Congratulations!

Congratulations on receiving an offer to study at Keele.

Choosing a university is an exciting time but we understand that the process can appear overwhelming at first. In this guide we hope to help you through the next steps and provide you with the information you need to know to help you make your decisions.

One of the best ways of getting a feel for a university is to visit, so even if you have already attended an Open Day we would encourage you to come and spend time with us during one of our exclusive Visit Days for Applicants.

More information about our Visit Days and how to book is outlined over the following pages. In the meantime, we wish you the best of luck with the rest of your studies and look forward to welcoming you to Keele soon.

Undergraduate applicant web pages

As well as the information provided in this guide, we have created the undergraduate applicant web pages to guide you through the next stage of the application process, from firmly accepting your offer and preparing for results day, right through to arriving at Keele as a student.

Find out more: www.keele.ac.uk/undergraduate
Your invitation to visit Keele

Our Visit Days for Applicants give prospective students a chance to feel what life at Keele University is really like. During the Visit Day you’ll be able to go to scheduled talks, meet current students and take part in sessions specifically tailored to the course you have applied for to help you make the right decision.

You’ll also be able to spend time exploring our beautiful campus, view the accommodation and see some of the fantastic facilities we have to offer.

The whole university is involved in our Visit Days – we want you to see Keele as we see it, not just as a university but as a genuine and friendly community.

Why not come along and see for yourself?
- Saturday 21 February (10am-4pm)
- Sunday 1 March (10am-4pm)
- Saturday 14 March (10am-4pm)

For more information about the Visit Days turn to page 33, and to book a Visit Day please go to www.keele.ac.uk/visiting

“My Visit Day to Keele was excellent and really showcased everything I had already heard and read about the University during my application. I’m really excited by the chance to study at Keele!”

(2014 applicant)
The Keele Experience

Keele learning
To enable Keele University to really stand out from the crowd, we have created the Distinctive Keele Curriculum (DKC). The DKC develops students’ intellectual, personal and professional capabilities, enhancing graduate employability, and offers a professionally recognised qualification which is accredited by the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM). Our high quality teaching and support gives graduates the best possible chance to achieve their potential, with 93% of graduates being in full-time employment or further study within six months.

For more information visit www.keele.ac.uk/distinctive

Life on campus
With over 600 acres of landscaped parkland, fields, woodlands and lakes, our campus is self-contained, with student and staff residences, all teaching buildings (except for some health courses), the Library, a restaurant and cafes, the Students’ Union, shops, supermarkets, a bank, the Chapel, a sports centre, NHS dentist and health centre. In the last ten years we have invested over £115 million in our campus, helping us to provide an outstanding student experience.

KeeleSU
Keele University Students’ Union (KeeleSU) is at the heart of campus life. KeeleSU represents and supports students and is the focal point of your social life, providing a fantastic line up of entertainment, award-winning bars and a full range of services including food outlets, a print shop and post office. ASK is also based in the SU and provides free, impartial and professional advice whenever you need it. Find out more at www.keelesu.com

Turn the page to see a list of the societies and clubs you can get involved with!
Over 100 Societies

- Acapella
- Accounting Society (KAS)
- Against Racism and Fascism
- Afro Caribbean Society (ACS)
- Airsoft Society (Keele AirSoc)
- Alice Charity
- Amnesty International
- Anatomy Society
- Animal and Wildlife
- Animanga
- Animation and Programming
- Arabs
- Art and Creative
- Asian Society
- Atheist, Secular and Humanist Society
- Autism Aspergers Awareness
- Bangladesh
- Barrister Society
- Belly Dance Society
- Biomedical and Biochemistry Society
- Bhangra Society
- Bollywood Dance
- Brass Band
- Cancer Research
- Capeira
- Cardiovascular Sciences Society
- Catholic Society
- Cancer Research
- Chemical Sciences
- Chess and Board Games Society
- Christian Union
- Circus Skills
- Clinical Neuroscience and Surgery
- Come Dine With Me
- Computing and Innovation (KuCI)
- Concert Band
- Concourse
- Conservative Futures
- Crafts Society
- Coppa Feel
- Creative Writing
- Criminology
- Dance Music Kollective
- Dance Society
- Dancesport
- Debate and Discussion Society (KODADS)
- Dodgeball
- Drama Society
- Duke of Edinburgh
- East African Society
- Economics and Finance Society
- Emmanuel
- Enactus
- English and American Studies
- Eurovision
- Film Society
- Flute Choir
- Folk and Acoustic
- Foosball
- Friends of MSF
- Friends of Palestine
- Gamerbase
- Geosoc
- Global Affairs
- Guide Dogs Society
- Happiness and Wellbeing
- Hindu Society
- History Society
- Hong Kong Society
- IndieTronic
- International English Language Society
- International Students’ Society (KISS)
- Islamic Society
- Italian Society
- Japanese Culture Society
- Jesus Jam
- Jewish Society
- Korean International Society
- KUBE Radio
- Labour Students
- Law Society
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT)
- Liberal Youth
- Life Sciences
- Mahjong
- Malaysian Society
- Maths Soc
- Management and Marketing
- Management Society
- Marrow
- Mature Students of Keele
- Medical Education Society
- Medsin
- Mental Wealth Keele
- Midwifery
- Model United Nations
- Motorsport
- Music Technology
- Musical Theatre
- Nerdfighters
- Network
- Nightline
- Oxfam Society
- Pagan and Occult (KUPOS)
- Pakistani Paediatrics
- Paintball
- Paksoc
- Philharmonic Choir
- Philharmonic Orchestra
- Philosophy
- Physics and Astrophysics
- Poker Society
- Politics Society
- Pool Society
- Pre Hospital and Emergency Care Society
- Psychiatry
- Psychology Society
- Quidditch (Avada Keededavra)
- RAG
- Re-enactment
- Revelation Rock Choir
- Rock Appreciation Posse
- Roleplay Association
- Rounders
- Sci-fi and Fantasy Society
- Sikh Society
- Snapshott
- Socialist Students
- Sociology
- Sport and Exercise Medical Society
- St John Ambulance LINKS
- Sticks and Stuff: Keele percussion society
- String Orchestra
- Street Team
- Student Eats
- Student Greens
- Student Minds
- String Orchestra
- Surgical Society
- Symphonia Choir
- Symphonia Orchestra
- Ta Kwon Do
- Tea Party Society
- Teddy Bear Hospital
- Think:Green
- Tropical Medicine
- U-Keele-ele
- Unicef
- Vietnamese Society
- Veg. and Vegan Soc Voices
- Welsh Society
- Whovian Society
- Women’s Society
- Zumba Society

