



Welcome to

#UniAsItShouldBe



THE TIMES &
SUNDAY TIMES
GOOD UNIVERSITY
GUIDE 2020

5th

IN THE UK FOR
TEACHING QUALITY

2021

4th

IN THE UK FOR

STUDENT
SATISFACTION

THE COMPLETE UNIVERSITY GUIDE

We are delighted that you have decided to study at the University of Bolton and look forward to warmly welcoming you.

The University of Bolton is friendly and supportive and we take pride in our teaching quality and student welfare. Being part of Greater Manchester (Manchester - the UK's second metropolitan capital city), our international students get to enjoy everything this vibrant and dynamic location has to offer, as well as the wonderful English countryside.

Whether you are new to Higher Education or returning to study, this pre-arrival guide has been prepared to assist you with University life.

On arrival, you will be greeted by the University's International and Student Experience Team who will provide all the information you need.

Before you travel

Travel to the UK

The closest airport to the University of Bolton is Manchester International Airport. Students who arrive on or before Friday 30 October 2020 can get a free airport transfer through Street Cars, who are a taxi company based at all of the Manchester airport terminals. Please email international@bolton.ac.uk to confirm your travel arrangements once you have finalised these.

What should I bring to the UK?

You will need the following documents with you:

- Passport
- Offer letter
- Copy of your CAS
- TB Certificate (if applicable)
- The financial evidence you submitted with your Tier 4 visa
- Original certificates for the qualifications stated on your CAS

You will also find the following useful:

Enough money in GBP to support yourself for the first few weeks, please remember there are limits (£10,000) to how much cash you can bring to the UK.

You will find the following information produced by UK Border Force useful. Please read this carefully before your travels.

Keep up-to-date:

 /UniversityofBolton

 @BoltonUni

 @BoltonUni

Student arrivals: 10 top tips

As you prepare to study in the UK, Border Force has developed these tips to ensure your smooth arrival.

1

If you're from a non-European Economic Area (EEA) country, complete the landing card given to you during your flight before you arrive at border control.

2

Have your passport ready. Remove it from any cover and remember to remove sunglasses and hats.

3

Keep information about the course you're studying in your hand luggage. This must be in paper copy (not an electronic copy on tablet or phone). This includes your University Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) number.

4

Keep recent bank statements and details of where you are staying in your hand luggage, Border Force officers may ask to see this information.

5

Expect Border Force officers to ask simple questions about your stay in the UK when you arrive at passport control.

6

Do not bring in any meat or dairy products from outside the European Union (EU). There are restrictions on traditional medicines, food products such as fish, eggs and honey, and some fruit, vegetables and plants (including bulbs, seeds, cut flowers and tree bark).

7

There are also restrictions on the amount of tobacco, alcohol and gifts you can bring to the UK. If you exceed your duty-free allowance and do not declare them, all of your items could be taken away from you.

8

Never bring in counterfeit goods, illegal drugs, offensive weapons or indecent or obscene material. Some items are restricted and will require a licence or permit.

9

You must declare cash of £10,000 Sterling or more (or the equivalent in another currency) if you are travelling from a country outside the EU.

10

Never give false or misleading information (including forged or counterfeit documents).





Where is Bolton?

Bolton is a friendly town in Greater Manchester. The University of Bolton is situated close to the town centre, and only 10 minutes walk from the train station.

Bolton has excellent transport links and is just 20 minutes away from the city of Manchester by train. Vibrant cities including Liverpool, Leeds, Sheffield and York are also not far away. Located near the West Pennine Moors, the Lake District and Blackpool, Bolton is within reach of various national parks, seaside towns and the creative hub of MediaCityUK in Salford.

The University of Bolton's central location provides easy access to cinemas, shopping, art galleries, museums, music and comedy venues and the nationally acclaimed Octagon Theatre Bolton.

UK Weather

The weather in the UK can be quite unpredictable, it is advised that you have warm clothes and an umbrella. It will be cold in the UK during the months of November until February; from March through to October, the temperature can be warm but the weather may still be wet.

Accommodation

McComb (Bolton) Ltd provide accommodation for University of Bolton students at Orlando Village.

Orlando Village is the only accommodation approved and recommended by the University of Bolton.

The rooms are offered on a self-catering basis with a communal kitchen, WC and washing facilities. Further information about Orlando Village can be found on their website. www.orlandovillage.co.uk

Alternative accommodation in Bolton and surrounding areas can be found online or by visiting letting agents. Search 'student accommodation in Bolton' in Google, and you will be able to find information about different types of accommodation available.



On arrival

Collecting your Biometric Residence Permit (BRP)

When your visa application is successful you will be issued with a visa in your passport, which is valid for one month. You should also receive a letter advising you when to collect your Biometric Residence Permit and where from, this will normally be the Post Office in Bolton Town Centre.

You will need to take both the letter and your passport to the Post Office stated on the letter to collect your BRP.

