



University Advice and Guidance for Care - Experienced Applicants

**Are you thinking about university, or have you
recently applied and want to know more?**

On behalf of the West of Scotland Care-Experienced, Carers and Estranged Forum, this leaflet provides a named contact at every Higher Education Institution in Scotland; a quick-view breakdown of the support they provide; and relevant links to their websites so you can find out more about the provision they have in place for those who are in or who have been in care.

For further information on the support available for Care-experienced young people in higher education please contact:

University website	Contact	PRE-ENTRY SUPPORT	52 WEEK ACCOM.	PRIORITY FINANCIAL SUPPORT	ONGOING FUNDING & ADVICE
Abertay University	Claire Gammie c.gammie@abertay.ac.uk 01382 308 295	✓	✓	✓	✓
Edinburgh Napier University	Peter Tormey p.tormey@napier.ac.uk 0131 455 2383	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glasgow Caledonian University	Rachel Hyslop Rachel.Hyslop@gcu.ac.uk 0141 273 1485	✓	✓	✓	✓
Glasgow School of Art	Leeanne McKenna Le.mckenna@gsa.ac.uk 0141 353 4407	✓	✓	✓	✓
Heriot Watt University	Patricia Reid P.Reid@hw.ac.uk 0131 451 3784	✓	✓	✓	✓
Open University	Ali McDonald scotland@open.ac.uk 0300 303 5303	✓	–	–	✓
Queen Margaret University	Callum Maguire cmaguire@qmu.ac.uk 0131 474 0000	✓	✓	✓	✓
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	Jesse Paul (Pre entry) J.Paul@rcs.ac.uk 0141 270 8258 Sarah Rushford (Applications support) s.rushford@rcs.ac.uk 0141 270 8281	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robert Gordon University	Connor Anderson c.anderson7@rgu.ac.uk 01224 263 378	✓	✓	✓	✓
SRUC (Scotland's Rural College)	Student Support Team studentsupport@sruc.ac.uk 01387 860251	✓	–	✓	✓
University of Aberdeen	Chris Sojka c.sojka@abdn.ac.uk 01224 273107	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Dundee	John Blicharski wecare@dundee.ac.uk	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Edinburgh	Zaki El-Salahi zaki.elsalahi@ed.ac.uk 07884 117 146	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Glasgow	Dan Keenan daniel.keenan@glasgow.ac.uk 07976 447231 Kirstin Henry kirstin.henry@glasgow.ac.uk 07976 111148	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of St Andrews	Laura Houston schools.access@st-andrews.ac.uk 01334 463 328	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Stirling	Amy McDermott cli@stir.ac.uk 01786 467 045	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of Strathclyde	Debbie Duncan d.duncan@strath.ac.uk 0141 548 4248	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of the Highlands and Islands	Lyndsay Sutherland Lyndsay.Sutherland@uhi.ac.uk 01463 279 276	✓	✓	✓	✓
University of the West of Scotland	Alison Hillis and Mary Young wecare@uws.ac.uk 0141 849 4149	✓	✓	✓	✓

Corporate Parenting

Each institution listed on this leaflet is a Corporate Parent, and they have a legal responsibility to provide opportunities for and promote the interests of Care-experienced Young People up to the age of 26 (though many will extend this support to individuals beyond 26). Each institution will have its own Corporate Parenting Plan, detailing the specific provision they have in place; but there is a certain standard of support that you can expect:

Named Point of Contact

Dedicated staff (named overleaf) understand what care-experience is and can provide tailored advice and guidance on their institution – from subjects available to study, to access routes and specific entry requirements (some universities adjust their entry requirements for care-experienced applicants). We can also help with UCAS applications, and can arrange informal campus visits to provide a better idea of what our institution has to offer.

Funding & Advice

We can offer funding advice to ensure you are aware of and receiving all the funding you are entitled to. We can also provide help and advice with managing your finances. Many universities also provide additional financial support, over and above your SAAS entitlement (www.saas.gov.uk). Please contact the specific named contact directly, or visit the relevant website, for further information.

Accommodation

Most universities can offer you year-round accommodation in their halls of residence. Some will also help with costs, but please check this with each university ahead of applying.

On-course Support

Named contacts continue to provide support, information, advice and guidance once you are enrolled and on-course. So, if you are thinking about university or you have applied and want to know a bit more, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the relevant contact(s) listed overleaf.

Further information on university for those with care-experience.

This leaflet provides a brief summary of the provision in place at each Scottish HEI. The Become charity also has a dedicated website with more comprehensive information on UK Universities & Colleges, and the support they offer those who are in or who have been in care: www.propel.org.uk.

UCAS Care Leaver Tick Box

Remember to tick the 'Care Leaver' box on your UCAS application to identify as 'care-experienced'. This information will be treated confidentially and only ever in a positive way – to help you access the support in place. If you are unsure whether you meet a university's criteria of 'care-experienced', we advise you to tick the box anyway. If necessary, the relevant institution can then get in touch with you to confirm.

Estranged Students (those studying without family support) and Student Carers

Many institutions have additional supports in place for students who are estranged, and those who have caring responsibilities. Please contact the named contacts overleaf for more information.