Athletic Union

- American Football
- Athletic Union TEAM KEELE
- Archery
- Athletics and Cross Country
- Badminton
- Basketball (Men’s)
- Basketball (Women’s)
- Boat Club
- Cheerleading
- Cricket (Men’s)
- Cricket (Women’s)
- Equestrian
- Fencing
- Football (Men’s)
- Football (Women’s)
- Golf
- Hockey (Men’s)
- Hockey (Women’s)
- Jiu-Jitsu
- Judo
- Karate
- Korfball
- Lacrosse (Men’s)
- Lacrosse (Women’s)
- Mountain Biking
- Mountaineering
- Netball
- Rugby (Men’s)
- Rugby (Women’s)
- Ski and Board
- Squash
- Swimming
- Table Tennis
- Tennis
- Trampolining
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Volleyball
There are five Halls of Residence on campus and one off campus, each with its own character and with different room types to suit a variety of budgets, ranging from single rooms sharing bathrooms and kitchens, to rooms with en-suite facilities. The accommodation is grouped into flats, houses and traditional student accommodation blocks.

Campus Halls have alcohol-free common rooms; some have the more traditional student bar. Halls also have their own welfare support for students. The Residence Support Team are responsible for the well-being of students in Halls. They are available 24 hours per day and have a wealth of experience in welfare and support services. Resident Support staff are based in the Student Support Centre during the day and supported out-of-hours by Resident Support Assistants (a team of student volunteers).

All Halls of Residence have kitchens so there is no excuse for not cooking! You will need to bring or buy on arrival pots and pans, crockery, cutlery and a tin opener but don’t worry the kitchens have cookers, fridges and freezers. You can buy food at the Campus Store, a licensed convenience store that has fresh fruit and vegetables, pasta and rice, spices and ready meals, plus a good range of authentic ethnic foods and other grocery essentials. There are also three smaller shops on campus: Shop@Hawthorns near the Hawthorns Bar adjacent to Hawthorns Restaurant in Keele village, at Lindsay Café Bar and a shop in the Students’ Union. Some blocks at Hawthorns are catered, which means that meals are included in the cost of your accommodation.

Every Tuesday there is a fresh food market held outside the Students’ Union. There are also three large supermarkets just a bus ride away in Newcastle-under-Lyme, plus markets and specialist food shops locally.

The great thing about living in Halls is that there are no hidden extras – the rent includes utility bills, cleaning, internet access and insurance.

And if you live on campus, you’re on the doorstep for lectures, using the Library and visiting the Students’ Union. Many students live off campus and rental costs in the local area are among the cheapest in the country. The Student Accommodation Office provides advice and support in finding suitable rooms locally.

The accommodation available locally is advertised on www.keelestudentpad.co.uk

The offer

The University has over 3,000 bed spaces available across the five Halls of Residence. There is consistently high demand for Halls and therefore rooms are allocated on a priority basis.

In 2015, all new students who want to live in Halls will be given priority for University accommodation for the first year of their study, as will those whose home is outside the UK.

Students who have special requirements and are supported in their application by Disability Support will be offered campus accommodation for the duration of their course.

Further information can be found at www.keele.ac.uk/accommodation
Types of accommodation

Each hall has its own community providing you with a ‘home from home’ on campus. All rooms are fully furnished and include a telephone and access to Wi-Fi. In all campus accommodation you will need to provide your own bed linen, towels, cutlery and crockery. There are five main room types:

- **Traditional University Accommodation Blocks**: These blocks have between 14 and 80 study bedrooms per block with communal kitchen and bathrooms. Some rooms have their own washbasin.

- **Flats**: 4 study bedrooms with a communal kitchen/diner and bathroom.

- **Premier Flats**: 6 study bedrooms with a communal kitchen/diner. Each bedroom has its own shower room and toilet. Each block also has a lift.

- **Premier En-suite**: Study bedrooms with shower room and toilet, ¾ bed with built-in storage and 8 students sharing a kitchen/diner. Lifts and communal lounges are available in all blocks (except Oaks B).

- **Single Occupancy Flats**: We have a selection of self-contained flats which are available for single occupancy. These may appeal to those who want to experience campus life, without communal living. They are located within the Halls of Residence and are within walking distance of bars, launderettes and common rooms.

*(Prices 2014-2015)*

*Prices for 2015/16 will be slightly higher - please check website for details.*

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<th>Room Type</th>
<th>34 weeks</th>
<th>37 weeks</th>
<th>43 weeks</th>
<th>51 weeks</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Price Band A</td>
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<td>£2,905.98</td>
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<td>£3,074.33</td>
<td>£3,572.87</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Price Band A</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flat (single person)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Only available for Freshers*

Living in Halls

**Barnes Hall**

Barnes Hall is a very exciting and green place to live. Located between the Medical School and Chancellor’s Building and close to the Sports Centre, Barnes Hall is an ideal place for undergraduate and postgraduate students. You can choose from different types of accommodation. If you want to share your accommodation with friends, Barnes flats are probably what you are looking for.

