



## Welcome Information for Care Leavers

Starting university is a major transition and, whilst it can be an exciting time, it can also feel quite overwhelming, so please be aware that there are a range of services available to support you as you settle in.

The Welfare, Immigration and Funding Team, based in Student Support and Wellbeing, is a key point of contact for Care Leavers within the University. The team provides advice and support for students on a range of issues. A Welfare, Immigration and Funding Adviser can double check that you are accessing all of the funding that you are entitled to and offer advice on student budgeting.

### Care Leaver's Bursary and Access to Learning Fund

Northumbria University has a £1,000 Care Leaver's Bursary (in addition to the standard Scholarship and Bursary package). The Care Leaver's Bursary is usually paid in February, or in July if your course commences in March.

In order to receive the Care Leaver's Bursary, you will need to provide a letter or email from your Social Worker to confirm details of your experience of care and the length of time spent in care. Other eligibility criteria are also applicable, so it is important that you see a Welfare, Immigration and Funding Adviser about this as soon as possible.

You can email us (see our contact details on right hand side of page) to arrange to hand in your evidence. **Please ensure that your evidence is submitted by the end of term 1** so that your Bursary can be processed in time for the February payment (or July for March starters).

In addition, Care Leavers are strongly recommended to submit an application to the Access to Learning Fund, as they are considered a priority group by the University and are therefore more likely to receive a non-repayable award from the fund.

Care Leavers will be emailed an Application Form and Guidance Notes in their first term. The application form and related documents should be returned to the Access Funds Team in Student Support and Wellbeing. If you have any questions or need help to access the application form, please get in touch.

Northumbria University also offer Care Leavers University accommodation on a 52 week basis at the same cost for the normal letting period for that residence. Please note that this only applies to University owned accommodation. This will not apply to privately provided accommodation or any of our nominated accommodation outlets.

### How to contact the Welfare, Immigration and Funding Team

#### Online

- Email us direct at:  
[sv.welfareandinternational@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:sv.welfareandinternational@northumbria.ac.uk)
- Visit our website at:  
[northumbria.ac.uk/financialsupport](http://northumbria.ac.uk/financialsupport)

#### At City Campus

- Come to the Student Support and Wellbeing Centre, Ground Floor, Northumberland Building
- Telephone us on 0191 227 4127
- Drop in to see an Adviser anytime from 10am - 4pm, Monday to Friday (1 - 4pm on Wednesday)

#### At Coach Lane Campus

- Visit the Ask4Help desk in Coach Lane Library

#### At London Campus

- Visit the Ask4Help desk on the Ground Floor

**Please contact us if you require a copy of this publication in an alternative format - such as braille or large print.**

