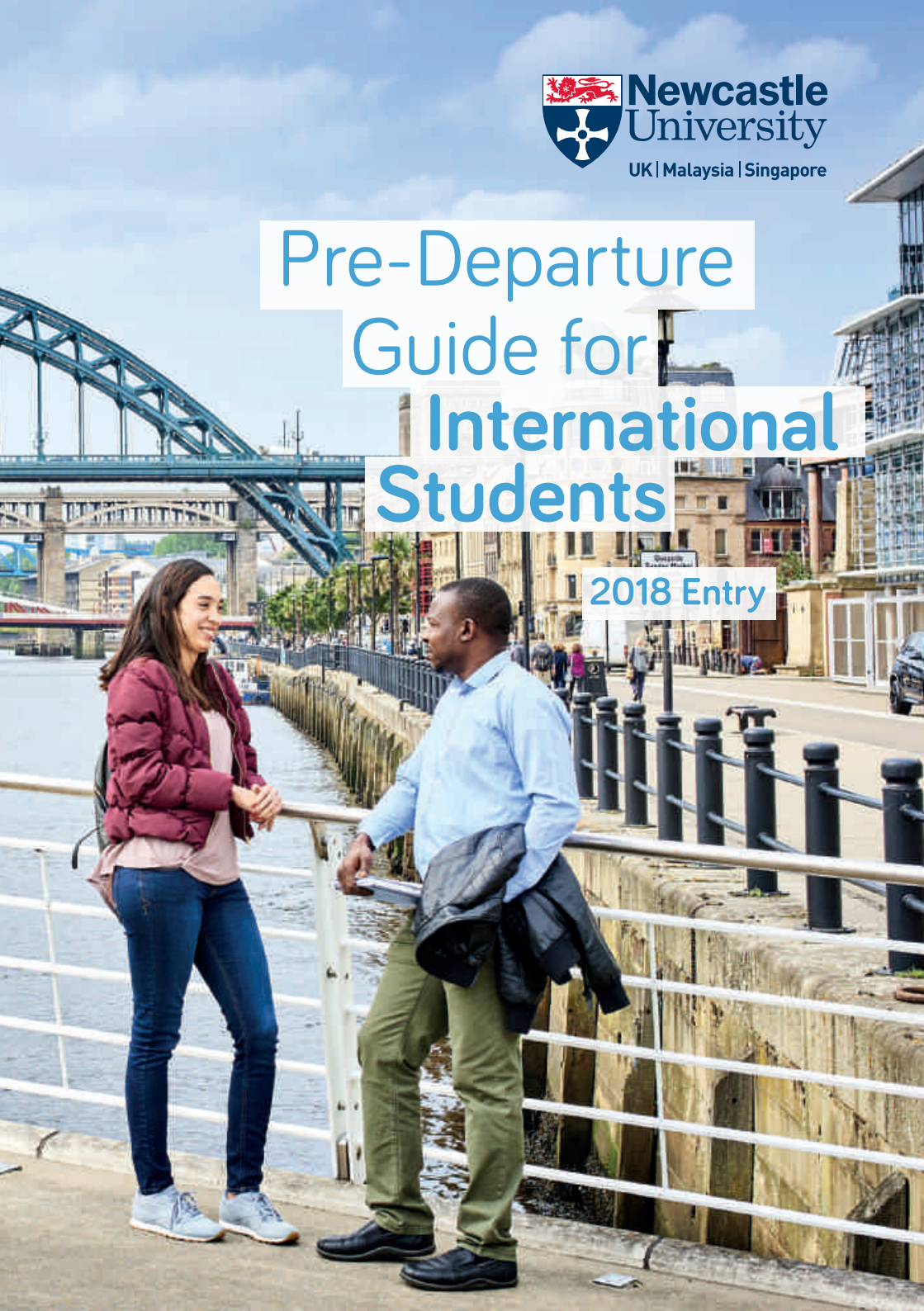


Pre-Departure Guide for International Students

2018 Entry



Welcome to Newcastle

Congratulations on your offer to study at Newcastle University!

We are delighted that you are considering joining us and look forward to welcoming you to Newcastle.

Our reputation

Our reputation for academic excellence, high graduate employability and a fantastic student experience attracts students from all over the world.

- Newcastle is a global top 200 university
Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2017–18 and QS World University Rankings 2018
- 93% overall satisfaction rate for international students
International Student Barometer Autumn 2017
- Join our diverse community of over 5,000 international students from 140 countries
- Awarded TEF Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework in 2017 – the highest possible rating





What happens next?

Now that you have received your offer, our online offer guides take you through the next steps.

The online offer guides on our website give you all the information you need to know about what happens next.

Find out how to...

- respond to your offer
- pay your deposit
- apply for a Tier 4 student visa
- apply for a place in University accommodation
- apply for funding and scholarships
- provisionally register before you arrive in Newcastle
- visit our campus, meet us in your country and attend online events

Offer guide for undergraduate students:

www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/your-offer-guide

Offer guide for postgraduate students:

www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/your-offer-guide

We'll also be in touch by email in the weeks before you arrive to make sure you have all the information you need.

