



**Northumbria
University**
NEWCASTLE

PARENTS' GUIDE.

Key information to guide you through
your child's journey to university for
September 2023.

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.

Top 10 Student City.

Student Hut Top UK Cities for 2022

Top 25 university for research power in the UK.

Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021

Top 35 in England for entry quality.

The Sunday Times Good University Guide 2023

Top 50 UK university.

The Sunday Times Good University Guide, The Guardian University Guide and Complete University Guide University League Tables 2023

Top 25 in the UK for the number in graduate jobs.*

Graduate Outcomes 2019/20

5th in the UK for graduate start-up businesses.

Higher Education Business Community Interaction Survey 2019/20 (HEBCIS)

northumbria.ac.uk



*Based on UK domiciled first degree 2019/20 leavers

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.



Dr Akhtar Ali

"I have recently developed the MSc Data Science programme for training a new generation of data scientists. I have developed a network of professionals, doctors, academics, researchers and consultants in the UK as well as in Pakistan, whereby we can transform the health services in the least developed countries by learning from the success of the NHS."

"I'm researching smart materials for tackling energy and healthcare issues, including the early detection of cancer and quick treatment of diseases."



Dr Richard Fu



Dr Sophie Carr

"My research is at the interface between science and law. I look at trying to help non-scientists understand science, the limitations and the strengths of it, such that when presenting evidence in court, the jury can make informed decisions and the wider public can trust in the criminal justice system."

A NORTHUMBRIA LEARNING EXPERIENCE

At Northumbria, we place an emphasis on face-to-face learning in a supportive community, led by world-leading academics. In recent years, we have invested significantly in the technology, training and support that also enables us to deliver digitally enhanced, interactive learning and teaching.

Learning will primarily take place on campus through interactive group sessions such as seminars, workshops, specialist lab sessions and supporting tutorials. Students will have access to digital hubs, classrooms, laboratories, studios and clinics, the award-winning University Library and other state-of-the-art buildings such as the new £7 million Computer and Information Science sustainable 'Smart Building'.

This will be supported by additional online content and materials, enabling students to also access learning outside the classroom at a time that suits them via our user-friendly virtual learning environment, Blackboard Ultra. Online learning resources are embedded into all modules, including 24/7 access to pre-recorded content, access to eBooks and academic papers, and academic skills support. Students will also have access to our 24/7 online library and a wide range of industry standard software.

Students will be given a clear learning plan to guide them through their journey and will be supported every step of the way with regular communications from their tutors as well as 24/7 access to all the wellbeing support and guidance they need - both on and off campus.

Preparing for study at Northumbria is also very important. This will begin with access to online learning-to-learning and community-building activities in the weeks leading up to the start of programmes. These are followed by an on-campus welcome week which is designed to introduce students to the university, the support available, their faculty and programme, along with meeting their programme leader, personal tutor, academic tutors, support teams and fellow learners.



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.

**All information is accurate at the time of sharing. Courses starting in 2023 are offered as a mix of face to face and online learning. We continue to monitor government and local authority guidance in relation to Covid-19 and we are ready and able to flex accordingly to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff. The balance between on-campus and online learning is subject to increase or decrease in line with restrictions imposed by the government or the University in the interest of maintaining the health and safety and wellbeing of students, staff and visitors, potentially to a full online offer, should further restrictions be deemed necessary in future. Our online activity will be delivered through Blackboard Ultra, enabling collaboration, connection and engagement with materials and people.*

APPLYING FOR STUDENT FINANCE

If you and your child want to apply for support with tuition fee and living costs, we recommend visiting the Student Finance England (SFE) website for more information at **www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance**. 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 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.

8 STEP GUIDE TO A STUDENT FINANCE APPLICATION

Check if your child is eligible

Apply

Prepare the application on the SFE website

Find out how much loan you could get

Update your circumstances if things change

Make sure the student can be paid

Find out more at gov.uk

Repay
From the April after graduation

Check what to do while they are a student

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 2023 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 for students starting their first year in September 2023. For further information please visit 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/financialsupport

**Tuition fees may rise in line with inflation in subsequent years of study.*

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 on UCAS Track.

