

Welcome to Aberystwyth 2020



Welcome to Aber

Croeso cynnes iawn – a very warm welcome to Aberystwyth University and the beginning of an exciting new chapter in your life.



I am confident that your time here will be both enjoyable and rewarding.

We're a pretty special place to study. We're firmly rooted in our vibrant bilingual community but we reach out to the wider world, making a global impact with our research and sending out graduates equipped with the knowledge and skills they need to take them further in life.

As well as developing you academically, university is where you make friends for life and you will have every opportunity to socialise and enjoy meeting new people in a safe environment. When you arrive with us in September, our Big Welcome will include a programme of socially inclusive and physically distanced events. Freshers' activities will be a mix of traditional in-person activities and opportunities to take part remotely, as well as the chance to find out about more than 100 different clubs and societies run by the Students' Union.

Take time to explore our beautiful seaside town with its independent shops, book stores and laidback café culture. A favourite pastime is a walk along the prom and kicking the bar for luck when you reach the railings at the foot of Constitution Hill. It's said by some to guarantee you a good degree (but take it from me, there are more reliable ways of doing that).

The first weeks of university life can be daunting, but we're an extremely friendly and supportive community so there'll always be someone you can turn to. Staff within our Student Support and Careers Services are a great source of advice. You can also talk to your departmental Peer Guide, Personal Tutor, one of our A-team volunteers or Resident Assistants. As your Vice-Chancellor, I'm always ready to listen to what my students have to say, so stop me on campus or email vice-chancellor@aber.ac.uk. I look forward to meeting you and I wish you every happiness and success as you embark on this journey of discovery towards your degree.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Treasure". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elizabeth" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Treasure".

Professor Elizabeth Treasure
Vice-Chancellor



Teaching
Excellence
Framework

Hey everyone, the team at AberSU are looking forward to welcoming you in September!

I'm certain that Aberystwyth is going to be an amazing place for you and a great setting for the next step in your journey. I love Aber - it's such a beautiful place with a supportive community that you can throw yourself into. At the SU we've pretty much got a sports club or society for everyone, and if we haven't, why not set up your own?

My priority is to make sure that you are all happy here at Aberystwyth University, and that these are the best and most memorable years of your life. If you're unsure of anything or just want to see a friendly face over the coming weeks and years then please get in touch with us at the SU, either over social media or in person. If you ever see me around on campus please come and say 'Hi', it would be great to meet you!

Aber is amazing. Make the most of your time and take every opportunity you're given. I hope you have a safe journey here when the time comes; go meet your flatmates, come along to some of our SU events and enjoy your time here at Aberystwyth University.

See you in September.

Nate Pidcock

AberSU President 2020/21

www.abersu.co.uk

Follow @UMAberSU on social media



Big Welcome and Orientation Activities



With the countdown to the start of the new academic year on, we hope you are looking forward to joining us in September.

Whether you are looking to join a club or society, familiarise yourself with the layout of campus or broaden your horizons through our programme of online events and talks, there will be plenty to discover!

Meeting new people and making new friends is a vital part of the university experience, and we are working to ensure that you have every chance to socialise and enjoy making friends safely. During the Big Welcome, the University and the Students' Union will be hosting a combination of online and socially distanced in-person activities to ease your transition into university life, and to explore the opportunities that you will have to socialise, relax, keep fit and have fun. Find out more about Big Welcome on pages 12 to 13.

You will also be able to enjoy extracurricular activities including music, sport, additional learning, workshops, careers events and volunteering - all with the appropriate physical distancing measures in place.

As you prepare to join us for the new term we'll keep in touch via email to share important updates and information. You can also visit www.aber.ac.uk/welcome



COVID ready

Your safety and well-being are our priority and we are working on a range of measures so you can stay safe, happy and healthy during your time with us.

We are lucky that our campus is spacious and rural, with plenty of outdoor places to study and socialise.

We are working hard to ensure that our campus is ready for you to live and learn in from September. Some of the changes we are making include:



Reopening our campus in a phased manner over the summer, with each building assessed carefully and appropriate measures put in place to keep everyone safe.



Issuing students with two reusable face coverings on your arrival to be used inside buildings.



Displaying campus signage to remind all staff, students and visitors to practise social distancing and regular handwashing.



Increasing our cleaning provision on campus.



Providing hand sanitiser at building entrances and exits.



Supporting anyone who shows symptoms of COVID-19 to self-isolate and have swift access to testing.



Introducing one-way systems where they are needed.



Working collaboratively with local partners to facilitate a proactive Test, Trace, Protect strategy.



Aberystwyth is here for you and we are ready to welcome you in the autumn.



Learning in Aberystwyth in 2020/21

We have been busy making arrangements to welcome you back to campus at the start of the new academic year.

