



Loughborough University
Support for Mature Students



Welcome

At Loughborough University we recognise that the decision to return to learning can mean significant life changes. We can provide you with the tools and support to make your time here a success.

This publication details all of our life and academic support services that you can access at any time. We aim to help make your time here as stress free and successful as possible while enabling you to have fun and experience Loughborough at its best.

General information on becoming a mature student and what the process of application is, can be accessed at:

www.lboro.ac.uk/mature/gettingstarted

Visiting Loughborough

Open Days and Taster Days

Before you apply to university, why not attend the annual Mature Students Open Day in November. This is a great opportunity to find out about the experience of being a mature student at any university, plus specific course information at Loughborough. Taster days are also offered at various points throughout the year, where you can see what it is like to study a specific subject.

For more details see

www.lboro.ac.uk/mature/openday

Application Visits

After applying, mature students are frequently invited to visit the academic school or department to discuss their application further.

Your Introduction to Loughborough

All new mature students are invited to attend an informal Mature Students Induction Day just before term starts. The day provides you with information on University life and all the support services available to you. It is also a great opportunity to meet fellow mature students.

During your first term, and beyond, there will also be a variety of mature student social events and study skills support workshops available through the Student Outreach and Recruitment Team.

Your department will help you to develop study skills and every undergraduate student is assigned a Personal Tutor to assist with this and other issues.

To find out more about visiting Loughborough and other mature student events:

www.lboro.ac.uk/mature/events

Locations of all services can be seen on our interactive campus map:

<http://maps.lboro.ac.uk/>

Finance

Bursaries

Eligible Loughborough undergraduate students entering their first year of a programme (first attempt) are offered a non-repayable bursary to help with living expenses. These bursaries are based on a sliding scale linked to your household income. Mature students at Loughborough, who qualify for this bursary, are offered double the rate of bursary compared to a student under the age of 21 (with the same household income) on entry to the University.

For further information, including eligibility criteria, please visit:

www.lboro.ac.uk/mature/bursaries

Scholarships

Scholarships worth up to £1,000 are offered to eligible first year students on certain undergraduate degree programmes. For further information, including eligibility criteria, please visit:

www.lboro.ac.uk/mature/scholarships

Financial Difficulty: Access to Learning Fund

The Government provides this grant to the University to support UK students who are experiencing acute and unanticipated financial difficulties. Mature students (and in particular those with families) are regarded as a priority category for support from the Fund.

Government and Additional Funding Sources

Details of the financial support available from the government is available from

www.direct.gov.uk/StudentFinance

You can also telephone the Student Loans Company's Student Support Helpline on 0845 300 50 90.

Financial Advice

If you would like confidential and impartial advice on any of the above sources of financial support and the relationship between this and any benefits you may be receiving, please contact the Student Support Centre:

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/ssc

T: 01509 222058

E: ssc@lboro.ac.uk



General Support and Services

Student Accommodation Centre

The Student Accommodation Centre (SAC) provides information and advice on both University halls of residence and an extensive list of approved private sector accommodation advertised by the University.

The University has a range of accommodation suitable for mature students. Unfortunately the University does not have any accommodation suitable for children on campus, but a block of one and two bedroom flats just off campus are available to singles, couples and families. Larger accommodation, suitable for families, is also available, though limited in number. When making an application to be placed in halls of residence, the SAC advise you to contact them after you have made your online application to confirm that you wish to be placed with returning students.

There are also a wide range of local estate agents, letting agents and local landlords who can provide you with accommodation. Please contact the Student Support Centre for a comprehensive list of local accommodation providers.

W: <http://accommodation.lboro.ac.uk/>

T: 01509 222258/53

E: sac@lboro.ac.uk

Loughborough Campus Nursery

Loughborough Students' Union runs a registered day nursery on campus providing childcare for the children of students and staff. The Nursery consistently receives a good Ofsted report and is in a convenient campus location.

Places at the Nursery are highly sought after, and students are advised to make early enquiries, direct to the Nursery. Students may apply for a nursery place before they have confirmation of a place on their course at Loughborough, and are under no obligation to take it up if their plans change (other than one month's notice of cancellation).

For details of other nurseries in the area, please see Leicestershire County Council's Family Information Directory online: www.leics.gov.uk/index/children_families/family/fis_childcare.htm

W: www.lufbra.net/nursery/

T: 01509 234126

E: nursery@lborosu.org.uk

Medical Centre

The University Medical Centre is a regular GP surgery providing NHS services to registered patients. The practice area is LE11 3TU, but registrations are accepted from University students and their families provided they live within a three mile radius of campus.

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/studentsservices/medical-centre

T: 0845 0450557

Student Outreach and Recruitment Team

This team provides a dedicated member of staff for mature students, to support and advise you while at Loughborough. The team organises and facilitates events, workshops and support for all mature student needs. If you have any questions or need advice on any issue affecting you as a mature student please contact Kay Bridger:

E: K.M.Bridger@lboro.ac.uk

T: 01509 222486

The Student Support Centre

The Student Support Centre is home to the Student Advice and Support Service and the English Language Support Service.

The Student Advice and Support Service offers free, professional advice for all students, covering housing, finance, legal matters and other issues. We also provide support for international students and their families, including immigration advice and help with visa applications, police registrations and adapting to life in the UK.

The English Language Support Service runs a range of term-time classes and workshops in English for Academic Purposes and Study Skills. We also offer one-to-one advice and support for international students with regard to English language skills.