The Hall provides various facilities such as a 24-hour launderette and a recycling point. There is also a very active Islamic Faith centre. If you want to meet your friends, watch TV or simply have a cup of tea and relax, you can pop into The Sty common room. After dinner, you can also enjoy the music and have a drink at the popular Barnes Bar. You can cater for yourself or buy a 5 day catered package.

**Accommodation available at Barnes**

- Traditional university accommodation blocks
- Flats
- Premier Flats

**Facilities**

- Free internet access available
- Free on-campus phone calls
- 24-hour welfare support
- Secure bicycle storage
- Barnes Bar with TV and pool table
- The Sty common room with Wi-Fi
- Recycling area
- Islamic Centre (Prayer room for Muslim worship)
- Landscaped grounds with BBQ
- Hawthorns Bar
- The Pod common room with Wi-Fi
- Hawthorns shop
- Hawthorns restaurant
- 24-hour security patrol
- Free on-campus phone calls
- Cleaning provided in all rooms

We will make every effort to meet the requirements of students who have special accommodation needs. We have a range of accommodation to suit students with disabilities and health issues. Barnes Hall has rooms fitted with a deaf alerter and a wheelchair accessible room with adjoining carer’s room.

**Hawthorns Hall**

Hawthorns Hall is a vibrant and energetic place to live providing rooms for over 600 students. The Hall is set in private landscaped gardens at the heart of Keele village which is a 10 minute walk from the centre of campus. Living in Hawthorns is a great way to adapt to university life: it’s situated near to the Keele Management Centre which has a well-stocked grocery shop, restaurant and student bar. Hawthorns Bar is a great place to be and is open during the day serving a wide range of non-alcoholic drinks. If there is a need for some quieter time then ‘The Pod’ common room is ideal, offering an alcohol-free social space that provides Wi-Fi access, music room, games room and a small library.

The bedrooms are spacious and offer a good base for studying at Keele. There is a mix of catered and self-catering rooms.

**Accommodation available at Hawthorns**

- Traditional university accommodation blocks
- Flats

**Facilities**

- Free internet access in all rooms
- 24-hour welfare support
- 24-hour launderette
- Secure bicycle storage
- Recycling area
- Landscaped grounds with BBQ
- Hawthorns Bar
- The Pod common room with Wi-Fi
- Hawthorns shop
- Hawthorns restaurant
- 24-hour security patrol
- Free on-campus phone calls
- Cleaning provided in all rooms
Holly Cross and The Oaks
Holly Cross and The Oaks Hall provide a high standard of accommodation that caters for over 400 students. The residences are close to the centre of campus with all the facilities of the University and the Students’ Union within a few minutes’ walk.

Accommodation available at Holly Cross and The Oaks
• All rooms are premier en-suite with shared kitchens.

Facilities
• Free internet access in all rooms
• 24-hour welfare support
• 24-hour laundrette
• Secure bicycle storage
• Landscaped grounds with BBQ
• Cleaning provided in all rooms
• 24-hour security patrol
• Free on-campus phone calls
• The Cross common room with Wi-Fi

We will make every effort to meet the requirements of students who have special accommodation needs. We have a range of accommodation to suit students with disabilities and health issues. There is a range of adapted rooms in these blocks with access to low-level fitted kitchens. You can cater for yourself or buy a 5 day catered package.

Horwood Hall
Horwood is one of the biggest Halls of Residence on campus providing rooms for approximately 750 students. The Hall is set between woodland and Keele’s lakes making it a great place to relax. The Hall is made up of single study bedrooms which offer a home away from home. There is a launderette, Horwood Bar and also the Postgraduate bar (The KPA) within easy walking distance.

The Hubble common room is usually used during the evenings and weekends to watch the TV or just hang out with friends. You can cater for yourself or buy a 5 day catered package.

Accommodation available at Horwood Hall
• Traditional university accommodation blocks with deaf alerters.

Facilities
• Free internet access in all rooms
• 24-hour welfare support
• 24-hour laundrette
• Secure bicycle storage
• Horwood bar with TV and pool table
• The Hubble common room with TV and piano
• Landscaped grounds with BBQ and direct access to the woodland and Keele Hall grounds
• 24-hour security patrol
• Free on-campus phone calls
• Cleaning provided in all rooms

We will make every effort to meet the requirements of students who have special accommodation needs. We have a range of accommodation to suit students with disabilities and health issues. Some rooms in Horwood are fitted with a deaf alerter.

Lindsay Hall
Lindsay Hall is at the south of the campus with views across the countryside. It provides a selection of rooms for over 500 students who can choose between a traditional or en-suite room. Situated just a few minutes’ walk from the centre of campus, the rooms are spacious and offer a good base for studying at Keele. The Halls are located in a convenient area for all the amenities, while being away from the main hustle and bustle.

Lindsay’s bar doubles up as a café, bar and grocery shop which means students have access to services which are literally on their doorstep. You can cater for yourself or buy a 5 day catered package.

Accommodation available at Lindsay Hall
• Premier En-suite
• Traditional university accommodation blocks

Facilities
• Free internet access in all rooms
• 24-hour welfare support
• 24-hour laundrette
• Secure bicycle storage
• Lindsay Café Bar with Sky TV, pool room and BBQ
• The Hexagon common room
• Direct access to Keele Hall grounds
• 24-hour security patrol
• Free on-campus phone calls
• Cleaning provided in all rooms

We will make every effort to meet the requirements of students who have special accommodation needs. We have a range of accommodation to suit students with disabilities and health issues. Some rooms are fitted with a deaf alerter and there is a range of rooms adapted for students with disabilities.

