

WELCOME TO BRUNEL

International edition

ARRIVAL GUIDE 2023

Brilliant

[bryl-e-ant] *adjective*

be bold, be brave, be you



Brunel
University
London



IT ALL STARTS NOW

Welcome to Brunel University London – we're really excited to welcome you to the Brunel community.

You're probably feeling nervous, excited and full of anticipation. We think you're going to love being part of Brunel and we want to make your first steps as easy as possible, so we've put together a useful guide to help you settle in and feel prepared to start your studies.

In this guide, you'll find all the key things you'll need to do before you arrive, see what you can look forward to during Welcome Week, as well as information on where to find support and tips to help you transition into life at Brunel.

We're here to help you have the best university experience possible. Don't forget to share any snaps of your Welcome packs with us by tagging **#IamBrunel**.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday, 10 September

Move-in day / BruFest

Monday, 11 – Friday, 15 September

Welcome Week



YOUR HANDY CHECKLISTS

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- ☐ Keep an eye on your emails for joining information
- ☐ Complete your registration online
- ☐ Apply for accommodation by Thursday, 31 August
- ☐ Complete your pre-arrival task by Monday, 11 September
- ☐ Apply for your tuition fees and student loan
- ☐ Follow @brunelcampuslife on Instagram
- ☐ Join our unbuddy offer holder community
- ☐ Meet the conditions on your offer letter Receive your CAS number
- ☐ Apply for your visa
- ☐ Book your flights
- ☐ Book your free airport pick-up service by Sunday 27 August 2023
- ☐ Complete your international student success module

IN YOUR HAND LUGGAGE

- ☐ Passport
- ☐ Flight tickets and travel information
- ☐ Insurance documents
- ☐ Offer letter
- ☐ Original copies of your transcripts and English language test results
- ☐ Evidence of finances (bank statement or sponsor letter)
- ☐ Details of immunisations / medication
- ☐ Airport pick-up booking confirmation

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- ☐ Collect the key for your student accommodation
- ☐ Collect your Biometric Residence Permit (BRP)*
- ☐ Pay remaining tuition fees
- ☐ Open a UK bank account
- ☐ Register with the Medical Centre

**If you're an EU or EEA applicant, you'll receive a digital visa and won't need to collect a BRP.*

Complete the checklist by visiting

STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/WELCOME



BECOME A BRUNEL STUDENT

Get on your way to becoming an official Brunel student by completing your online registration process.

Step 1: Register online

Head to our online student portal (eVision) and complete the online registration:

1. Log in to **evision.brunel.ac.uk** using your seven-digit student number and date of birth in a six-digit format (DDMMYY).
2. Complete all sections under 'My Checklist' – this includes your personal details and fee payment information.
3. Upload a copy of your passport.
4. Once you have completed 'My Checklist' and uploaded your documents, we'll review them. If for any reason your documents are declined, you'll be notified in 'My Checklist'.

Remember, if you have any problems uploading documentation, or you can't complete the online registration task for any reason, you'll be able to finish registering at the Netball Hall, in the Sports Centre. Registration will be available Monday, 11 September – Wednesday, 20 September from 9am–4.30pm (weekdays only).

Step 2: Complete your International Student Success Module

If you are moving to the UK to study at Brunel Epigeum's International Student Success Module will prepare you for everything you need to know about living in the UK before you start your studies.

Here's what you need to do:

1. Register at **courses.epigeum.com/register**
2. When completing your registration, you'll be asked to enter your 'token'. Copy and paste this number: b04cc9fa. This will give you free access to the course.
3. Once you've registered, start Epigeum's International Student Success Module.

Step 3: Visit 'The Big Hello' to collect your Student ID card and access your teaching timetable

You can collect your Student ID card from the Netball Hall from Monday, 11 September – Wednesday, 20 September from 9am–4.30pm (weekdays only).

