

Student Support

As a Kingston University student you are provided with extensive support services throughout your studies. You will have access to essential academic support as well as practical support, such as finance, healthcare and faith services. The University also offers dedicated support to students with disabilities, mature students and others with additional needs.

Academic support at Kingston University

Kingston University is dedicated to [teaching excellence](#), our lecturers, personal tutors and specialist support staff are here to provide you with expert guidance during your studies. We also offer a comprehensive range of academic support services including academic skills centres, mentoring schemes, and help with English language and maths.



Academic Skills Centres

At our academic skills centres, lecturers and student advisers provide you with one-to-one support on your coursework – this includes help with researching, references and much more. There is a skills centre located at every campus, including St George's, University of London.

Personal tutors

From the start of your degree you are assigned a personal tutor. Your personal tutor can give you guidance on studying, student life and career progression. Regular meetings with your personal tutor are a great opportunity to discuss issues and developments you experience during your course.



Academic mentoring

While students are encouraged to think independently, they are also encouraged to support others in their studies. As such, the Academic Mentoring Programme is a platform for second-year students to share their knowledge and experiences with first-year students.

English language for international students

We offer free language courses throughout the academic year. These courses help international students gain even more confidence in speaking and writing in English.



MathsAid

If you are taking a course with a maths component, you can get into MathsAid to give your skills an extra boost. The programme consists of one-to-one sessions with trained tutors, peer-assisted learning and virtual learning.

Supporting you to study: helpful services at Kingston University

We provide a range of practical and personal support services to ensure you have the best time learning and living at Kingston University. Our student support services can help you with almost anything in student life, from keeping your health and wealth, to keeping your faith.

Student Life Centre



The Student Life Centre is the home to a number of key student support services including accommodation, money advice, disability support and student funds. All prospective and current students can access the support on offer. The centre is located at the heart of Penrhyn Road campus and is open Monday to Friday 8.30am–6.00pm (4.30pm on Fridays) during term time. It is also open during the holidays from 9.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

Union of Kingston Students

If you need any advice on academic issues during your studies, our [students' union](#) and their team of professional advisers offer free, independent support to our students.

Healthcare



We have an on-campus NHS doctors surgery at Penrhyn Road, available to all students. Our health centre also offers a range of [wellbeing services](#) and low-cost complementary therapies including: aromatherapy, massage therapy, osteopathy, reflexology and sports massage.

Childcare

The University has a [nursery](#) offering excellent care and education to children, ages two to five years. Students and staff at Kingston University have exclusive access to these facilities – rated Outstanding by Ofsted, with highly qualified and experienced staff.

Faith at Kingston University



Students at Kingston University come from so many different backgrounds, cultures and faiths. Already there are a great variety of faith-based student societies you can join and multi-faith prayer spaces for your use right on campus. Our [faith and spirituality team](#) offers support, whatever your beliefs, and can help you find places to worship in the University and in the local community.

Access and additional support

At Kingston University, we work hard to ensure that students from different backgrounds and circumstances have the opportunity to study, and enjoy their time with us. We offer dedicated access and support services to students with disabilities, mature students, young people leaving public care and more.

Disabilities: access and support

If you have a disability, specific learning difference or long-term health condition, we can make practical adjustments to help you fully benefit from your studies and student life. Disabled students can access a number of facilities and support services including:



- adapted accommodation;
- Study support, specialist IT equipment and software;
- disability allowance to help with university finances; and
- disabled parking.

Our disability advisers are on hand to assist you with any academic, financial or living requirements. For more information please visit our [disability](#) web pages.

Compact Scheme: fair access

The Compact Scheme aims to support the access, transition and success of individuals from groups under-represented in higher education. You are eligible for the Compact Scheme if you meet **at least one** of the following criteria:



- You are the first generation in your family to progress to higher education.
- You are a mature student (aged 21 or over on 1 September before you start your course) who does not currently hold a Bachelor's degree.
- Your family household income is less than £25,000 per year.
- You have spent time in care in the UK, been placed in a foyer or are estranged from your family.
- You are recognised by social services as a young carer.

Learn more about the [Compact Scheme](#).

Mature student support

Kingston University is a popular choice for mature students (aged 21 or over), making up around 38 per cent of the student population (figures from 2014 academic year). From the start of your degree you can join the Mature Students' Society and get involved in the Mature Students' Forum for peer-to-peer support. You can also benefit from:



- support through the [Compact Scheme](#);
- part-time study options – to help you balance work and home commitments; and
- childcare provision – with the excellent university-run [nursery](#).

See our [mature students section](#) for more information.

Care leavers support

We were one of the first universities to be awarded a Quality Mark by children's charity, Buttle UK for our commitment to helping young people with a background in social care.



Care leavers are supported through the [Compact Scheme](#), giving them guidance on the admissions process, transitioning to higher education or just building confidence and making friends through their events. You will also receive useful benefits including:

- annual £1,500 bursary, paid in three equal termly instalments; and
- priority when applying for halls of residence.

Find more information about our [care leaver support](#).