

May 2023

* WELCOME

Issue 4

CARE EXPERIENCED STUDENTS NEWSLETTER

Named contacts

WIDENING PARTICIPATION

A reminder that the named contacts for care experienced students are: Julie-Ann Hamilton j.a.hamilton@qub.ac.uk Sinead O'Kane: s.okane@qub.ac.uk

You can also find us on the third floor of One Elmwood during these times (reduced due to exam season)

Friday 2.30pm - 3.30pm (Please email & let us know you are coming) Email us if you require a support meeting

outside of these times

Accommodation Reminder

If you wish to stay/remain in Queen's Student Accommodation next year, applications are currently open. We recommend you apply asap and let us know so we can make accommodation aware of your intent to avail of the Care Experienced offer of guaranteed accommodation. However, applications need to be in before the deadline. Apply and find out more <u>here</u>

WELCOME TO THE CARE EXPERIENCED NEWSLETTER

We hope to issue this newsletter every 1-2 months with updates on specific and general support and opportunities for our Care Experienced community.

Volunteering

With the summer break coming up soon, you may be more open to some volunteering opportunities. <u>SU Volunteer</u> have lots of links to get you started, but an organisation comes very recommended from one of our students. This student has worked closely with Guide Dogs NI and has found the volunteering experience to be beneficial for their self-esteem, confidence and for the CV as well. Guide Dogs NI would love for more to be volunteering for sighted guiding - which you can find out more about in this <u>video</u>.

Academic Support

We are firmly in exam/assignment season, so a reminder that you can receive academic support from the <u>Learning</u> <u>Development Service.</u> Good luck!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

4th May 2023 - 3pm - 5pm: Papryus Suide Prevention Training delivered in One Elmwood. Find out more and reserve your spot on this accredited course <u>here</u>

The Pantry: A reminder that the Pantry in One Elmwood continues to be available for students to avail of free stock of items such as bread/grains/spices/essentials. Find out more information and opening times <u>here</u>

<u>Advice SU</u> is still offering 15 minute drop-in sessions in One Elmwood on Wed and Fridays 11.30am - 2pm. No appointment is necessary.

SUQCESS

SUQCESS (Supporting Queen's Care Experienced Students) has been kindly funded by a private donor to provide support for care experienced students to help with their studies. This support may come in the form of vouchers for books, support with groceries, support with accessing a placement, etc. Applications are open all year round and can be found at: <u>go.qub.ac.uk/qubcares</u>

Remember that <u>well-being</u> host drop-in sessions Mon-Fri from 11am - 3pm on the first floor of One Elmwood. You can also call: 07387 546 123

Find out more about support for care experienced students at Queen's <u>here</u>:



Civil Service

The Civil Service are again running a Care Leavers Internship scheme. This aims to give care leavers opportunities to develop and enhance work-based skills and to give a unique voice in the heart of Government in a one year post. They define a care leaver as a person who was in care for at least 13 weeks, some of which must have been after your 16th birthday, and are currently aged between 18-30. You must also satisfy the <u>Civil Service nationality rules</u>. No qualifications are needed but you need to write a personal statement to demonstrate how you meet the essential criteria that will be outlined in the advert that will be on <u>Civil Service Jobs</u> from 8th May - 9th June 2023. For more information you can contact leavers.care@education.gov.uk.

Careers

A reminder that you can use MyFuture to see Careers events and arrange a meeting to look at next steps and opportunities

Congratulations to our students finishing up on their final year! We wish you all the best of luck in your next adventures.