



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

PARENTS' GUIDE.

Key information to guide you through
your child's journey to university for
September 2021.

northumbria.ac.uk

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Please note: we use the terms 'parent' and 'child' throughout this booklet for simplicity, but we appreciate that many of you may be carers, legal guardians or step-parents. This information is aimed at anyone who fulfils a parenting role for a young person in the UK who is considering a university education.

Silver Teaching Excellence Award

*Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF)

No.1 Student City.

*Student Hut Awards 2020

The fastest rising UK University in the world rankings.

*Times Higher Education World Rankings 2020

Top 30 UK university.

*The Guardian University Guide 2021



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TAKE ON TOMORROW

At Northumbria University we are empowering innovators and change makers to transform lives and make a remarkable impact on the world. Our inspirational academics and students have a genuine passion for their subject. See how they are taking on tomorrow.



Professor Glyn Howatson

"I'm Professor Glyn Howatson in the department of Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation and I'm using research and innovation to make our best athletes even better."

"I'm Professor Hilmar Gudmundsson in Geography and Environmental Sciences and I'm predicting the future of the Antarctic ice sheet in a warming world."



Professor Hilmar Gudmundsson



Jordan Kelly

"I'm Jordan Kelly and I study Interaction Design and I am an ex-champion in three sports."

"I'm Dr Tanya Wyatt, Professor of Criminology and I'm tackling the illegal wildlife trade to protect other species in the planet."



Dr Tanya Wyatt



Jodie Pearson

"I'm Jodie Pearson and I study Film and Television Production and one of my films was selected for an international film festival in Hong Kong and nationally in the UK. "

A NORTHUMBRIA LEARNING EXPERIENCE

At Northumbria, we mix on campus and online learning to create a rich learning experience. Students start to learn about their programme and modules on the virtual learning environment platform, *Blackboard Ultra*. On Blackboard, students are able to engage, connect, and share content with their peers and tutors to develop their knowledge.

Students will also be able to access* our fabulous facilities to meet, study, and collaborate. This includes our award-winning library, digital hubs, 8 catering outlets, our £30 million Sport Central, and other state-of-the-art buildings such as the new £7 million Computer and Information Science sustainable 'Smart Building'.

Across our campus we work hard to make sure students feel safe, secure, and ready to enjoy university life to the full. While we continue to flex and respond to changing government guidelines, we continue to maintain strong hygiene measures and provide students with a care pack with 2 washable facemasks and a hand sanitiser inside. To find out more about how we're keeping our campus safe, visit our website **www.covid.northumbria.ac.uk**

To support each other as part of a community, both on and off campus, we follow the ethos: It's on you, it's on me, it's on us. This means we can all take part and have a responsibility for keeping our community safe to ensure that everyone has the best university experience possible.

Whether our students are on campus in one of our top facilities, or online engaging virtually with peers, at Northumbria we create the right blend to empower them to Take On Tomorrow.

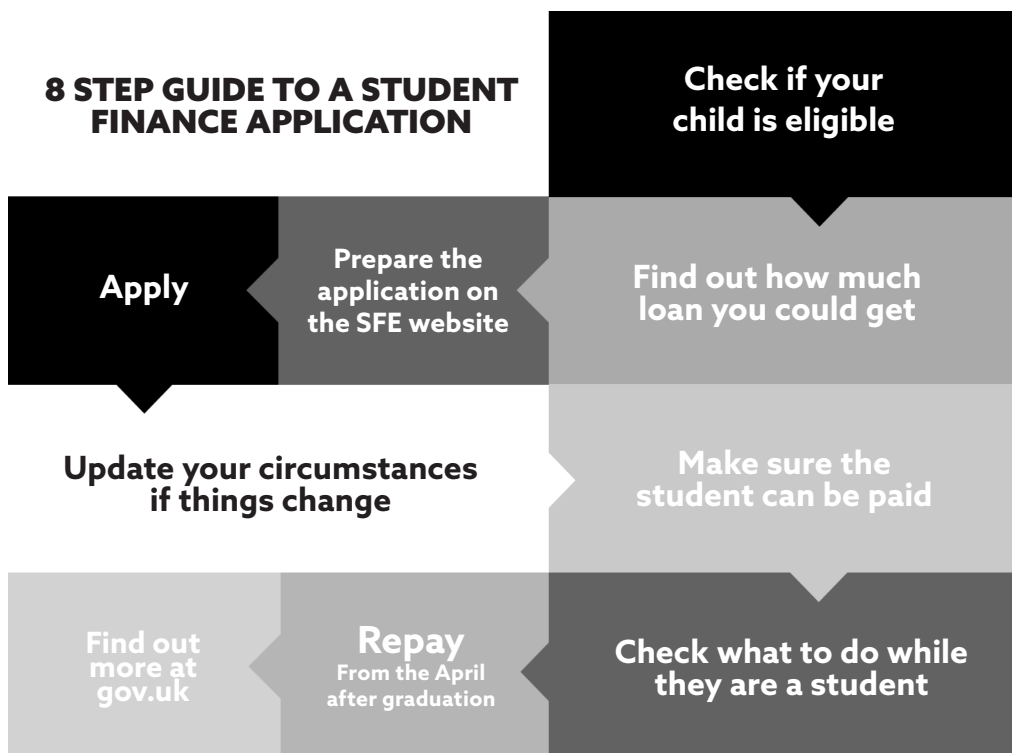
* Subject to government guidelines during COVID-19.