Teaching will start from 28 September as usual. Naturally, there will be changes to the way in which the University conducts a number of its activities due to the pandemic.

We will deliver as much in-person teaching as is safely possible, and supplement this with online teaching tailored to the needs of students.

In adapting our learning and teaching, we are fortunate that we can benefit from some of the unique advantages we have here in Aberystwyth. This includes our ability to use many additional buildings, significant space for small-group teaching and our spacious, rural environment.

As a result, we have been able to adapt the curriculum so as to provide as much in-person provision as is safely possible. As a general rule, we will be holding smaller group sessions, such as tutorials, seminars, workshops and practicals, in person. In addition to these smaller in-person group sessions, some larger group teaching will be moved to tailored online sessions supplemented by more interactive activities.

Dates for the academic year
2020/21 can be found online at:

[www.aber.ac.uk/en/dates-of-term/
dates-2020](http://www.aber.ac.uk/en/dates-of-term/dates-2020)

Arrival and accommodation

When do I need to arrive in Aberystwyth?

The main arrivals period for students living in university accommodation is between Wednesday 16 and Saturday 19 September (please see p. 9 for further details).

All incoming undergraduate and postgraduate students will need to be in Aberystwyth by Monday 21 September for Orientation Week. Academic Orientation will commence on Tuesday 22 September.

Returning students will need to be in Aberystwyth by the start of teaching (Monday 28 September), unless advised otherwise by your academic department.

International students If, under current Government regulations, you are required to self-isolate for 14 days after entering the UK, you can arrive at Aberystwyth University from 5 September. Please see guidance for international students on pages 24 and 25.



📞 24/7 University Helpline: 01970 622900

@ accommodation@aber.ac.uk

🌐 www.aber.ac.uk/accommodation

Moving into University accommodation

The Residences Team are looking forward to extending a warm welcome to you. We are here 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to make sure your accommodation provides the base you need to support your academic studies.

Your accommodation at the University is available for you to move into from 10.00am on Wednesday 16 September 2020. Please note, that residents at Pantycelyn will be welcomed from Friday 18 September.

To help us manage the arrivals process safely, you will be required to book a move-in date and time slot when completing your pre-arrival Induction Programme found in the Accommodation Licence Pack.

You can also find out additional arrival information, including location maps, on our Moving In webpage: www.aber.ac.uk/en/accommodation/new-students/moving-in



Look out for the A-Team in red t-shirts who will answer your questions, point you in the right direction or signpost you to further support.

Key collection

How to collect your room key:

First of all, please ensure you have completed your pre-arrival Induction Programme found in the Accommodation Licence Pack, and have booked a move-in slot.

Residence	Move in Period	Key Collection location
For Pentre Jane Morgan (PJM), Cwrt Mawr, Rosser, Rosser G & Trefloyne Residences	Slots available between 10.00am and 6.00pm Wednesday 16 - Saturday 19 September*	Pentre Jane Morgan Lounge, SY23 3TE at the time of your booking slot.
For Fferm Penglais & Seafront	Slots available between 10.00am and 6.00pm Wednesday 16 - Saturday 19 September*	Y Sgubor, Fferm Penglais, SY23 3FH at the time of your booking slot
For Pantycelyn	Slots available between 12.00pm and 6.00pm on Friday 18, and 10.00am - 6.00pm on Saturday 19 September.	Pantycelyn, SY23 3FL at the time of your booking slot.

* Please note that there will also be an option to request an out-of-hours arrival slot if required.

Early Arrivals	Please note that early arrival slots from 5 September will be available for international students (please see guidance for international students on pages 24-25).
Late Arrivals	Late arrival slots will be offered from Sunday 20 September - further details of how to request late arrival will be included in the pre-arrival Induction Programme.

Details of where to collect keys for early and late arrivals will be available on the following webpage prior to arrival: www.aber.ac.uk/en/accommodation/new-students/moving-in

While we emphasise the importance of keeping to your booked move-in slot, we appreciate that unforeseen circumstances may delay your arrival time. As part of the final joining information you receive, we'll make sure you know how to keep us informed, and we assure you that our team will be ready to welcome you when you arrive on campus (this service operates 24 hours a day).

Please note that most of our accommodation is accessed via your Aber Card. Please follow instructions which will be emailed to you for further details on how to ensure your Aber Card is ready for you on arrival.



Travel, arriving & parking

For detailed information about getting to Aberystwyth visit our travel pages:

www.aber.ac.uk/en/maps-travel

Coming by car Further details, including confirmation of where to collect your keys and free parking arrangements will be provided as part of your pre-arrival information.

Coming by train Over the main arrivals period, look out for members of the A-Team in red t-shirts who will help with directions.