Liberty Court
To ensure that as many first year students as possible are offered University accommodation, Keele have an arrangement with Liberty Court (located in Stoke). This is a private Hall of Residence run by Liberty Living, and Keele have been in partnership with them for a number of years to offer excellent accommodation to some of our students. If rooms on campus are not available or are over-subscribed, applicants are offered a room at Liberty Court. This ensures that as many first year students as possible are accommodated together with many of the services and facilities you find in campus Halls. Rooms in Liberty Court are en-suite grouped together in flats with a communal kitchen.

Liberty Court works closely with accommodation staff at Keele to ensure a smooth transition from home to university. Representatives from Keele are on hand at Liberty Court on moving in day and students are kept informed of campus activities.

Transport
A regular bus service runs to and from the campus. Students who have been allocated accommodation at Liberty Court by the Keele Student Accommodation Office are provided with a free bus pass so they can travel to and from University together.

During the evenings a free safety bus is run by the Students’ Union and this ensures that students can get home safely. The safety bus runs until one hour after the Students’ Union closes.
Halls have their own welfare support for students. Residence Support Assistants are a team of staff and students whose aim is to make your experience whilst living in Halls a great one. Residence Support Assistants are students who live in each Hall and are responsible for student support and wellbeing. They also organise lots of events and activities to ensure that all students have the opportunity to get involved, feel part of a vibrant community and experience all that Halls life has to offer. Residence Support Assistants are on call throughout the night and at the weekend and are supported by a dedicated team of Residence Co-ordinators who provide 24-hour support and have a wealth of experience in welfare and support services.

Accommodation Services Managers look after the Halls of Residence and make sure they are kept clean and are well maintained. Residence Co-ordinators are based in each Hall and look after the support and welfare of students living on campus. They provide guidance and support and will be able to point you in the direction of the right service or guidance and support and will be able to point you in the direction of the right service or individual if you require additional support and/or advice.

Resident Support Assistants live in the Halls. They are students and as such know Keele like the back of their hand. They are responsible for supporting students in Halls and for making sure that your experience in Halls is a great one. International Student Support can provide specialist help and advice with any visa or immigration queries, information on working in the UK and assistance with any personal or academic issues. They also organise trips to locations around the UK and events both on and off campus. www.keele.ac.uk/iss

Keele Nightline is a listening and information service, run by students for students. Open at night, 9pm-3am. You can ring them to talk about anything you like and you don’t even need to give your name. www.keelenightline.co.uk

Advice and Support at Keele (ASK)
ASK offers independent advice on academic matters, University regulations and processes. They have a special section on their website for international students. They are open from 10am-4pm during the week and hold drop-in sessions from 12.30-4pm, Monday to Friday. You can also contact them at su.ask@keele.ac.uk

Disabled students and students with additional needs
We will make every effort to meet the requirements of students who have special accommodation needs. We have a range of accommodation to suit students with disabilities and health issues. It is important that you notify Disability and Dyslexia Support of any requirements you have before you apply for accommodation at Keele, so that your needs can be discussed and any necessary adjustments made.

Staff in Disability and Dyslexia Support can recommend a range of options from campus accommodation for the duration of your course to specific adaptations for your room.

How to apply

New Undergraduates/Freshers
For new students starting a course between September 2015 and June 2016, applications will be available from March. If University accommodation is not available, there is advice on our website including a list of local, University-accredited properties available for students.

We will do our very best to meet your requirements; however, we cannot guarantee that you will receive your first preference of room type. It is therefore important that you complete all sections of the accommodation application form, indicating your second and third preferences.

Please check your course dates and pick the occupancy period that best fits your requirements as some courses may require you to be at Keele over the Easter vacation, e.g. Physiotherapy and Social Work – for these you will need 37 week occupancy, and for Nursing 51 week occupancy.

In order to accommodate as many Freshers as possible, a number of rooms are set aside each year for two students to share on a temporary basis.

If you are holding an unconditional or deferred place, you will receive details of how to apply in March. You will be amongst the first group to receive an offer of accommodation.

If your admission to Keele is conditional upon examination results, your application for accommodation will be considered after your results are released and upon confirmation from UCAS of your acceptance.

Rooms are allocated on a first come, first served basis.
Living off campus

Undergraduate students who place Keele as their Firm (first) choice have priority for University accommodation. If you are not in this group, you may need to look at off campus accommodation. We have a useful guide with top tips on what to look for, information on the local area and the properties available and how to find other students in the same situation. This will be available at the Housing Fair which is held after you receive your A level results. At the Fair you can get advice, meet landlords and find out about the local area. The "Looking to Live Off Campus" guide is also available online at www.keele.ac.uk/livingoffcampus

Where do you want to live?

Moving to a new area can be difficult – you don’t know where anything is, what the transport links are or the differences between the various neighbourhoods.

Newcastle-under-Lyme
The closest town to Keele, is about a 10 minute bus journey on the number 3 bus. These are timetabled to come onto campus every 10 minutes at peak times or you can walk. It’s downhill all the way from Keele! Newcastle is a market town with the usual high street stores and plenty of pubs, takeaways, supermarkets, banks, cafés and restaurants. The town also boasts a theatre and an 8-screen cinema.

Shelton
Shelton is within the area known as the ‘University Quarter’ and has subsequently seen continuing regeneration in recent years. It is on the other side of the A500 to Stoke, so it’s a bit further away. The number 3 bus travels between Keele and Shelton.