International Student Ambassadors will be available at the University from Monday 21 September 2020 to assist any students who needs to collect a BRP.

Enrolment

You will be sent your invitation to enrol very soon, this will provide you with instructions on how to complete the enrolment process. The enrolment sessions will take place on Monday 21 September 2020, please ensure you have the following original documents with you:

- Passport
- Biometric Residence Permit
- Certificates and transcripts for qualifications stated on your CAS

Enrolment is in two stages, the first is the online stage which can be done before you travel. If you are not able to do this don't worry, staff will be able to help you when you arrive.

Once you have completed the online enrolment you will need to print the declaration and sign. You will need to bring this along with the documents listed above to the face-to-face enrolment sessions called ID verification; here we will check your passport, BRP and certificates and take scanned copies for our records.

The International Student Journey Officer will be available to provide you with important information about your Tier 4 visa, and your responsibilities as a Tier 4 student.





BOLTON | Love
SU | Student
Life

Students' Union & Social Events

The Students' Union office is based in Chancellor's Mall, they provide a number of services and facilities:

- Clubs and societies
- Student representation
- Independent and confidential advice unit

The Students' Union also run The Vista Café and The Students' Union shop, both based in Chancellor's Mall.

You can buy your Totum card from the SU, which offers a wide range of discounts on services and retailers, both online, and in the shops.

Clubs & Societies

There are a vast amount of societies offered by the Students' Union, such as the Bollywood Society or Medieval Society. If you are into sport, the Sports Centre run a number of competitive and non-competitive sports teams such as Hockey, Cricket and Football. More information can be found here www.bolton.ac.uk/sport or www.bolton.ac.uk/sport

Things to think about in your first week

Opening a bank account – you will need to open a UK bank account. Providing your course is one academic year or longer you should have no problems opening a bank account.

Below is a list of UK banks, which have branches in Bolton or nearby Manchester. You should research the banks using their website and then decide which bank is right for you.

Barclays

1-5 Market Street, Bolton, BL1 1XA | www.barclays.co.uk

The Co-Operative Bank

19 Knowsley Street, Bolton, BL1 2DG | www.co-operativebank.co.uk

Halifax

23-27 Knowsley Street, Bolton, BL1 2DG | www.halifax.co.uk

HSBC

1-3 Victoria Square, Bolton, BL1 1RJ | www.hsbc.co.uk

Lloyds Bank

9 Hotel Street, Bolton, BL1 1DB | www.lloydsbank.com

NatWest

24 Deansgate, Bolton, BL1 1BN | www.natwest.co.uk

RBS

46-48 Deansgate, Bolton, BL1 1BH | www.rbs.co.uk

Santander

49-53 Deansgate, Bolton, BL1 1HQ | www.santander.co.uk

TSB

8 Hotel Street, Bolton, BL1 1DA | www.tsb.co.uk

Yorkshire Bank

17-21 Oxford Street, Bolton, BL1 1RD | www.ybonline.co.uk

Bank of China

67-69 Mosley Street, Manchester, M2 3JB | www.bankofchina.com/uk

Once you have decided on a bank you will need to request a bank introduction letter from the University. Letters can be requested though your student record online.

Once you have enrolled you can access your student record from the following website:

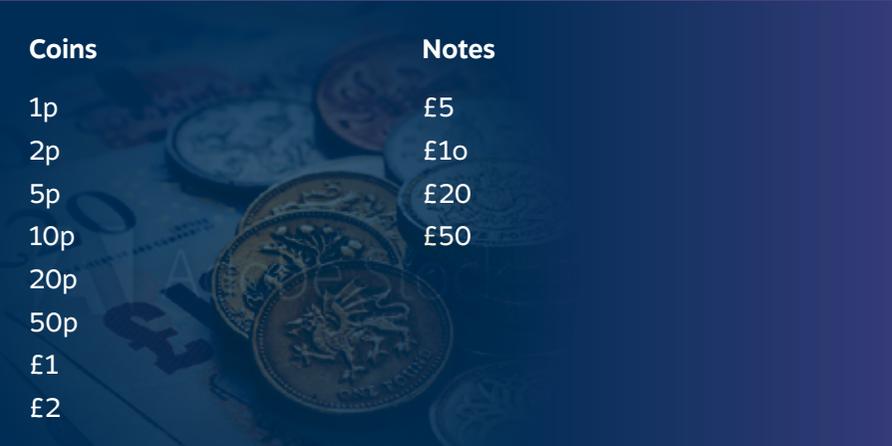
www.bolton.ac.uk/student-hub/#details/studentrecord

You will then need to click on 'my details' and then 'student record' to log into your account. Once you have logged in you can request official 'To Whom it May Concern' and bank letters.

The University will issue one bank letter free-of-charge, if you need more than one bank letter please note you will be charged £5 for each additional letter.

Currency in the UK

The UK currency is GBP (Great British Pound).