Details of the free bus service which will operate during this period between the train and bus stations, key collection locations and residences will be available at:

www.aber.ac.uk/en/new-students/freshers

Park and unload

During the Big Welcome you will be able to park on campus without a permit for the purpose of unloading your belongings and moving into University accommodation.

Help us to help you

Parking immediately next to the accommodation is limited and therefore during the Big Welcome we limit parking in these areas to a maximum of 20 minutes to ensure that we can facilitate this service for all students. Once you have unpacked the car please re-park in one of the designated long stay car parks. Members of staff will be on site to help you park.

To find out all about parking on campus, and to apply for a permit if you are eligible, please visit our Parking webpages - www.aber.ac.uk/en/parking.

Registration

Before you officially become a student at Aberystwyth University you need to complete registration.

The registration timetable and further information about how to register online can be found here: www.aber.ac.uk/en/new-students/freshers/registration

It is important to contact the Student Administration Office in the Academic Registry if you are unable to register on time.

📞 **Student Administration Academic Registry:**
01970 622290 or 622787 or 628515.

@ ugstaff@aber.ac.uk

Verification

(UK and EU students only)

You must be prepared to provide satisfactory evidence of your qualifications either before registration or during the first year of your studies. Please note that there will be an official random verification exercise during your first year. Therefore, when you come to Aberystwyth you should bring with you, or ensure that you can obtain at short notice, the following documents:

- Birth certificate or passport
- Certificates detailing your academic and/or professional qualifications (e.g. GCSE, A-levels)

Please do not forward any certificates to Aberystwyth University unless you are asked to do so.

📞 **Undergraduate Admissions Office:**
01970 622021

@ ug-admissions@aber.ac.uk

Right-to-study checks

What is the 'right to study'?

The 'right to study' means you have the permission to remain in the UK and this permission does not restrict you from studying in the UK.

Who needs a right-to-study check?

Anyone who wants to register to study a course of any length at Aberystwyth University.

How and when will you need to provide right-to-study documents?

UK/EU/EEA/Swiss nationals You will be required to upload your right to study document/s in advance of arriving at Aberystwyth as part of the 'Activate' process. Shortly after you have activated your Aberystwyth University email account you will receive instructions about how to upload your document(s) onto a secure upload page.

Non-EU/EEA nationals Your right to study will be checked as part of an International Students Pre-Enrolment Check. As a result of the current COVID-19 situation and social distancing requirements, the International Students Pre-Enrolment Check will take place electronically. You will receive specific details by email about what documentation is required and how to provide your documents.

For more information about right-to-study checks, including what document(s) you will need to provide, please go to:

www.aber.ac.uk/right-to-study-checks

If you have any queries about right-to-study checks please email rtsstaff@aber.ac.uk

Events and activities



Big Welcome

Our Big Welcome events and activities will offer a host of exciting opportunities for you to engage in socially inclusive and physically distanced welcome activities, as well as special virtual events. Your Students' Union will offer a busy programme of freshers' activities and evening entertainment.

You will be able to enjoy a campus festival, outdoor scavenger hunts, music performances, campus walks, and online taster lectures.

Arrival

The main arrival period for new students moving into university accommodation is between Wednesday 16 and Saturday 19 September. In addition to this, international students who need to travel earlier can request to arrive from 5 September.

During this period, our aim is to help you settle into your accommodation, begin to find your way around your new home and provide you with opportunities to start making new friends.

Big Welcome and Orientation Week Guide

You'll be able to pick up a copy of our Big Welcome and Orientation Guide when you arrive. This will provide day-by-day event listings over the main arrivals period, details of our campus festival programme and information on activities hosted by the Students' Union. A directory of useful contacts and support services will also be included to signpost you to the help and advice available.

Orientation Week and meeting your academic department

Orientation Week will run from Tuesday 22 to Friday 25 September. Over this week, you will complete your registration as a student of the University and meet with your academic department, your peers and current students. You will have opportunities to take part in a range of activities, some focused on your academic subject, some to enable you to meet people on your course. You will also meet your personal tutor, who will be a key contact for pastoral support throughout your first year and beyond.

Further details about academic department events can be found online at: www.aber.ac.uk/orientation-dept.

Please note that event listings will be updated regularly online as additional events are confirmed.

Joining instructions for events and activities will be provided as per the guidance noted online.

Online Meet and Greet event

Our Online Meet and Greet Event (for new foundation and undergraduate students) on Wednesday 2 September will give you the opportunity to hear directly about welcome and orientation processes. You'll also get an insight into some of the practical aspects of both in-person and online teaching and learning. Staff from different parts of the University will outline the support available and signpost online resources. You will receive an invitation to join this event via your new University email, so make sure you follow the instructions on how to activate your account. Find out more information about this event at: www.aber.ac.uk/en/new-students/freshers



Helpful tips

- Where events are compulsory for specific groups to attend this will be noted in the listings.
- **In person activities** provide the opportunity to meet with a group of staff and students while taking into account social distancing requirements.
- **Online synchronous activities** enable you to join live online events - usually via Microsoft Teams.
- **Online asynchronous activities** provide you with the opportunity to review the content at your convenience. Your academic department will let you know if you need to have viewed the content by a particular date or time.