Silverdale
In the borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme, Silverdale is a former coal mining village. Residents enjoy excellent road links, while the stunning countryside of Shropshire and Cheshire is only a short distance away. Silverdale is on the direct bus route to Keele and is only a five minute drive or a 30 minute walk away.

Crewe
Crewe developed into a thriving town due to the railway industry. Best known for its railway station, you can get to London, Glasgow, Liverpool, Manchester and North Wales from here. The number 85 bus travels to Crewe from the campus.

How to find off campus accommodation

The Student Accommodation Office
Based in the Darwin Building on campus. The team can provide advice and information on the local area and properties within it.

Student Pad
www.keelestudentpad.co.uk this online list contains properties that are accredited by the local council. If it’s on the list you know that:
- The property has a valid Gas Safety and Electrical Safety Certificate
- The property has an Energy Performance Certificate
- The Landlord is a member of the North Staffordshire Landlord Accreditation Scheme

Keelestudentpad.co.uk shows a property’s location, charges, facilities and photos.

Other places to check out

Letting Agents
There are a number in the local area. Look out for agents who are registered with professional bodies such as ARLA (Association of Residential Letting Agents) and NALS (National Approved Lettings Scheme). Beware of paying money to them in advance!

The Sentinel Newspaper
www.thisisstaffordshire.co.uk - the local paper features a range of properties.

Facebook Group
Keele Student Accommodation – a popular way of getting in touch with others in the same situation.

Summer Housing Fair
Held on campus on the first weekend after A-level results are published.
Your two major costs as a student will be tuition fees and living costs.

What are tuition fees?
Tuition fees are the annual fees you pay for studying at university. The tuition fee at Keele does not include the cost of books, equipment, accommodation, field trips or any other additional costs you may incur.

How much is the tuition fee?
Keele University will be charging £9,000 a year in tuition fees for all of its undergraduate degree courses including the Foundation Year programme, with one exception.

Tuition fees for the General Foundation Year (GFY) will be £5,500. This course attracts no financial support from the government, which means that you will have to make sure that you have sufficient funds to pay for the course and to support yourself whilst doing so, before you enrol.

How will I pay my tuition fees?
For most courses, you can take out a tuition fee loan from the government via Student Finance England (www.gov.uk/student-finance) or your funding authority if you live in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland (see below for contact details), for the full amount of tuition fee each year. We would encourage you to apply for your student finance as soon as applications are launched, usually in January each year.

If you are taking a course that receives NHS funding, you may not have to pay your tuition fees. For further information: www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk

When do I start to pay back my loan?
Any loans you take out through Student Finance England are paid back only after you graduate and are earning a salary over £21,000 a year. Regardless of how much loan you take out, you pay it back at 9% of anything you earn over £21,000 a year. As an example, a graduate earning £25,000 a year would pay around £30 a month in loan repayments. You keep paying until the loan is paid off. For further details go to www.gov.uk

If you are able to pay your tuition fee without taking out a loan, Keele requires payment in one lump sum at the beginning of each academic year; alternatively, you can pay in two instalments in September and January each year.
Living costs

What will my living costs be?
Your living costs will depend entirely on your personal circumstances: if you live locally to the university, say, in your parents’ home and travel in daily you may not be paying for your accommodation costs but you may have additional travel costs; you may be a student who has children and inures childcare costs; you may be living away from home in halls and therefore accommodation costs may take up a higher percentage of your funds.

For this reason, it is very difficult to tell you exactly how much your living costs are going to be, but the information available on the First Group and Keele websites may help you to calculate your likely travel and accommodation costs.

How will I pay for my living costs?
You can take out a living cost loan (also known as a maintenance loan) from the government, again via Student Finance England www.gov.uk.

The living cost loan is partially means-tested – that means that 35% of the maximum loan available depends on the level of your annual household income. If you are under 25 and live with your parents, their income will be assessed when working out the amount of loan you will receive. If you are over 21 and can prove that you have lived independently of your parents for at least three years, your income and that of any partner you live with will be taken into account when assessing the support available to you. You can find further details on the Student Finance England website. The amount of loan you can receive also depends on where you plan to live and study.

Is there any other help available?
At the same time, and on the same form on which you apply for a tuition fee loan and/or a living cost loan, you can also apply for a maintenance grant. The grant does not have to be repaid. It is an annual payment towards living costs that is entirely means-tested. In order to receive any level of grant, you must have an annual household income below £42,620. Students with a household income below £25,000 a year should receive the maximum annual grant available of £3,387 (2014/15 figures).

Please note that it is your responsibility to ascertain whether you are personally eligible to receive government funding; all of the information in this publication refers to students who are eligible for funding from the UK government. Your nationality, length of residency in the UK and any prior higher education study can all affect whether you will receive funding.

Additional funding is available for students with children, those with adult dependants and students with disabilities or additional support needs. The www.gov.uk website has full details.

Summary and how to apply
To apply for government funding (two loans and a grant): go to www.gov.uk and follow the links to student finance.

• If you are taking an NHS funded course, you apply direct to the NHS, but depending on your course you may also be eligible to apply for funding from Student Finance England/Wales/Northern Ireland/SAAS
• Applications normally open in January/February of the year you will start university. You should apply as soon as possible
• Keep track of your application
• Apply every year
• You don’t have to apply for all support available
• Loans are repayable; the grant is not.
University scholarships and bursaries

We want to attract and support the best students, regardless of financial background. For that reason we have a range of scholarships and bursaries for entrants to Keele in September 2015. Please note that bursaries and scholarships do not have to be repaid. You can have more than one scholarship or bursary.