Here, you'll also find out about all the essential information to starting at Brunel from one of our current students. We'll help you with setting up Wi-Fi access, logging into your timetable and answer any questions you have. You can also open a bank account and register with a GP.

We can post your ID card to your UK home address, just select your preferred option when you register online.

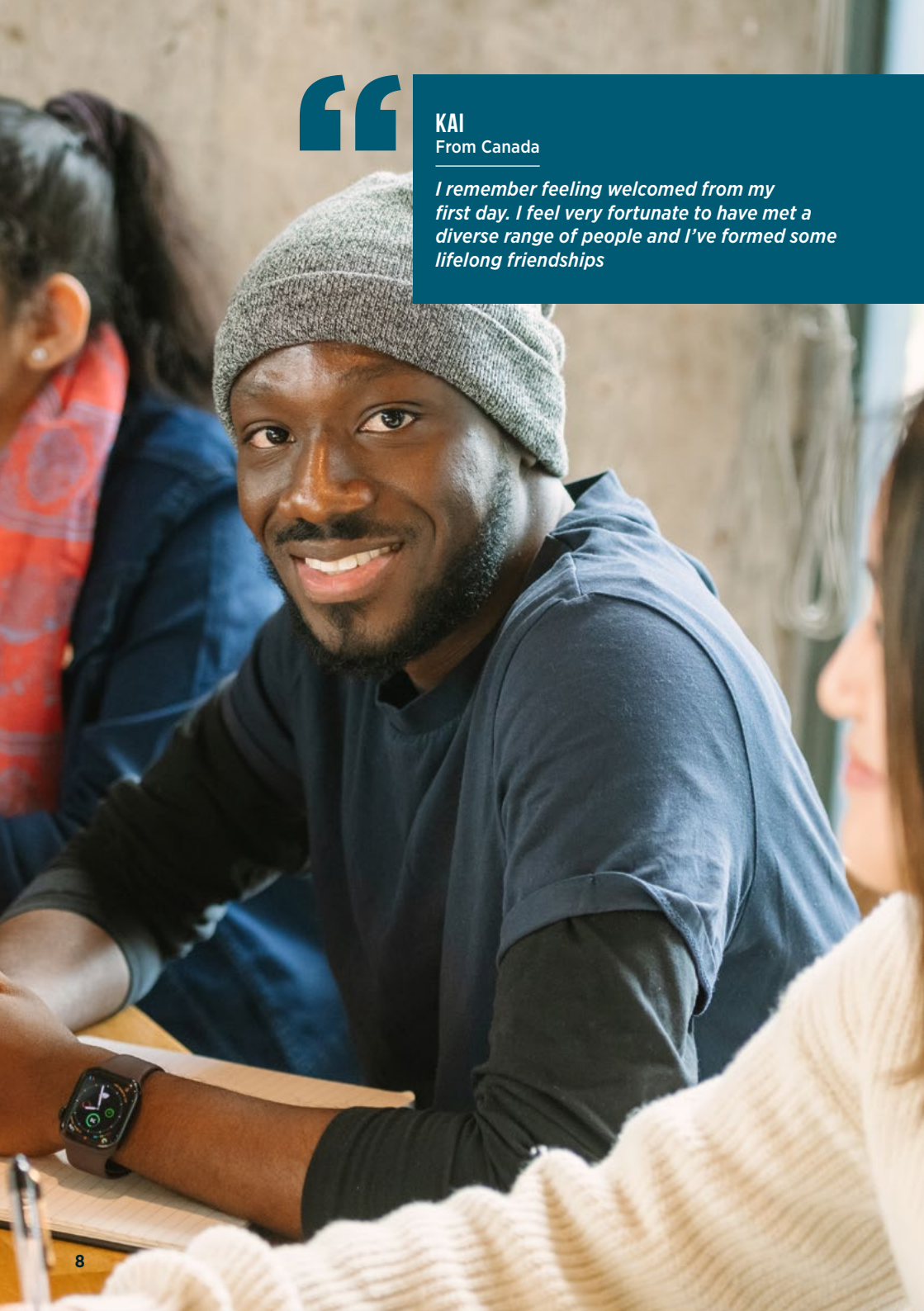
Once you have registered, you'll have access to your Brunel Network account and be able to view your timetable, Brunel email and more. For more information visit **students.brunel.ac.uk/study/your-timetable**

STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/BEFOREYOUARRIVE



KAI
From Canada

I remember feeling welcomed from my first day. I feel very fortunate to have met a diverse range of people and I've formed some lifelong friendships



HOW TO APPLY FOR YOUR VISA

As an international student, you'll most likely need a visa to study at Brunel. If you're unsure if this applies to you, use the **check if you need a UK visa service** on the UKVI's website gov.uk/check-uk-visa.

What type of visa do I need?

You should apply for a Student visa which covers the duration of your course. If you already have a UK visa, it's important to check that it's suitable for registration before arriving at Brunel.

When should I apply for a Student visa?

We highly recommend that you apply for your visa as soon as possible, but not more than six months before your course starts.

To apply for a Student visa, you'll need a CAS number. This is a unique number that we can only send to you after your offer has been made unconditional. We'll send your CAS number to you by email automatically – you don't need to request it.

How will I receive my Student visa?

Once your Student visa application is successful, your visa will be issued as an entry clearance vignette in your passport. This allows you entry into the UK for 30 days only.

Once in the UK, you'll need to collect your Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) – a visa in the form of a plastic card containing your biometric data. Your BRP shows the full duration of your permitted stay. You'll receive more detailed instructions from UKVI about how to collect your BRP. You must supply the BRP to complete your registration at Brunel. However, **if you're an EU / EEA national, you'll receive a digital Student visa rather than a BRP**. You'll be instructed on how to supply a copy of this visa to us in your registration instructions.

Families

If you're planning to come to the UK with your family, there are a number of things to consider; such as immigration, childcare and local schools, as well as the welfare of your family while in the UK. You can find out more about this at brunel.ac.uk/international/visas-and-immigration/Dependants.

STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/STUDENTVISA



COLLECTING YOUR BIOMETRIC RESIDENCE PERMIT (BRP)

If you're required to collect a BRP after arriving in the UK*, there'll be two possible places where you can collect it. This will depend on the option you select when you complete your Student visa application form.

**If you're an EU or EEA applicant, you'll receive a digital visa and won't need to collect a BRP.*

Collecting your BRP at Brunel

We strongly recommend that you collect your BRP from Brunel, particularly if you intend to stay in our on-campus accommodation or are living near to the University.

To do this, when completing your visa application form, you'll need to enter our Alternative Collection Code (ACL), which is provided in your CAS email.

Once you have arrived on campus, you'll need to collect your BRP from the Netball Hall during Welcome Week and afterwards from Brunel's Student Centre, located on the ground floor of the Howell Building. You'll need to bring your passport and the letter that UKVI will give you to confirm your BRP collection.

If your application includes family members who'll be coming with you to the UK (e.g. dependents), you'll also be able to collect their BRP here. You must email their full name(s), date of birth, relationship to you and your full name to immigration@brunel.ac.uk

Collecting your BRP at a Post Office

Alternatively, you can collect your BRP from a local Post Office. When completing your application form, you'll be asked to input the UK postcode of the address you'll be living at when you come to the UK. If your application is successful, you'll then be given instructions of which Post Office you need to go to in order to collect your BRP.

This will normally be the Post Office in Uxbridge town centre, or a Post Office close to where you'll be living. Please note that it will be your responsibility to ensure you have collected your BRP. If you choose this option, please be aware there may be significant waiting times at the Post Office during busy times of the year.

[STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/CAMPUSMAP](https://students.brunel.ac.uk/campusmap)



NAOMI
Music

I remember feeling welcomed from my first day. I feel very fortunate to have met a diverse group of people and I've formed some lifelong friendships

AMAZING THINGS TO COME

Welcome Week is where your journey begins. This week runs from Sunday, 10 September – Friday, 15 September and is a programme of fun events, talks and activities to help you find your feet and get ready to study.

BruFest

Sunday, 10 September, John Crank Garden

Many of you will be moving into your new accommodation on this date, so we'll be hosting BruFest in the John Crank Garden to welcome you all to our community and get to know each other. Expect some great live acts, DJ, food, outdoor activities and more.

The Big Hello

**Monday, 11 – Friday, 15 September
The Sports Centre (Netball Hall)**

This is your chance to collect your Student ID card and find out more about life at Brunel, directly from our current students. They'll talk you through the key things to know as a first-year student, from viewing your timetable, getting connected to our WiFi, opening a bank account, joining sports clubs, societies and more.

Welcome Week activities

Welcome Week is a great opportunity to get settled in and make new friends. The Union of Brunel Students has organised a fun-packed week for you – there's something for everyone.

If you're feeling active, try our inflatable assault course, step inside our laser tag maze and join our roller disco. We'll be bringing an arcade to campus for you to enjoy, and if you love board games, why not come along to challenge some of your new peers.

Or, if you're feeling more creative, decorate a pebble to add to our pebble snake or join us for afternoon tea and paint a mug. You can also take part in our drumming workshops or recharge your batteries on our Mindfulness Walk.

There's a packed night life too – from an outdoor cinema to a Silent Disco. And if you've still got the energy to keep partying, your student event space, The Venue, has events starting at 10pm going through until 3am.

We also highly recommend attending your Academic Induction to meet your teaching staff and fellow students and don't forget the Freshers Fair to learn about all the societies on offer.

STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/WELCOMEACTIONS



TRAVELLING TO THE UK

We highly recommend you fly into London Heathrow if possible, as it's only 20 minutes by car to Brunel.

Once you arrive in the UK, you'll need to go through the UK Border Control, also known as Customs. Please make sure you have the following documents ready for the Immigration Officer:

- Passport
- Offer letter
- CAS
- Qualifications
- Visa decision letter from the Home Office telling you where to collect your BRP
- Health documents (Chinese Certificate of Health Booklet – Chinese nationals only)
- Bank statements / evidence of funds

The Immigration Officer may ask you a few questions. Remember they're only doing their

job and are normally very friendly and helpful. You may be brought in for a further interview – don't panic if this happens, it's normal.

In the unlikely event that an Immigration Officer refuses you entry to the UK, you may be removed immediately or given a very short period of temporary admission. If this happens, please contact **admissions.immigration@brunel.ac.uk**

Electronic passport gates

If you have a Student visa in your passport and enter through the electronic passport gate, please also bring evidence of the date you entered the UK, to registration (i.e. flight ticket and boarding pass). We're required to check the date of arrival at registration.

STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/ARRIVEINTHEUK



GETTING TO BRUNEL

Airport Welcome Service (available from London Heathrow airport only)

We offer a free Airport Welcome Service where you'll be greeted upon arrival and driven straight to campus. This service is available from Sunday 10 September – Sunday 17 September from 9am–6pm. Book your place by visiting students.brunel.ac.uk/welcome/airport.

How does it work?

1. Sign up for the Airport Welcome Service. You'll need to know your flight details to tell us when to expect you.
2. You'll receive a booking confirmation and detailed instructions from Brunel on how to use the service.
3. When you arrive at Heathrow, you'll be greeted by our Airport Welcome Guides who'll direct you to the Airport Welcome Bus which will take you straight to campus.

What if I'm flying into a different airport?

From Stanstead Airport

We recommend taking the Jetlink 737 coach to Heathrow Airport's Central Bus Station, then take the U3 bus or a taxi from there to get to Brunel.