APPLYING FOR STUDENT FINANCE

If you and your child want to apply for student finance to support tuition and living costs, we recommend visiting the Student Finance England (SFE) website for more information. After your application has been processed, SFE will send you a Student Finance Entitlement letter with your Customer Reference Number (CRN), which you should quote whenever you contact them. SFE will pay your tuition fees direct to your university, with any additional maintenance loans going straight to you or your child's chosen bank account.

This simple **8 Step Guide** for navigating Student Finance England will help you through the process. These steps are very similar for students who live in Northern Ireland, Scotland, or Wales but it is worth checking the individual agency websites for more detailed information.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Maintenance Loans

This loan will help your child cover their living costs. The money is paid into your child's bank account at the start of each term. The maximum loan your child can apply for varies depending on a number of factors, including:

- **Whether your child is living at home.**
- **Studying in or out of London.**
- **Your household income.**

Tuition Fees

The standard undergraduate tuition fee for home students starting their course in 2021 is £9,250*. All full-time students from the UK, provided they have not studied for an undergraduate degree before, are eligible for a tuition fee loan which covers the full cost for each year of the desired course. The government pays Northumbria University directly in three instalments and the first is paid once your child enrolls with us.

Northumbria University is committed to supporting students with outstanding academic ability. We offer a number of support packages for students depending on academic achievement or personal financial circumstances. **Undergraduate scholarships** are available up to £3,500 for students starting their first year in September 2021. For further information please visit www.northumbria.ac.uk/ug-scholarships

There is **extra funding** available for those in special circumstances such as the Childcare Grant and Learner Support Funds. For further information about financial support at university please visit northumbria.ac.uk/ug-finance

Northumbria's Careers and Employment Service provide a Jobs Fair in October to help students, who want to work alongside their studies, find a part time role. This is a perfect opportunity for our students to see what jobs are on offer in Newcastle and around the North East. For further information please visit www.northumbria.ac.uk/ug-careers

APPLYING FOR ACCOMMODATION

At Northumbria, we understand that where your child lives is a big aspect of their student experience. That's why we make sure they shape their experience from start to finish.

- Guaranteed accommodation for all students.
- All bills included and no hidden costs.
- On-site support, maintenance and security teams.
- Great social spaces to relax, study and have fun.
- Exclusive Northumbria student community.
- Central and on-campus locations.

Booking Accommodation takes just 5 easy steps

1. Make Northumbria University your FIRM choice

2. Receive your student portal login details via email, log in and go to the Accommodation section to start your application.

Top Tip: Make sure you register with your personal email address and not one associated to a school/college.

3. Choose your exact room

4. Sign your contract.

Top Tip: Make sure you read your contract carefully as it is a legally binding contract. If you don't understand anything, get in touch, we will be happy to run through it with you.

5. Make an advance rent payment

You will need to make an advance rent payment to complete the booking. The amount depends on the building you have selected, but is normally £250. This amount is part of the total rent payment and is deducted from the final rent instalment*.

*This applies to properties managed by Student Living by Sodexo.

Whether you are looking for a modern en-suite room, a budget friendly option, catered accommodation, or an independent studio - we have it all.

Visit our [website](#) to learn about our accommodation guarantee and to watch our student vlogs, see 360-degree videos of our residences or learn more about our exciting offers.



SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

As your child embarks on their new adventure at university, we offer services that support your child and help them settle into life as a Northumbria student.

Alongside your child's academic studies, they will be managing day-to-day life including budgeting, settling into a new city, friendships and responsibilities.

Northumbria has a range of wellbeing services to ensure your child has access to trained professionals with the right expertise to help support them during their time at university.



The Ask4Help service desks are a useful source of advice and information for any questions your child may have about their course and studies.

Our main Ask4Help service desks include: Ground floor City Campus Library, Ground floor City Campus East Business and Law School, and Coachlane Campus Block F.