1. The Keele Excellence Scholarship
The Keele Excellence Scholarship is a cash award of £2,000, £1,000 or £500 for each year of your full-time undergraduate course at Keele University. In order to qualify for a Keele Excellence Scholarship you have to meet the following criteria:

- **£2,000 Scholarship**
  - If you attain a minimum of three A grades at A2 level (or equivalent in other qualifications - contact us or go to our website for an indicative list) AND
  - You commence a full-time undergraduate degree course at Keele University in September 2015 AND
  - You are a UK student liable to pay £9,000 tuition fees

You should receive a Keele University Excellence Scholarship of £2,000 a year for the duration of your full-time undergraduate degree course at Keele University.

- **£1,000 Scholarship**
  - If you attain a minimum of two A grades and one B grade at A2 level (or equivalent – see our website for an indicative list) AND
  - You commence a full-time undergraduate degree course at Keele University in September 2015 AND
  - You are a UK student liable to pay £9,000 tuition fees

You should receive a Keele University Excellence Scholarship of £1,000 a year for the duration of your full-time undergraduate degree course at Keele University.

- **£500 Scholarship**
  - If you attain a minimum of one A grade and two B grades at A2 level (or equivalent – see our website for an indicative list) AND
  - You commence a full-time undergraduate degree course at Keele University in September 2015 AND
  - You are a UK student liable to pay £9,000 tuition fees

You should receive a Keele University Excellence Scholarship of £500 a year for the duration of your full-time undergraduate degree course at Keele University.

Please note that the Keele Excellence Scholarship is based on grades and not on equivalent tariff points.

Exemptions (who does not qualify for an award)
- The Excellence Scholarship is aimed at students who are taking their first degree. Students who have a first degree or equivalent level qualification will not be considered for a Keele Excellence Scholarship.
- Students taking undergraduate Medicine will not be considered for a Keele Excellence Scholarship.
- Students who are in receipt of an NHS Bursary funded by the NHS, and students taking the BA in Social Work, will not be considered for the Excellence Scholarship.
- Students paying international tuition fees will not be eligible for the Excellence Scholarship (there is a separate scheme for international students who achieve academic excellence).
- Students whose qualifications do not appear on the list on our web pages will not be eligible for the Scholarship.

All eligible students will be considered automatically for the Scholarship, and we will write to those who are going to receive an award in the first semester of the 2015/16 academic year.

Once you know your pre-entry examination results – or if you know them now – you should be able to work out whether you are going to receive a Scholarship.

If you have further questions about the Excellence Scholarships, please contact us at support.centre@keele.ac.uk or call 01782 734481.

2. The Keele University Bursary (no application needed)
A bursary of £1,000 a year is available for all undergraduate students who:

- Commence their full-time undergraduate degree at Keele in September 2015,
- Are liable to pay the full tuition fee of £9,000.
- Have a gross annual household income below £25,000
- Receive the maximum maintenance grant or Special Support Grant of £3378 in 2015/16
- Are not on a course that receives other public funding eg. NHS funded courses, PGCE or Social Work

Exemptions
Please note that if you are receiving any non-repayable, non-means-tested funding from your Government towards your tuition fee payment, you will not receive the Keele University Bursary. For example, Welsh students who receive partial tuition fee funding from the Welsh Assembly will not receive the Keele University Bursary.

3. The Study Abroad Bursary
A bursary of £1,000 to support some students taking part in our popular Study Abroad Programme is publicised to current students.
At Keele, we are proud of the high number of graduates who go on to have outstanding success year after year, and across all degree programmes, in finding relevant employment or further training. At 93%, our graduate employment rate is well above the national average.

Although employment is the goal of many Keele students, the Keele Careers and Employability team make full provisions for those interested in research, further study, training, voluntary work, taking time out to travel or starting their own business.

Keele graduates progress into an incredibly diverse range of careers working for organisations across all sectors and in all parts of the world.

Graduates have gone on to the following roles:
- Age UK, Senior Campaigns Officer
- Boots UK Limited, Pharmacy Manager
- BSG Solicitors LLP Ltd., Solicitor
- Citizens Advice, Gateway Assessor
- Deloitte UK, Graduate Consultant in Data Analytics
- Great Ormond Street Hospital, Site Surveillance Officer
- Financial Times, Deputy Chief Sub Editor, FT Weekend Magazine
- Heart of England NHS Trust, Laboratory Manager
- Keele University, Development Officer
- KPMG LLP (UK), Actuary
- Merlin Entertainments Plc, Marketing Graduate
- Mitchells and Butlers Plc, Assistant Manager
- Red Alligator Group Ltd., Events Co-ordinator
- Shell UK Ltd., IT Consultant
- Staffordshire County Council, Social Worker
- Theatre by the Lake (Keswick), Head of Education and Participation
- The Royal Bank of Scotland, Data Quality and Control Operation Analyst
- Transpak Equipment Corporation, Foreign Sales Representative

For more information about Careers and Employability at Keele, visit www.keele.ac.uk/careers

Where do Keele graduates work?
Harry Williams
2nd year Biomedical Science
and Member of Student Council
“Students often struggle to caption Keele in a few words, but for me, I quite like how no one (not even the majority of Keele students) actually knows where Keele is. I think it’s that originality and uniqueness which gives Keele its charm.

Keele is as much about the people as it the squirrels: We’re a close-knit community and strong family. You make friends with other students, lecturers, tutors and staff serving you coffee in Blend or Costa (more often than not, they’ll be students) and I wouldn’t personally have it any other way.”

