centre we have a stellar group of elite student leaders who volunteer their time to keep the IC running. They are STAR students, who dedicate 1-2 hours a week to supervise, organize and oversee some of the activities. They are there to answer your questions, and be the face of the IC.

Come and find us
We’re based in The Hub, we are always open, and accessible to all.
You can get in touch through email: internationalcentre@abdn.ac.uk
Through our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/groups/abdnintlcentre/
Or find us online: http://www.abdn.ac.uk/infohub/life/international-centre-717.php