Key



Airports with connecting flights to Newcastle



Ferry from Amsterdam





Travelling to Newcastle

With our excellent international transport links, you should have a smooth journey to Newcastle.



Flying to the UK

If you are travelling from outside the UK, we recommend flying direct to Newcastle International Airport. Newcastle has direct connections to four major international hub airports: Amsterdam, Dubai, London Heathrow and Paris.

Some students choose to travel via London on their way to Newcastle, and then take a bus, train or plane to Newcastle.

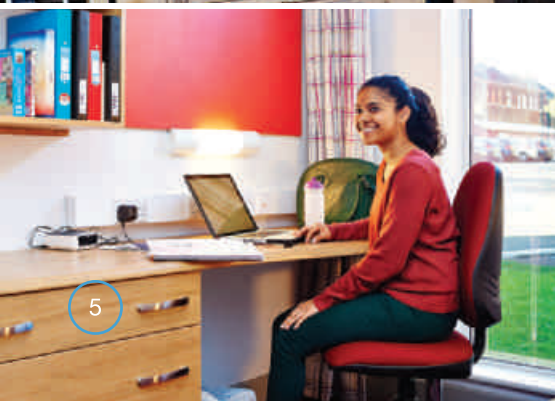
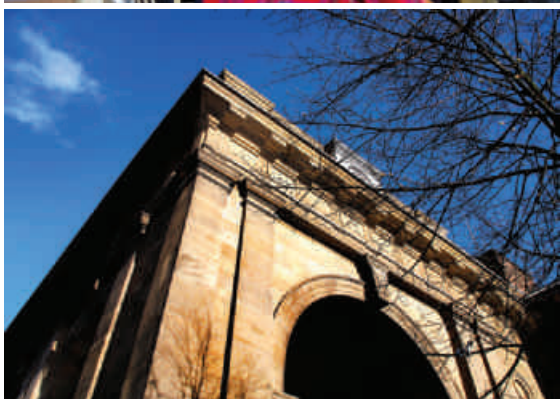
Whatever your plan, we suggest booking your travel as early as possible to get the best price.

Travelling via another country

If you intend to travel to the UK via another airport in a third country, you may need a 'transit' visa even if you will not be leaving the transit lounge. You should ask at the embassy of the transit destination in your home country about the visas you will require.

Students from outside the European Economic Area are advised not to enter the UK via the Republic of Ireland, as there is no immigration control at the border and you may not receive the correct immigration permission to study in the UK.

To find a checklist of everything you need to prepare and pack in advance, visit www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival.



Arriving



Planning ahead is important to make sure your arrival goes smoothly.

Newcastle Airport Meet and Greet service

During the main arrivals period in September, at the beginning of the academic year, we arrange for University staff to meet you at the airport.

On some days we also provide free transport from the airport to your University accommodation or to a central point on the main University campus. You need to book this service. Bookings open in July and close in early September.

To check the dates of this service and to book your transport, see www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/international/airport.

Travelling to campus

If you need to make your own way from the airport to your accommodation, it is easy to get a taxi from the taxi rank outside the arrivals gate at the airport. A typical fare will be around £20–£25 to the city centre. Alternatively, you can take the Metro to the city centre. This will cost about £4.

Newcastle Central Railway Station and Newcastle Coach Station are both located in the city centre. If you arrive by train or coach, it is probably best to take a taxi to your accommodation as this will be the quickest and easiest way, especially if you are carrying a lot of luggage. The maximum fare you can expect to pay is around £15.

Accessing your accommodation

If you miss the Meet and Greet service, your flight is delayed or you arrive outside of normal office hours, then you will need to telephone the University's 24-hour security service on **+44 (0) 191 208 6817** as soon as you land. They will ask you for your student number or UCAS number so please make sure you have these with you. The security service will arrange to meet you at a central location. University security staff wear black and grey uniforms bearing the University logo or bright yellow jackets and carry security identification (ID). You can then travel directly to the agreed meeting place.

International Welcome

We'll make sure you feel welcome and settled in your new home.

Details of the various events you can attend will be available online closer to the time. When you arrive, you'll also be given a booklet with a timetable of what's on offer.

Information sessions

The Welcome Week timetable includes a chance to get detailed information that you'll need as you start your life in Newcastle. Our information sessions cover topics such as:

- registering on your course
- immigration advice
- adjusting to life overseas
- learning at Newcastle
- support services
- language development opportunities

www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/international/info

Early arrivals

Newcastle University Students' Union (NUSU) organises a social activities programme for all international students to help you get to know the campus, the region and each other before your studies begin.