Ela Hollies
Film Maker and 3rd year Media, Communications and Sociology
“I looked up the university website, looked at the modules on offer and decided straight away that it was the course I wanted. I didn’t even go to an open day, and so on the visit day after receiving my offer I was very pleasantly surprised...and now I’m even writing blogs for the University to tell you all how great it is here, so you know it must be fairly decent.

And so why did I choose Keele? Honestly...the fact it’s one of the cheapest places to live in the country certainly influenced my decision, but mostly I loved the idea you could pick modules from pretty much any discipline to really tailor your degree around your interests and/or future aspirations. How I actually happened upon Keele was accidental, but I’m definitely glad I did.”

Nicola Edwards
MA Criminology and Criminal Justice, Keele University Student of the Year 2014
“Keele to me is an amazingly beautiful place, both inside and out. The beauty of the green environment that surrounds Keele is matched by the beauty and warmth of the people that make Keele.

My favourite place on campus is the library. Perhaps this choice says much about my book worm tendencies! The library can be whatever you need it to be, it is a place that offers opportunity to grow with every book.

However, the staff, the Students’ Union, and the students make Keele an amazing place to be. Keele is full of role models; these are amazing people who go above and beyond what is expected of them for the benefit of others. Keele is full of people who will inspire you to grow in to the person you want to be.”

Mel Piper
MA Creative Writing, President of Keele Creative Writing Society and Keele Quidditch
“Keele means everything to me. Before I left Keele for the summer, my friend and I were chatting about how much we had changed since we came here.

I wasn’t exactly shy before I came to Keele, but coming to uni has shown to me just what you can do and get involved in if you put your mind to it. If you had told me three years ago that I would be this involved at Keele and been the recipient of awards at the KeeleSU awards last year, I would not have believed you for a second. Keele is my second home, and my friends are family.

My favourite places at Keele have to be the lakes by Keele for their beauty, Lindsay Bar and the KPA for the great evenings I’ve spent there, and The Writing Room for such creative inspiration.”

Search for #mykeele to read more student stories or visit www.keele.ac.uk/undergraduate
Visit Days for Applicants

Keele holds a number of Visit Days each year, which give students holding an offer to Keele the opportunity to visit the campus and learn more about the courses and university life in general. The Visit Days in 2015 are as follows:

- Saturday 21 February (10am-4pm)
- Sunday 1 March (10am-4pm)
- Saturday 14 March (10am-4pm)

What’s on offer?
The Visit Days will allow you to meet with staff and students and see all aspects of the campus; a full programme of activities is offered, details of which will be sent once you have booked your place to attend.

General talks are offered throughout the day from 10.15am. Topics include:

- Why Keele?
- Student Life
- Money for Students
- Sport at Keele
- Careers and Employability
- Study Abroad
- Parents'/Guardians’ Information Session
- Languages for All
- Discovering Newcastle and North Staffordshire
- Foundation Year Programmes
- Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language
- Electives

Plus, you will be able to talk to staff about the following:

- Accommodation and catering
- Admission and entry requirements
- Foundation Year routes
- Language learning opportunities
- Student funding, bursaries and scholarships
- Study abroad opportunities
- The local area

KeeleSU (the Students’ Union) will have information about the services it offers, and details of the clubs and societies available to Keele students; for those interested in sport, the Sports Centre will be open throughout the day.

Student ambassadors will be giving tours of the campus, and showing the Halls of Residence. Full details will be available on the day.
Academic Sessions as part of the Visit Days
All academic schools will be offering subject talks and drop-in sessions at times throughout the day from 11am or earlier if indicated (with the exception of Social Work who meet their applicants at interview).

Accounting
Accounting and Finance
American Studies
Applied Environmental Science
Astrophysics
Biochemistry
Biology
Biomedical Science
Business Economics
Business Management
Chemistry
Computer Science
Creative Computing
Criminology
Economics
Education
English
English and American Literatures
English with Creative Writing
Environmental Studies
Environment and Sustainability
Film Studies
Finance
Forensic Science
Foundation Year Programmes
Geography
Geology
Geoscience
History
Human Biology
Human Geography
Human Resource Management
Information Systems
International Business
International Relations
Law
Management
Marketing
Mathematics
Media, Communications and Culture
Medical Chemistry
Medicine
Midwifery
Music
Music Technology
Neuroscience
Nursing
Pharmaceutical Science, Technology and Business
Pharmacy
Philosophy
Physical Geography
Physics
Physiotherapy
Politics
Psychology
Smart Systems
Sociology

Subject-specific Information and visits to Academic Schools
School of Law
The School is offering a Law teaching taster session between 12noon-1pm in Chancellor’s Building room CBA1.102, which is designed to give you a real insight as to what it will be like to study Law here. This is designed for students only – parents are welcome to the other general talks and to meet staff and students. You will receive an email inviting you to make a booking if you wish to attend this session on the day of your visit.

School of Life Sciences
We cordially invite all applicants to any programme within the School to visit us – Biochemistry, Biology, Biomedical Science, Human Biology, and Neuroscience. You will be given an opportunity to join in our taster laboratory activities and to talk to staff and current Keele students. There will also be opportunities for one-to-one sessions with staff for applicants and their families.

Timetable:
10-11am  Drop-in one-to-one sessions
11am-12noon Taster laboratory activity
12noon-12.30pm Refreshments and chat to staff and students
12.30-1.30pm Taster laboratory activity
1.30-2pm Refreshments and chat to staff and students
2-3pm Drop-in one-to-one sessions

You will receive an email inviting you to make a booking if you wish to attend this session on the day of your visit.

School of Physical and Geographical Sciences
Applicants are invited to attend subject-specific information and activities throughout the day to give you a real perspective of studying our degree programmes at Keele. There will also be opportunities to have tours of the teaching laboratories and talk to staff and current students, with refreshments available.