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/ssc

T: 01509 222058

E: ssc@lboro.ac.uk

Counselling and Disability Service

The service provides support to students with a wide range of disabilities, mental health difficulties and specific learning difficulties such as dyslexia and dyspraxia. Counselling is also available to all students. More information about specific areas of the service is given below.

Disability Office

The Disability Office provides support for students with a range of additional needs, including physical disabilities, sensory impairments, medical conditions and specific learning differences such as dyslexia and dyspraxia. Please contact the Disability Office to discuss, in confidence, any issue related to disability or impairment that you think might be affecting you.

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/disabilities

T: 01509 222770

E: dans@lboro.ac.uk

Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

The Mental Health Support Team supports students who face barriers affecting their ability to study as a result of emotional or mental health issues, by making arrangements, developing practical strategies, and liaising with other colleagues, to deal with obstacles to academic progression.

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/disabilities/mhst/

T: 01509 228338

E: d.p.doran@lboro.ac.uk

Counselling Service

This is a highly confidential professional service offering individual counselling and a workshop programme which includes understanding and managing anxiety, meditation, and procrastination.

The service is free for all students and can be an important source of support for a variety of issues and situations. We recognise that mature students may have more complex lives, with greater demands on them in terms of family, childcare, partnerships, financial and career issues

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/studentsservices/counselling

T: 01509 222148

E: ucs@lboro.ac.uk

Centre for Additional Learning Support

The Centre for Additional Learning Support works with students with dyslexia and dyspraxia. We work with you to help you understand and use your strengths and we can help with: planning your work, making reading more manageable, making your ideas make sense when you write and revision and exam techniques.

An initial assessment service is offered for students who are experiencing difficulties which may indicate that they have a learning difference which is giving them specific difficulties. If you wish to arrange an initial assessment, or would like to chat to someone to find out more about dyslexia, please contact Karen Dilks who will be happy to arrange an appointment for you with a dyslexia tutor.

W: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/studentsservices/cals>

T: 01509 222770

E: dans@lboro.ac.uk

Student to Student Support

Student 2 student is a peer support service run by students for students from the Students' Union, offering email based confidential emotional support or advice on any issue.

E: Student2student@lborosu.org.uk

Mature Students Association

Sometimes the best support comes from someone in the same situation as you. All 21+ students are automatically members of the Mature Students Association (MSA) which is run by mature students for mature students through the Students' Union. The MSA represents 21+ students and organises socials so you can get the most out of your experience at University.

W: www.lufbra.net/associations/msa/

E: msa@lborosu.org.uk and studentactivities@lufbra.net

Student Voice

Student Voice is a service specifically to help you with any issues or problems you have with the University. Student Voice can help you with a range of issues including academic misconduct, disciplinary allegations, impaired performance or if you want to make a complaint against the University. Everything that is said in Student Voice is strictly confidential, so no matter what your issue, we are here to help. Student Voice is based downstairs in the Students' Union and open Monday to Friday 10am - 4pm.

T: 01509 635 072

E: voiceadvisor@lufbra.net

Academic and Learning Support

IT Skills and Services

Most academic departments provide support and training for IT use relating specifically to your course. IT Services can provide you with dedicated Microsoft Office 2007 help and self-teach courses at <http://office2007.lboro.ac.uk>. We also provide assistance with computer problems at the PC Clinic on the ground floor of the Haslegrave building (please see www.lboro.ac.uk/it/pccclinic/). IT Services offer many other services including anti-virus and specialist software (please see www.lboro.ac.uk/it/students.html), and can also provide advice on buying a computer (please see: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/it/purchase/studentpc.html>).

You can also access many of our services securely from home using our "VPN Client", see www.lboro.ac.uk/it/off-campus/anyconnect.html.

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/it

T: 01509 222333

E: it.services@lboro.ac.uk



Mathematics Learning Support Centre (MLSC)

The MLSC can be found in two different campus locations, supporting students with the specific mathematical and statistical demands of their course. In particular, it aims to help early on in your studies when additional resources and tuition may be of benefit.

W: <http://mlsc.lboro.ac.uk/>

T: 01509 228250 – central park

T: 01509 227460 – west park

E: mlsc@lboro.ac.uk

The Eureka Centre for Mathematical Confidence

The Eureka Centre is designed for students who lack confidence in numeracy. Drop in sessions plus events and workshops are available for students to address their concerns.

W: <http://eureka.lboro.ac.uk>

E: eureka@lboro.ac.uk

Library

University level study requires a wealth of independent learning skills, for which a great deal of support is available. A workshop specifically for first year mature learners is available early in the first term of the new academic year: booked through the Student Outreach and Recruitment Office.

The Library runs a number of workshops on such topics as time management, finding & evaluating information, writing essays and reports and preparing for exams. The Library's website pages offer information on study skills workshops, and advice sheets which can be downloaded.

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/library

T: 01509 222360

E: library@lboro.ac.uk

Careers and Employability Centre

Whatever stage you are at in your course, and even after you've graduated, the Careers and Employability Centre offers a wide range of information and resources to help you explore options for your future career or further study.

As there may be individual considerations that mature students have to take into account when thinking about their future, the Centre has a specific section on its website for mature students. Appointments with careers advisers can also be booked online or by calling the Centre.

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/service/careers

T: 01509 222052

E: careers@lboro.ac.uk



All mature student enquiries:

Kay Bridger
Student Outreach and Recruitment Team
Undergraduate Admissions
Loughborough University
LE11 3TU

W: www.lboro.ac.uk/mature

T: 01509 222486

E: k.m.bridger@lboro.ac.uk