At our service desks, there are specialist university staff who offer support and advice on the following:

- **Welfare and Health Support**
- **Financial Support**
- **Disability and Dyslexia Support**
- **International Student Support**
- **Counselling and Mental Health Support**
- **Chaplaincy and Faith Advice**
- **Change of Circumstances**

Support at the Students Union

We are also proud to have a wonderful, supportive Students Union. Whether it's finding likeminded friends in societies, taking part in wellness events, or speaking to one of their friendly staff members – for the students who may not want to approach the University, the Students Union are able to provide a helping hand and a different perspective.

Stay Safe

We recommend that all students download the free SafeZone app. This will make it easy for them to contact university security or the emergency services. The app is for all Northumbria University students and connects your child directly to the University's security team when they need help at City and Coach Lane Campuses. If they are off campus, it will offer to connect them to 999 emergency services.

For further information please visit **northumbria.ac.uk/ug-supportforstudents**

TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Important Information

- Make sure your child adds Northumbria University to their contacts to ensure emails don't disappear into their junk inbox.
- Encourage your child to attend one of our NU Experience Days (see dates on page 14). They can book these exclusive events from the email they will have received, containing a unique URL link.

Preparation for Your Child's Exams

- Revision timetables help plan time and prepare for the exam season.
- Taking breaks during revision sessions is important. This downtime will encourage your child to rest and help towards exam success.
- The amount of sleep your child gets will be a huge factor in determining how they perform on the day of an exam.
- Encourage maintaining a well-balanced diet and for your child to keep hydrated. Water can boost attention by up to 25%.
- It would be good to have a copy of your child exam timetable so you can offer them any extra support through busy times.

Tips for Results Day

- Encourage having an early night before results day and to eat breakfast in the morning. It could be a long day for them.
- Reassure them. There are plenty of opportunities through Clearing. That reassurance will help their anxiety and they'll cope better whatever the outcome.
- Be ready. It would be beneficial to understand the UCAS Clearing process. Clearing is an opportunity if your child doesn't get the results they expected. Discover more information on the UCAS Clearing process ahead of Results Day at northumbria.ac.uk/clearing.
- Students will need their Personal ID number and login details for UCAS and the Student Finance Company.

- Ask your child whether they want you there on the day. If they do, book some time off work or prepare to clear your diary. If they don't want you by their side, firstly don't be offended, just make sure you're available to speak to them at any point during the day, if possible.

The Week Before Moving

- Pots and pans – check what the accommodation provides before buying useful items.
- Bedding – what size bedding is needed for their new accommodation?
- Save the date of when your child can move into their new accommodation to make sure it doesn't clash with any holidays.
- Check they have packed some of their favourite things to help make their room a home from home.

Becoming a Student

- Make sure your child registers at a doctors near their new home.
- TV license - ensure your child buys one in their new accommodation.
- Stay calm throughout the process. Your child is embarking on a new adventure and now is the time for them to grow, develop themselves further and experience university life.



KEY DATES

At Northumbria University we are committed to providing the best possible support to all our students. We recognise the vital role you play in advising, reassuring and supporting your child during their time preparing for, and then experiencing, university life. Below, we have listed key dates that are important for those on a journey to Northumbria University:

DATES 2021	EVENTS
29 Jan	UCAS application deadline for undergraduate courses
7-2 Jun July	Exam Period
10 Jun	UCAS deadline for accepting university offers
25-26 Jun	Northumbria Summer Open Days
10 Aug	SQA (Scottish Qualifications Authority) results day
24 Aug	A Level Results Day/Clearing Hotline opens
27 Aug	GCSE Results Day
17 Sep	The period likely to be when your child will move into their new accommodation
20 Sep	Freshers' Week and induction to university
21-22 Sep Jan	Semester one when teaching commences
21-8 Dec Jan	Winter break

HOW DO YOU APPLY?

Apply through ucas.com
Deadline 15 Jan 2021
EU Students can also apply
direct on our website

Receive
information on
how to book
accommodation

Use UCAS
Track to accept firm
(1st) or insurance
(2nd) choice

Made an offer?
Attend an NU Experience Day

GET YOUR RESULTS

Met all of your
conditions?

Not met your
firm offer but
met your
insurance offer?
Your insurance
choice will
be automatically
accepted

Missed your insurance offer or done
better than expected?

Call us on our Clearing
Hotline **0800 085 1085**

CONGRATULATIONS YOU'RE COMING TO NORTHUMBRIA!

If you're an EU student, book
your free Meet and Greet service
to take you direct to your
accommodation from the airport

Complete self-registration online
before your arrive

WELCOME TO NORTHUMBRIA!
ATTEND INDUCTION AND WELCOME WEEK



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