From Gatwick Airport

We recommend taking the Jetlink 797 coach from Gatwick South Terminal to Heathrow Airport's Central Bus Station, then take the U3 bus or a taxi from there to get to Brunel.

Other ways to get to Brunel

Travelling by taxi

There are a number of taxis at the ranks outside each Heathrow terminal. Many taxi companies accept cash and card payments, but check with the driver before you begin your journey.

Travelling by bus

The U3 bus going in the direction of Uxbridge will drop you off at campus. You can get on the U3 bus from the Heathrow Central Bus Station which is located between Terminals 2 and 3. You'll find directions to the bus station at the airport.

You can pay for the bus by using an Oyster card, a travel ticket or a contactless payment card. The bus driver won't be able to accept cash.

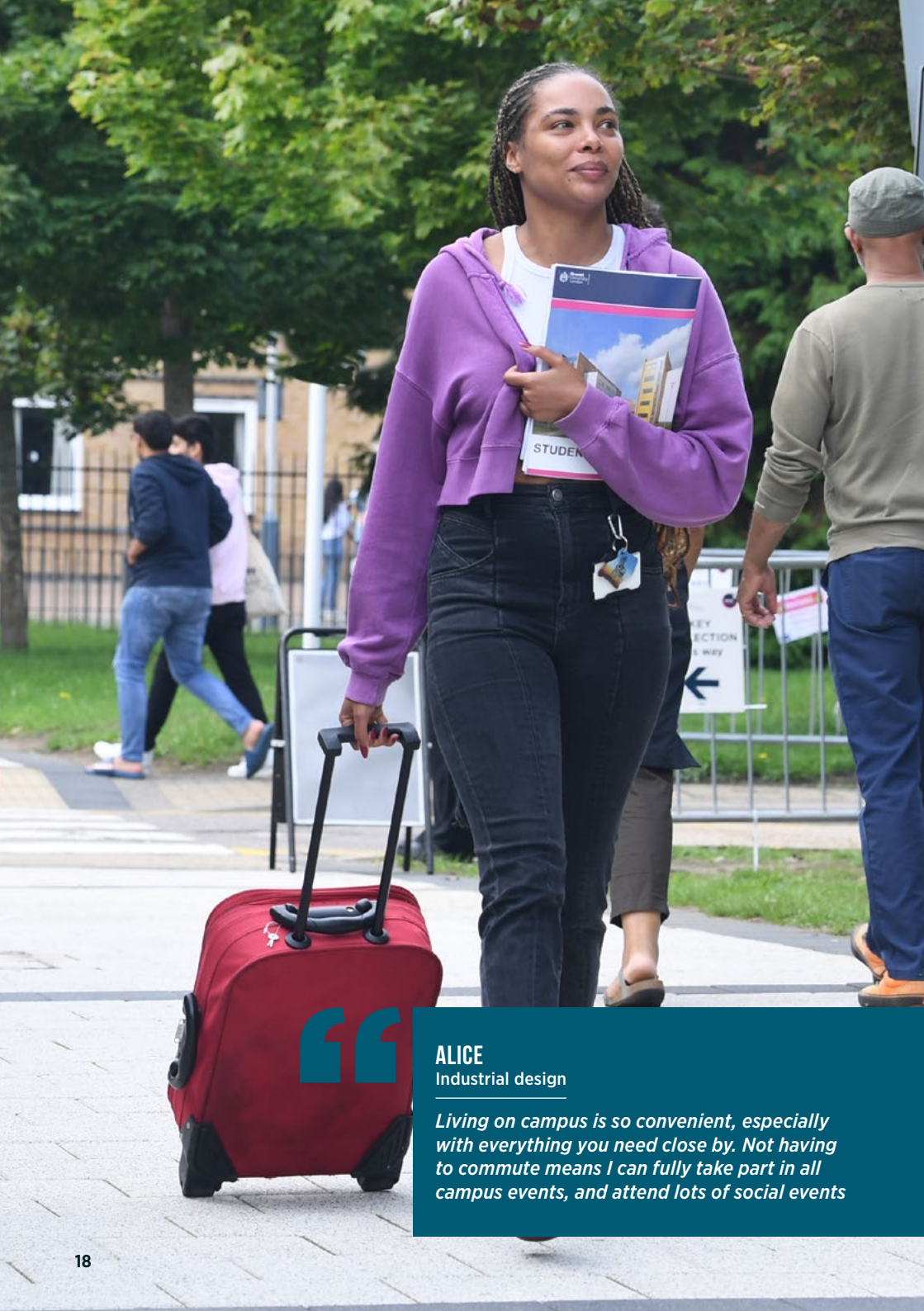
How to purchase an Oyster card or travel ticket

