

Moving Away from Home for University

Hello! My name is Lydia and I graduated from Newcastle University last summer. I am originally from Halifax in West Yorkshire. When choosing a university, I really wanted to get away from a small town and move to a city where there was lots going on!

Moving Away

After my A levels, I took a gap year and travelled Australia for 4 months. I am really glad I did this as I gained skills of living away from home and a level of independence before going to university. As I'd been to the other side of the world, going 2 hours up the A1 didn't seem too far at all!

However, for many of my friends this was their first time living away from home. Living with new people in halls, you are all in it together and your uni friends and house mates do become your second family. I am really glad I moved away from home to go to university, as I would not have made some of the friendships I have made or gained all the experiences I have, had I gone to university near home.



Lydia

Getting Involved

At times I did feel homesick, and craved a roast dinner on a Sunday cooked by my dad, but regular FaceTime with my family and home friends helped with this. Joining the Newcastle University Women's Football team was also like having a second family too. I would really encourage new students to get involved in sports teams and societies to give you the opportunity to meet like-minded people.

First Year and Beyond

In my first year I lived in Halls of Residence with 10 others, which was not always the tidiest, but lots of fun! We had a shared kitchen and living area, but I had my own bathroom. Living with this number of people meant I already knew 10 friendly faces in a new city. This was really comforting.

In my second year, I then moved out to a private house with 7 others that I had lived with in my first year. In my final year, as I had completed a placement, most of my friends had graduated and so I lived with course friends.

Lydia, Marketing and Management (BSc) Graduate