

# Student Wellbeing Service



## SAAS - Independent Status

You'll be classed as independent if:

- you are 25 or over on the first day of the academic year we are assessing you for
- your parents are no longer alive and you do not have a legal guardian
- you do not know where your parents live
- you were married, in a civil partnership or living with a partner before the first day of the academic year we are assessing you for
- you have a child under the age of 18, who depends on you financially at the start of the academic year we are assessing you for
- you have supported yourself from earnings or benefits, outside full-time education, for any three years before the first day of the first academic year of your course (the relevant date). We will take into account periods when you were:
  - receiving benefit as a person looking for work
  - in training under a government training programme
  - receiving any pension, allowance or other benefit for maternity, sickness or injury; or
  - receiving an advanced research-level postgraduate award
- you are permanently not in contact with your parents before the start of the academic year we are assessing you for (we will need evidence to prove this).