

## INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS UNDER 18

### **Students under 18**

Students who will be under the age of 18 at the point of entry to the course are considered by Birmingham City University (the University) to be children under the definition of The Children Act (1989).

This guidance note outlines the University's approach to you as a student aged under 18. Although you are under 18, the University will not assume parental responsibility for you.

You and your parent/guardian should be aware that:

1. You will be entering an adult environment and we will expect you to behave as an adult. In return, we will treat you as an adult.
2. As a student at the University, you will be expected to be able to take care of yourself, take the initiative to resolve any problems which you may experience, and take responsibility for fulfilling the demands of your programme of study.
3. Internet and email facilities are provided on the principle of unrestricted access. You will be expected to observe the law in your use of them.
4. You will be expected to observe the law in respect of the purchase and consumption of alcohol.
5. Until you reach the age of 18, it will normally be a condition of your offer that your parents/guardians act as guarantors for any contracts you enter into with the University in respect of tuition fees, accommodation fees etc. Once you have reached the age of 18 you will be personally liable for debts to the University.
6. In the exceptional circumstance that consent for emergency medical treatment may be required before your parent/guardian can be contacted, the University will assume responsibility to act on medical advice in your best interests.
7. You may experience restrictions in terms of module choice, participation in placements etc. Your School will inform you if there are any such conditions to your offer.
8. You may be required to meet with your personal tutor at more frequent intervals than other students for the purposes of closer monitoring of your attendance, progress and general welfare.
9. Your parents/guardian will be required specifically to consent to your admission to the University.

### **UK-based Guardian**

If your parents/legal guardians are not resident in the UK, they will need to appoint a UK-based Guardian for you. The guardian should be an adult aged 25 or over who the University can contact in case of emergency and can act in place of your parent/s. Please note that students who are enrolled on a programme at Birmingham City University or other institute in the UK cannot be appointed legal guardian of a young person under the age of 18 applying to study at the University.

In rare instances, consent for emergency medical treatment may be required before your parents or guardians can be contacted. The University therefore requires your parents to give their consent that, in the case of such an emergency, the University has parental permission to act on medical advice and do what is your best interest.

Please note that your UK-based Guardian must accompany you to your enrolment session at the University. We will ask your Guardian to sign relevant consent forms and confirm their emergency contact details before your enrolment can be completed. The Guardian will need to bring one of the following to the enrolment event as proof of identity:

1. British passport/ UK BRP
2. UK photo ID driving licence
3. HM Forces ID card
4. UK/EU photo ID card, OR
5. Birth certificate if it was issued within a year of birth

Once enrolled on your programme, you must promptly inform the University of any changes to your Guardian's details.

If you have not got a contact in the UK, there are a number of agencies who will make guardianship arrangements. The Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students (AEGIS) is the authoritative association for inspecting and accrediting guardianship organisations in the UK in accordance with a strict Code of Practice and current child care legislation. A list of accredited agencies can be obtained from:

**The Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students (AEGIS)**

The Wheelhouse, Bonds Mill Estate, Bristol Road, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 3RF

Tel/Fax: +44 (0) 1453 821293, [secretary@aegisuk.net](mailto:secretary@aegisuk.net)

Further details are available at: <http://www.aegisuk.net>.

**Studying at University**

The University would like to ensure that your experience of student life is as full and as rich as possible. However, you must remember that the University is an adult environment and like all students, you will be treated as a mature person. You will be expected to follow University rules and regulations, as well as to obey the law in the UK.

The University will make every endeavour to make sure that you are safe and well, and that your experience with us proves to be educational, career-boosting, and above all, enjoyable. Coming to the UK to study can be particularly challenging for younger students, and therefore the University will offer you support to help you adapt to life in the UK.

**Contact us**

Please do not hesitate to contact the International Office if you would like to discuss this further.

International Office, Birmingham City University

University House, Bartholomew Row, Birmingham B5 5JU

Tel: +44 121 3315389

Email: [international.admissions@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:international.admissions@bcu.ac.uk)