Oyster cards and travel tickets can be bought from the information stand located in the airport.

If you don't have an Oyster card, you'll need to pay £5 for a new one and then top the card up with an amount of money. You'll only need to add £7 to the card if you're travelling from Heathrow to Brunel. The Oyster card is then yours to keep and you can top it up as frequently as you need to.

Alternatively, a travel ticket will only cover the cost of your journey from Heathrow to Brunel. Once the journey is completed, you won't be able to use the ticket for any further journeys.

[STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/ARRIVEINTHEUK](https://students.brunel.ac.uk/arriveintheuk)



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ALICE
Industrial design

Living on campus is so convenient, especially with everything you need close by. Not having to commute means I can fully take part in all campus events, and attend lots of social events

MAKING BRUNEL YOUR HOME

Your accommodation

All of our students are guaranteed accommodation on campus, even if you live locally, as long as you apply online by Thursday, 31 August 2023 and hold an unconditional offer. You can apply at accom.brunel.ac.uk/apply

All of our halls of residence are on campus, so you're never more than a 10-minute walk from all the study, social and sporting facilities you need.

Moving into halls

You can collect your accommodation keys on Sunday, 10 September. When you arrive head to the Indoor Athletics Centre from 8.30am–8pm. We'll have lots of helpers around so that you can find your way around and somewhere to park.

If you're arriving from Monday, 11 September, your key collection will be the Student Living Reception at the Bishops Complex.

Your accommodation means you'll meet a number of new people from the moment you move in. Bring something along to prop your door open to encourage your new flatmates to pop in and say 'hi'.

Your ResLife Ambassadors (RAs)

We have a team of current students who are here to help. All our RAs have first-hand experience of life in halls. They'll be on hand to support you and provide all the information you need whilst living on campus. They'll be organising events throughout Welcome Week and during the first few weeks of term, so you'll have plenty of opportunities to meet new students.

You can follow our RAs on Instagram [@brunel.ras](https://www.instagram.com/brunel.ras) and [@brunelreslife](https://www.tiktok.com/@brunelreslife) on TikTok.

What to bring

If you're staying in on-campus accommodation, we have a range of housing equipment that's included in your payment. These include:

- laundry facilities
- toaster
- oven
- microwave
- a pillow and a duvet

You'll need to bring your own kitchen utensils, bedding covers and other homely items. These can be purchased for a reasonable price in shops near campus, or via UniKitOut.

UniKitOut

We have teamed up with UniKitOut – the UK's #1 provider of student starter kits – to make moving into your new place as easy as possible. Simply select and customise your kit, then get it pre-delivered directly to your halls, so it's there ready and waiting for you in your room when you arrive.

For more information, visit unikitout.com. Don't forget to use the promo code: **BRUNEL10** to receive a 10% discount on your order.

Living off-campus

If you're planning on staying at home or living off-campus, there are a number of facilities available on campus for you to use. We have a kitchen in the Howell Building, and lockers onsite to make life easier for you. There are also plenty of other spaces on campus where you can study or hang out with friends.

We want you to get the most out of your time at Brunel, regardless of where you're living.