Coins	Notes
1p	£5
2p	£10
5p	£20
10p	£50
20p	
50p	
£1	
£2	

Some small shops may not accept £50 notes for payment.

When using public transport it is a good idea to have the right change. Some bus drivers may not have change for notes above £10.

Cost of Living in the UK

You will need to budget for your living costs including accommodation, travel, food and other day-to-day living costs.

The British Council have produced a useful webpage, which includes a link to a student budget calculator:

study-uk.britishcouncil.org/moving-uk/money-budgeting

Healthcare

The National Health Service (NHS) provides healthcare in the UK. You can access healthcare through the NHS providing your course is longer than 6 months and you paid the Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) when you made your visa application.

Doctors/General Practitioner (GP)

You will need to register with a Doctor in the UK. It is advised that you register with a GP close to your accommodation.

It is important that you do this as soon as possible after arrival, please do not wait until you become unwell. If you are not registered with a Doctor and become ill, you will be delayed in getting an appointment, as you will need to register first.

Seeing your doctor in the UK is free-of-charge providing you are entitled to receive NHS treatment.

If you are unwell and need to see your doctor the only thing you will need to pay for is any medicine, the cost is £9 for each medicine. This information is correct in August 2020.

Pharmacy

There are a number of pharmacies in Bolton, a pharmacy is where you will be able to get medicines; whether prescribed by the doctor or medicine that you can buy without a prescription such as painkillers or cough medicine.

International Ambassador

The University International Ambassadors will be available to assist with settling into life in the UK and your studies including setting up a bank account, registering with healthcare services and signposting to support services at the University.



Hospital

The Hospital in Bolton is in Farnworth and is called Royal Bolton Hospital. There is an Accident and Emergency service at the hospital, which is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. The Accident and Emergency service should be used in the event of serious illness or accident. If you are unwell but it is not an emergency, you can seek advice from your doctor or the out of hours service, by calling 111.

Dentist

You will need to register with a dentist to receive dental treatment in the UK. Dental treatment is not free-of-charge and the amount you pay will depend on whether the dentist is an NHS dentist or a private dentist. It is important to check the costs before making an appointment.

Opticians

Opticians are not free in the UK and you will need to pay for an eye test and any glasses that you may need.

Finding healthcare providers

The website below will help you find all health care services in and around Bolton. All you need to do is choose which service you want to find and put in your postcode, you can then view a list of services.

www.nhs.uk/service-search

University Support Services

The University has a number of support services available, which you can access throughout your time at the University:

International Student Journey Officer

– Can assist with any immigration related enquiry you may have.

Student Services – Can help with academic advice and guidance, bank letters and official letters, council tax exemption and student ID cards.

Life Lounge – Brings together specialist services, free for students to access; including Counselling, Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) and Mental Health Advisors.

Disability Services – Provide specialist advice and guidance to students who have a disability.

Careers Service – Who can help you explore your career options, applying for part-time job vacancies, writing a CV and covering letter and developing the skills that employers are looking for.

Student Liaison Officers

– Provide assistance to students to develop and improve study skills. Impartial advice and guidance on a wide range of academic and personal issues, such as Mitigating Circumstances and Academic Appeals is part of the support.

Chaplaincy – The team offer free pastoral support for students irrespective of religion or belief, the service has a part time co-ordinating Chaplain and a team of volunteers. Based on the ground floor of Chancellor's Mall provides a resource area, quiet room, prayer room and washing facilities.

Library - The University Library is based in Chancellor's Mall and during term-time is open 24 hours a day 7 days a week. The Library provide students with access to books, journals, electronic resources, computing facilities and study areas. Laptops are available to loan for use within the Social Learning Zone from the library.



Key

contacts

THE UNIVERSITY OF BOLTON

Deane Road
Bolton, BL3 5AB

 bolton.ac.uk

 enquiries@bolton.ac.uk

 +44 (0)1204 903 000

INTERNATIONAL

 www.bolton.ac.uk/international/

 international@bolton.ac.uk

 +44 (0)1204 903 110

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT JOURNEY OFFICER

 studentimmigration@bolton.ac.uk

 +44 (0)1204 903 496

STUDENT SERVICES

 studentadvisors@bolton.ac.uk

 +44 (0)1204 903 733

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

 studentexperience@bolton.ac.uk

STUDENTS' UNION

 www.boltonsu.com

 info@boltonsu.com

 +44 (0)1204 900 850

ORLANDO VILLAGE

 info@orlandovillage.co.uk

 +44 (0)1204 903 488

LIBRARY

 www.uob.ac.uk/library

 +44 (0)1204 903094

DISABILITY TEAM

 disabilityinfo@bolton.ac.uk

 +44 (0)1204 903 478

 +44 (0)7799 657 035

LIFE LOUNGE

 lifelounge@bolton.ac.uk

 +44 (0)1204 903 566