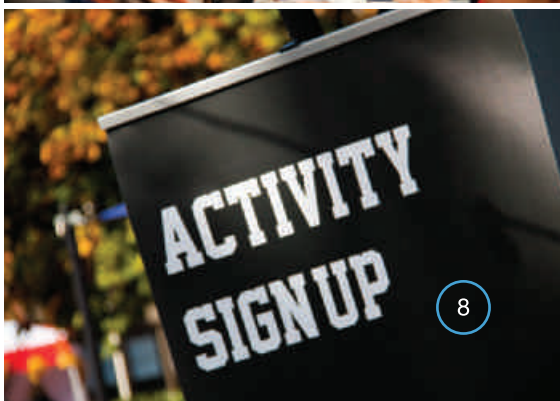
www.nusu.co.uk/earlyarrivals

Freshers' Week

The Students' Union also runs over 300 social events during the first week of term to help all new students settle in. This is called Freshers' Week and includes a mix of different types of activities, many of which are alcohol-free. To participate in Freshers' Week, you need to buy a wristband and to book in advance.

www.nusufreshers.co.uk

Explore the city and campus before you arrive.
www.ncl.ac.uk/video



Living in Newcastle

Newcastle is a vibrant and lively city, rich in history and culture. Here are five reasons our students love Newcastle.

1 It's welcoming, multicultural and safe

Newcastle is a very student-friendly city with a strong focus on maintaining a safe and vibrant city centre. One in six people in Newcastle is a student, so you'll be in good company!

World-class campus in a world-famous city



2 It's affordable

The cost of living in Newcastle is relatively low compared to many other cities in the UK. The estimated average cost of living for a single international student (excluding tuition fees) is:

Undergraduate:

£9,500–£10,500 (9 months)

Postgraduate:

£11,500–£12,500 (12 months)



3 It's easy to get around

Travelling around Newcastle is very easy. The city centre is compact and you can walk between most places within 15 minutes. Students mostly get around the city by bus, Metro and bicycle. World-class music, comedy, cinema, nightlife, food, shopping and sport are available right in the city centre. By the River Tyne, you'll find iconic bridges, international arts venues, restaurants and bars which form the Quayside.



4 It's perfect for exploring the rest of the UK

Stunning countryside and World Heritage Sites such as Hadrian's Wall (see left) are only a short journey away, and it's just 25 minutes to the beach. If you want to travel further, there are excellent rail transport links with other UK cities.



5 It's a gateway to Europe

During vacations, you can easily travel to Europe. Newcastle International Airport is on the edge of the city and offers direct flights to many major European cities and other international destinations. Our Visa Team can help ensure you have everything you need to travel.



Things to do in your first week

Be prepared for your first week in Newcastle to be a very busy and tiring one!

Checklist:

- Let your family know that you've arrived
- Open a UK bank account
- Complete your University registration
- Confirm your identity and visa
- Pay your tuition fees
- Collect your smartcard
- Collect your Biometric Residence Permit
- Register with a doctor
- Take the University English Language Assessment
- Notify us if you have a disability or medical condition
- Register with the police
- Check your timetable





Events to attend:

- International Welcome
- City and University Welcome Reception
- Early Arrivals
- Freshers' Week
- School Induction



Any questions?

Once you arrive, you'll be given contact information for a range of people who can help you.

Coming to study in another country can be a challenging time. You may feel worried about missing home, adapting to the different teaching styles or making new friends.

We have free support services ready to help you, including a dedicated student services building in the heart of the campus, King's Gate, and a Student Advice Centre in the Students' Union.

We offer support in a range of areas:

- questions about your course
- visa and immigration
- English language
- writing and maths skills
- finance
- careers and employment
- health and disability
- counselling and mental health
- legal matters
- personal and family issues





Important dates 2018–19

September 2018 arrival dates

Arrival, Welcome and Registration

Monday 17 – Wednesday 26 September

International Welcome

Monday 17 – Friday 21 September

Freshers' Week

Sunday 23 – Friday 28 September

Latest recommended arrival

Monday 24 September

January 2019 arrival dates

International Welcome

Wednesday 23 – Friday 25 January

Final registration date

Monday 28 January

Terms	Semesters
Autumn term: Monday 24 September – Friday 14 December 2018	Semester 1: Monday 24 September 2018 – Friday 25 January 2019
Christmas vacation: Saturday 15 December 2018 – Sunday 6 January 2019	
Spring term: Monday 7 January – Friday 29 March 2019	Semester 2: Monday 28 January – Friday 14 June 2019
Easter vacation: Saturday 30 March – Sunday 28 April 2019	
Summer term: Monday 29 April – Friday 14 June 2019	

Term dates for some postgraduate courses may vary, so check with your School.

This publication is intended as advance publicity for information and guidance purposes only. Details included are correct at the time of going to press in April 2018. The most up-to-date and detailed source of information at any time is the University website www.ncl.ac.uk

Full details of the University's terms and conditions, including reference to all relevant policies, procedures, regulations and information provision, are available at www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/regulations

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