[ACCOM.BRUNEL.AC.UK/APPLY](https://accom.brunel.ac.uk/apply)



WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

Starting university is a big step in your life and we're here to help you throughout your time at Brunel. If you need any advice, or want to access our welfare and wellbeing services, your student services have it covered.

Student Centre

The Student Centre is located in the Howell building. The team can help you with any non-academic enquiries, ranging from registration and finance, to visa applications and much more.

They provide a wide range of welfare support, including the Disability and Dyslexia Service, money and budgeting advice and the Counselling and Mental Wellbeing Service. There's also a dedicated officer that supports students who are estranged from their family, a care leaver or have caring responsibilities.

If you have reported a disability or learning difficulty when applying, you must make an appointment with an advisor to agree on the adjustments you may need on your course. Find out more at students.brunel.ac.uk/your-wellbeing

Medical Centre

The Medical Centre offers general medical care to all Brunel students living on-campus, or within our extensive practice area.

It's important for you to register with us whilst you're studying here, so we can look after you if you're unwell. Registering with us is easy, you just need to provide us with some information and complete the health questionnaire via brunel.ac.uk/medical-centre

Academic support

There's a wide variety of support available from your dedicated Taught Programmes Office (TPO) to your Personal Tutor. We also have an Academic Skills Service which will help you develop the skills required for university. You'll be allocated your Personal Tutor within the first couple of weeks.

It's important that you attend your academic induction day, as you'll be given all the information you need by academic staff, meet your peers and have the opportunity to ask questions.

Managing your finances

Before you leave your home country, please advise your bank or credit card provider that you'll be living in the UK and paying money upon arrival for university tuition and / or accommodation.

When transferring funds to Brunel, don't include your personal living expenses; separate arrangements should be made to transfer your personal expenses. Please note, we don't accept cash payments for tuition, accommodation or any other charges issued.

Opening a UK bank account

If you're planning to open a bank account in the UK, be aware that this can take up to 10 working days, and bank drafts will take up to two weeks to clear. We recommend you bring some cash for the first few weeks.

You'll need your BRP to open a bank account.

To help you understand your finances, we have teamed up with Blackbullion – an online money advice and guidance service. You can learn about taxes, savings and use their free budgeting calculator and student loan repayment estimator. You'll need to register using your Brunel email address at blackbullion.com

For more information on managing your money, how to save money while studying and where to go for support if you are struggling financially, visit students.brunel.ac.uk/finances

STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/SUPPORT



GET CONNECTED

All students can access Wi-Fi across campus, download Microsoft Office software for free and access our Library PCs 24/7 during term time.

Set up your devices and Brunel Network account

Once you've registered, you'll be given a Brunel Network account which consists of a username and password. Your network account provides access to: Office 365 Webmail, 24/7 access to printers (term-time), access to Dropoff Storage and other Microsoft applications.

To set up your account password, select 'My Brunel Network account' under the 'My Checklist' section on eVision. Here you'll find your username and be asked to create a password. If you have any problems, you can:

- Call the Service Desk on 01895 265 888: lines are open Monday – Friday from 8am – 5pm.
- Visit the IT Support Office (located in the foyer of the Bannerman Centre): open Monday – Friday from 9am – 7pm and Saturday – Sunday from 12pm – 7pm.
- Ask a friend with a network account to log a ticket on your behalf via the IT Help Portal.

Registering your devices

To make the most of your studies at Brunel, a laptop will be useful.

You'll need to register your devices via the Connect Portal on the intranet, so you can access campus Wi-Fi as soon as you arrive. You'll be asked to log in using your network username and password.

Online learning tools

We have free online tools that you'll be using during your teaching this year.

Brightspace is our virtual learning environment (VLE). You'll see all your modules here and find content including lecture slides and discussion boards. We also use a system called WISEflow which you'll use to submit coursework and take online exams.

Microsoft Teams and Zoom will be available for video calls and messaging with lecturers, friends and study groups.

You'll find out more about using these tools during Welcome Week.

[STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/CAMPUS/IT-AT-BRUNEL](https://students.brunel.ac.uk/campus/it-at-brunel)



TAKE YOUR PLACE IN OUR BRILLIANT COMMUNITY

We know starting university may feel a little daunting. With over 15,000 students studying here, there are lots of ways to make friends and meet new people. Whether it's through your studies, by joining a club or through events, there are plenty of opportunities to get to know your fellow students. We also have a whole range of activities planned to help you adjust and settle in.

Freshers' Fair

Head to the Freshers' Fair on Tuesday, 12 September, where you can find out about all the extra-curricular activities, sports clubs, societies and more available to join at Brunel.

Brunel Mentor Buddies

Ease yourself into life at Brunel by signing up for a buddy at buddies.brunel.ac.uk

Your buddy will be a second or third-year student who can answer any of your questions about life on-campus during your first few weeks. We have over 150 Brunel Buddies who come from a range of backgrounds and courses, we're confident we'll find a great match for you.

Become a volunteer

A rewarding way of expanding and developing your skills is to become a Brunel Volunteer. Our students have a long history of volunteering to help the community, local charities and non-profit organisations.

We have hundreds of different volunteering roles you can get involved in, both on and off campus. It's a fantastic opportunity to meet people whilst boosting your CV. Find out more and make a difference at brunel.ac.uk/volunteers

Working while you study

Having a part-time job is not only a fantastic way to earn some extra money, but it provides an opportunity to gain valuable work

experience and learn new skills. Our Job Shop can help you find part-time opportunities on and off campus. Find out more at students.brunel.ac.uk/workwhileyoustudy

You can also speak to our Professional Development Centre (PDC) about applying for part-time jobs, CV checking and careers advice. Find out more at brunel.ac.uk/pdc

Your students' union

The Union of Brunel Students is a dynamic and independent organisation led by elected officers representing our vibrant student body. They work in partnership with Brunel provide you with an impressive array of events, activities, and amenities that will enhance your university journey. Get ready for new connections, unforgettable adventures, and endless opportunities!

At the heart of the Union lies a powerful commitment to inclusivity and representation, creating a community where every student thrives at Brunel. Student course representatives are a vital part of the partnership work between the Union and Brunel to improve the student experience.

For more information and ways to get involved, check out the brochure enclosed in your pack, head to brunelstudents.com and follow [@brunelstudents](https://www.instagram.com/brunelstudents) on Instagram. To find out more about Team Brunel, the Union's student sports clubs, follow [@officialteambrunel](https://www.instagram.com/officialteambrunel) on Instagram.

PRANAY

Chemical Engineering

Join as many societies as you can, there are no limits! It's a great way to get involved and make friends

STUDENTS.BRUNEL.AC.UK/SETTLING-IN

CONNECT WITH US

We're really looking forward to welcoming you to our Brunel family. You can keep up to date with everything that's going on by following all our social channels:

 [/bruneluniversity](#)

 [@bruneluni](#)

 [bruneluni](#)

 [brunelcampus](#)

 [/bruneluniversity](#)

 [bruneluni](#)

 [@bruneluniversity](#)

 伦敦布鲁内尔大学

Join our offer holder community

Join our Unibuddy Community and connect with other new students before you arrive at Brunel. This is a dedicated space where you can meet others that are studying your course, have shared interests or are living near your chosen accommodation.

To log in, scan the relevant QR code below, or download the free 'Unibuddy Community' app from the IOS or Android store.



Join the September 2023
undergraduate student community



Join the September 2023
postgraduate community



WELCOME WEEK DATES

Sunday, 10 September

Move-in day / BruFest

Monday, 11 – Friday, 15 September

Welcome Week

Brunel University London
Kingston Lane, Uxbridge,
Middlesex, UB8 3PH
Tel +44 (0)1895 274000



#IamBrunel
students.brunel.ac.uk/welcome