Issue 6

CARE EXPERIENCED STUDENTS NEWSLETTER



Named contacts

A reminder that the named contacts for care experienced students are:

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Sinead O'Kane: s.okane@qub.ac.uk



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.

Support Meetings and Bursary - Urgent

A reminder that we are again offering 1:1 support meetings to discuss any additional support you may need. We will also discuss the <u>Care Exprienced Bursary</u> at these meetings. Please complete the relevant form:

New student form

Returning student form - please complete even if you don't want a support meeting, especially if you already receive the bursary or hope to receive it this year for the first time.

First time bursary applicants can apply for the bursary without a new student meeting here.

Please complete the forms above urgently if you haven't already done so if you hope to receive the bursary this year (including our returning students!)

Additional Key Information:

- Department for the Economy have kindly provided additional funding for this year only, to increase the bursary amount. We are hoping the amount you receive at the end of October will be more than the usual £500 payment, but this may come in a different and later payment. We will provide additional information on this in follow up emails, especially around data sharing once the Department have advised us.
- Key Dates: To receive payment by the end of October, I need to have received your full documentation/bank details/application for new students, or confirmation of details being the same from returning students by 1pm on Tuesday 17th October!
- If you have not sent/confirmed bank details, please do so ASAP.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Reminder that there are weekly free sexual health clinics in One Elmwood. Find out more here
- 5th October 2023 <u>Increasing self-confidence and dealing with Imposter Syndrome one</u> hour event
- Go Global Week 9th October 2023 13th October 2023 in One Elmwood Foyer
- 10th October 2023 SSESW Students: How to Gain Work Experience
- Find more here

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:

go.qub.ac.uk/qubcares

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

opt out of receiving
the Care
Experienced
newsletter, please
complete this short
form

National Network for Education of Care Leavers Opportunities

- Contribute to research on care experienced students studying in higher education by emailing: <u>Lucy.fenucciu@cumbria.ac.uk</u>
- Want to inspire other care experienced young people to go to University and receive £30 for doing so? They need current students to talk about what university means to you, the impact it's had and how you hope it will impact your future. You can show this in a piece of writing, artwork, poem or painting. Contact Sian at info@nnecl.org by 18th October 2023.

Industry Mentoring

Applications are now open for the <u>Widening Participation Mentoring Programme</u>. This is a chance to connect with someone in your industry who will mentor and support you with "real world" advice, guidance and practical information on a one-to-one basis. To apply for the programme click <u>here.</u>

Eligibility for Students:

- Have you been caring for a family member or dependent?
- Do you live in a disadvantaged neighbourhood? What is your postcode?
- Are you a refugee or asylum seeker?
- Is your family income below £19,204?
- Have you experience of being in Residential Care/Foster Care
- Are you the first member (excluding siblings) in your family to attend University and do you meet one of the above criteria?

Mentee applications will open from 02 October until 20 October 2023.