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 **northumbria.ac.uk/accommodation** 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.



**Based on 2022/23 prices, rent may be subject to change.*

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

As they embark 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 can be found at Ground floor City Campus Library and Coach Lane 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 like-minded 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 an email they will receive once they have been made an offer, and which contains 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.

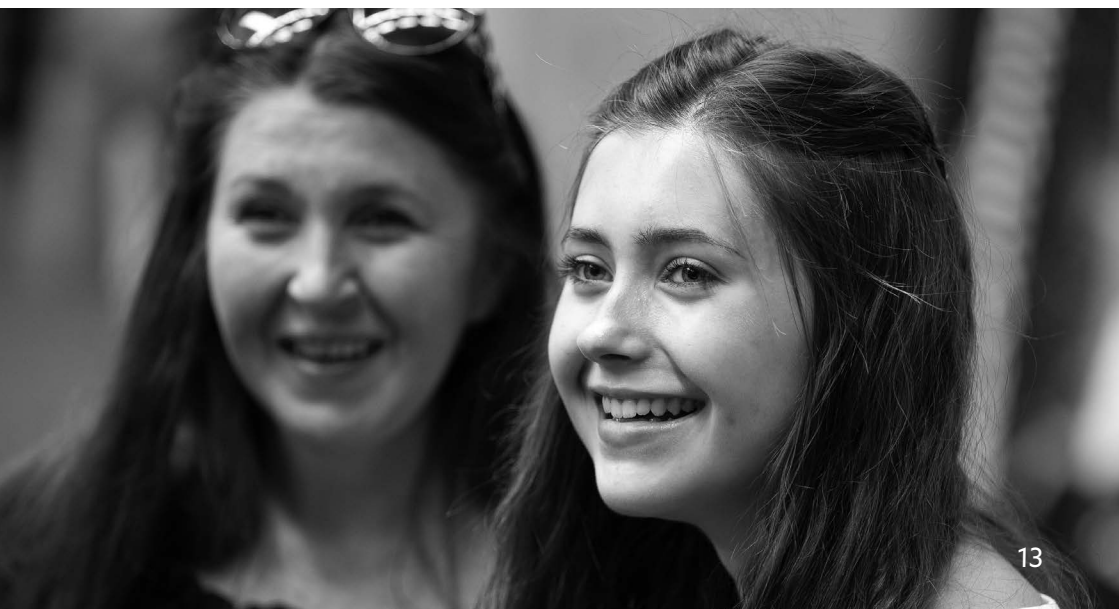
- Ask your child whether they want you there on the day. If they do, book some time off work or prepare to clear your diary. If they don't want you by their side, firstly don't be offended, just make sure you're available to speak to them at any point during the day, if possible.
- We cannot speak to a parent regarding their child's application unless their child has previously sent us written consent or can give it verbally on the day.

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 2022/2023 | EVENTS |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 22 October 19 November | Northumbria Open Days |
| 25 January | UCAS application deadline for undergraduate courses |
| February – April | Northumbria Experience Days |
| May – July | Exam Period |
| 30 June | UCAS deadline for accepting university offers |
| 17 August | Results Day |
| | Clearing Hotline opens |
| 15 – 19 September | The period likely to be when your child will move into their new accommodation |
| 18 September | Freshers' Week and induction to university |
| 25 September | Semester One teaching commences |
| 23 Dec – 12 Jan | Winter Break |

*dates are subject to change

HOW DO YOU APPLY?

Apply through ucas.com
Deadline 25 Jan 2023
EU Students can also apply
direct on our website

Receive
information on
how to book
accommodation

Use UCAS
Hub 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 you arrive

WELCOME TO NORTHUMBRIA!
ATTEND INDUCTION AND WELCOME WEEK



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Please note that the information in this guide is accurate at the time of printing, October 2022, but could be subject to change. Our website is the most up to date place to review our information.