

# transition to uni

The applications are in, you've heard back and made your decisions about where to go and what to study. But what about those final months leading up to starting your course? This is an important time, especially if you're also transitioning out of care, whether that's moving to semi-independent or independent living or arranging to stay with your foster family through the When I'm Ready scheme. So here are some questions you'll need to be asking yourself:

**Are there any conditions for me starting my course?** You might have a conditional offer, meaning you need to get certain grades in A Levels, BTECs or other courses before starting. Are you on track for these? And do you know who you should talk to if things don't go to plan?

**Do I know how my study is being funded?** See our Applying and Making Choices factsheet for more details on how you can fund your study. In the months leading up to starting your university course you need to make sure all your funding is in place – if you've made all the necessary applications before your course starts, it's far less likely that there will be a delay in receiving the money you need for fees, rent and other living expenses.



**Do I know where I'm going to live?** You might have chosen to study close to home and stay where you're already living. If not, working out where you're going to live is a must! The most common option for first year students is to live in Halls of Residence; usually blocks where you'll share a flat with a small number of fellow students. Lots of universities offer 365 day accommodation to care experienced students, meaning you won't have to worry about the holidays. There may also be options to live with people who have something in common with you, whether that's care experienced students, mature students or LGBTQ+ students. Check university websites or speak to the designated care experience contact for more information.

**What do I need to take?** Remember that a lot of universities will offer welcome packages and provide some key items to care experienced students – don't be afraid to ask your university what they can do for you!

### Moving to uni: The essentials

- Important documents (like acceptance letters, any confirmation you've been asked to show about your care status)
- Home comforts (your favourite blanket? Childhood toy? Whatever it is that makes you feel more comfortable, bring it along)
- Clothing
- Bathroom products
- Electrical items
- Bedding
- Kitchen items
- Contact lists
- Specific items for your course
- Check out <https://www.savethestudent.org/accommodation/what-to-take-to-university.html> for some more detailed lists