School of Politics, International Relations and Philosophy (SPIRE)
International Relations and Politics
Applicants for Single and Dual Honours programmes in the subjects of International Relations and Politics are invited to a taster tutorial led by SPIRE staff at 11-11.45am in the Chancellor’s Building, Room CBA1.103, which will include an overview of the first year. This will be followed by a drop-in session between 12noon-1pm, and an informative talk on International Relations and Politics will be available at 2.45pm. You do not need to book separately for this taster tutorial session; just ensure you have made your online booking to attend one of the Visit Day dates.

Environmental Studies
Applicants for Environmental Studies are invited to an interactive informative talk led by SPIRE staff at 1.30 – 2.15pm in the Chancellor’s Building, Room CBA1.103. A drop-in session between 12noon-1pm is available for those who wish to meet our academic staff, and some of our current students, for individual discussion.

Philosophy
Applicants for Philosophy are invited to a taster tutorial “Personal Identity” at 11.45am-12.30pm in the Chancellor’s Building, Room CBA1.021. At other times staff will be available for drop-in sessions, with an informative talk about the course beforehand at 11am, which will be repeated again at 2pm. You do not need to book separately for these sessions; just ensure you have made your online booking to attend one of the Visit Day dates.

Full details of academic sessions will be in the Visit Day programme booklet emailed once you have made a booking to attend, and will be available to collect on the day of your visit. In addition some schools offer special taster sessions (see page 25-26) and request that you book your place in advance of visiting. Once you’ve booked a Visit Day we will send you a follow up email about these, if you need to make a booking.
School of Sociology and Criminology
The School of Sociology and Criminology will be offering talks and a taster session for each programme throughout the day. The taster sessions are designed to give you an insight as to what it will be like to study Criminology and/or Sociology at Keele and are designed for applicants only. Staff will also be available to answer questions. You should allow half an hour for the talk and forty-five minutes for the taster session. Parents and supporters are very welcome to attend the talks and to meet staff and current students throughout the day.
If you would like to take part in one or both of our taster sessions, which take place in room CBB2.023 in the Chancellor’s Building, we would be grateful if you could reserve your place by making a booking once you have received the relevant email invitation. Full details of timings and venues for the talks will be given in the programme emailed to you before your visit.

Booking your place
As you’re holding an offer with Keele, we will email you to invite you to one of our exclusive Visit Days for Applicants. You’ll need to follow the link in the email to make a booking and select which day you would like to attend. Once you have made a booking for a particular Visit Day, you may receive further emails with an invitation to attend a subject talk. You should make this booking separately if you wish to secure your place to attend these – details of the times of the talks and how to book will be included in the email.

Not able to book online?
If not booking online, please email or phone the Recruitment, Outreach and Access office giving your full name, date of birth, UCAS personal ID and date of visit. Contact us on 01782 734909/733949 or email visits@keele.ac.uk. Please ensure you use only one of these booking methods.

What if I can’t make these dates?
If you can’t make one of the Visit Day dates, you are welcome to make an independent visit to Keele. Mini visit tours of campus will also be offered during the Easter holiday. Check the website for dates and booking details.

For more details go to www.keele.ac.uk/visiting
Next steps

Keep in touch
- Check you are happy with the details of your offer and that it matches the qualifications you are taking
- If any of your details change don’t forget to let us know
- Why not join our eMentoring scheme which will put you in touch with a current Keele student? Just visit www.keele.ac.uk/keeledesire to find out more and sign-up
- You can also join us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter (@KeeleUniversity) and Instagram

Come and visit
- We will send you an email invitation to attend one of our Visit Days for Applicants
- Book your place online – and remember family are welcome too
- We also recommend that you book your seats in advance to attend the ‘Why Keele?’ talk
- On the day you can visit the Schools providing your course, and talk to the lecturers
- Speak to our student ambassadors – and find out why Keele is ranked 1st for overall Student Satisfaction in the UK
- Plan your journey: Where is Keele? We’re closer than you think, just 1.5 hours from London and an hour from Manchester and Birmingham
- We do offer a travel fund – look at the criteria to see if you would qualify at www.keele.ac.uk/visiting
- You will also be able to confirm if you are eligible for a bursary or scholarship
- Visit nearby Newcastle-under-Lyme, a lively market town with some great shops and night life and Stoke-on-Trent, our closest city and busy shopping area
- Sort out your finances. Go to www.direct.gov.uk to apply for student finance, and visit university web pages to check what other financial support you may be eligible for – the deadline to apply for student finance is usually the end of May

Respond to your offers
- Once all decisions are in you have to reply to your offers, making a first (firm) and second (insurance) choice – the UCAS deadline is 6 May 2015
- If your firm choice is unconditional then the place is yours; if it is conditional it’s yours if you meet all the conditions of your offer when your results are confirmed
- You then decline the rest

Check you’re prepared
- If you are planning to live in university accommodation, find out when you can apply. At Keele you will receive details in March with a May deadline
- Look into the clubs and societies you could join at university

Meet the conditions of your offer
- Once we have your exam results and providing you have met all the conditions of your offer, Keele will confirm your place. We will text you or you can look on UCAS Track
- If you don’t meet your offer, you should contact our Admissions hotline as we may be able to offer you a place on an alternative course
- If your detailed exam results aren’t sent to us by UCAS, you will need to send them yourself (i.e. Access to HE Diploma)

Get ready to arrive
- We’ll send you a welcome pack and links to online information to help you settle in
- Plan your welcome week activities
- Join in the chat on social media and start to make friends!