Parent and Carer Resources

Academic and Pastoral Support

Support Services

Whether moving away or staying at home, progressing to university may challenge pupils personally and academically.

Most universities have a department for student services which can help with accommodation, finance, disability support, well-being and counselling. We have a snapshot introduction to student services [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pMIgvyil98) from the University of Bath. While some student services may be specific to certain universities, this video covers the main services you can expect across the board. If your child has any additional needs, it may be worth contacting a university you are interested in to see what they can offer, such as visiting during a quiet time, instead of a busy open day, or the best contacts for when students arrive so that they are supported from the very beginning.

Universities also have places of worship and often a vast array of faith or identity groups and societies where informal support would also be available.

Accommodation

Options for university accommodation can range hugely, and you could live on campus right next to your university, further afield or you may choose to stay at home.

As well as UCAS, [The Uni Guide](https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/advice/student-accommodation) has some great advice for all the different scenarios, as well as the options available beyond university halls as a first year student and a Q&A on applying for student accommodation.

Some universities have virtual tours to give you a taster of what’s available, you can see some examples at [The University of Sheffield](https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/accommodation/360-degree-virtual-tours) and the [University of Reading](https://www.reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/accommodation/accommodation-3d-virtual-tours).

Socialising

Universities have an abundance of options for socialising and sharing hobbies and passions, whether this is extreme ironing, snowboarding or botany. You can find a session on [university life beyond studying](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPJsgRQjNtM) from the University of Southampton. If you find these snapshot videos useful, we have a number of other topics over on our [University, Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)](https://thebrilliantclub.org/already-working-with-us/tsp/pupil-resources/university-iag/) page.

Study Skills

Prior study will have helped to prepare pupils for university and they will be encouraged to further develop independent academic study skills which allow them to progress within their subject. If your child has taken part in The Scholars Programme, critical thinking, analysis and communication will all be strong transferable skills that they are able to apply to their studies.

The Brilliant Club has [pupil resources](https://thebrilliantclub.org/the-scholars-programme/for-schools/pupil-resources/) which explore university knowledge, skills and academic content, and give a taste of the skills expected at university. Many universities have online Masterclasses and even Subject Taster Days. If you know your young person is interested in a particular area, perhaps you could explore them together.