ApAber

ApAber is an app for students at Aberystwyth University; to make it easier for you to plan your day.

ApAber can be downloaded before you arrive at Aberystwyth so **do it now!**

Further information on ApAber, including how to download it can be found here: www.aber.ac.uk/en/is/it-services/apaber

Aberystwyth University



National Library of Wales



Pantycelyn

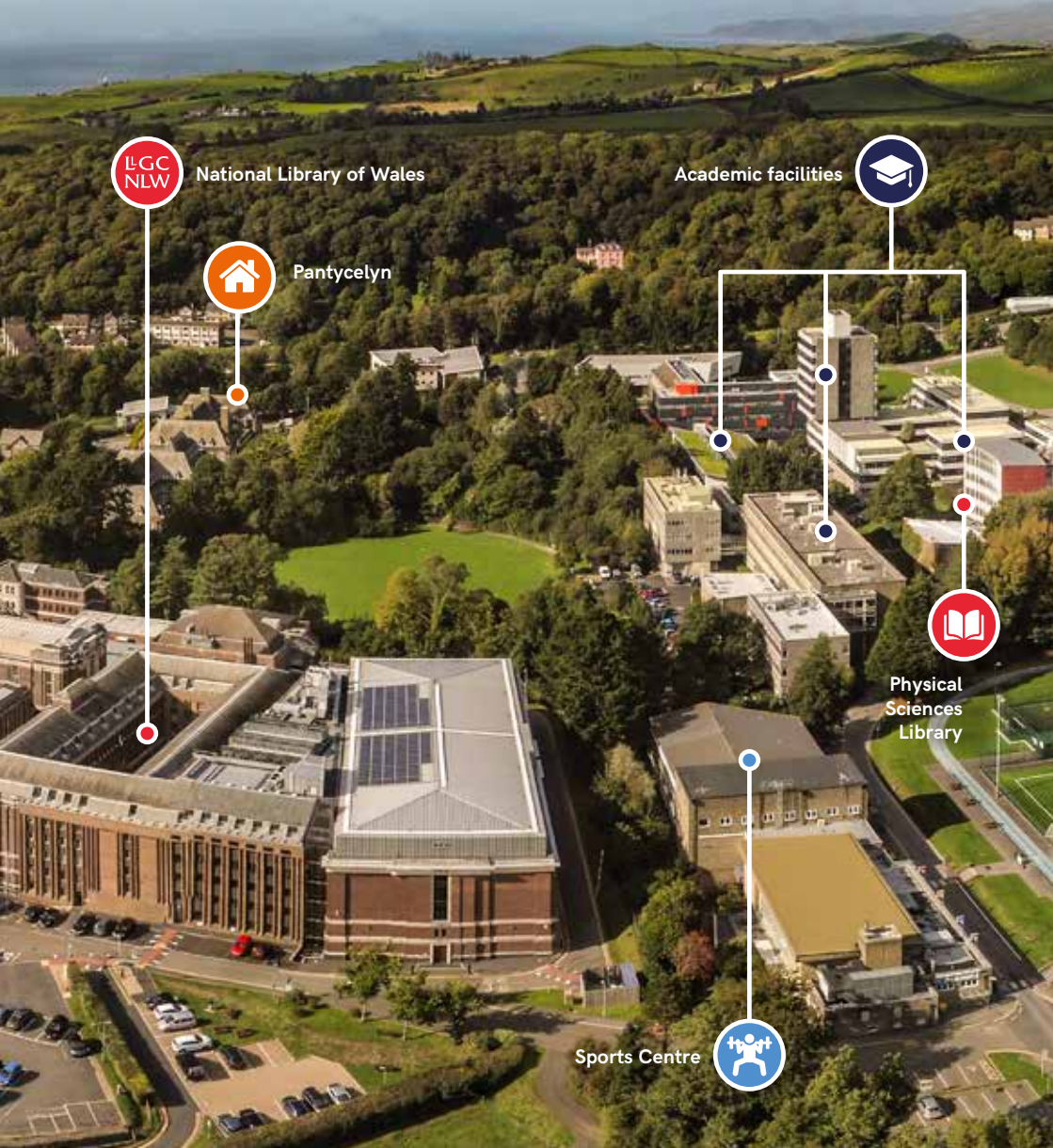
Academic facilities

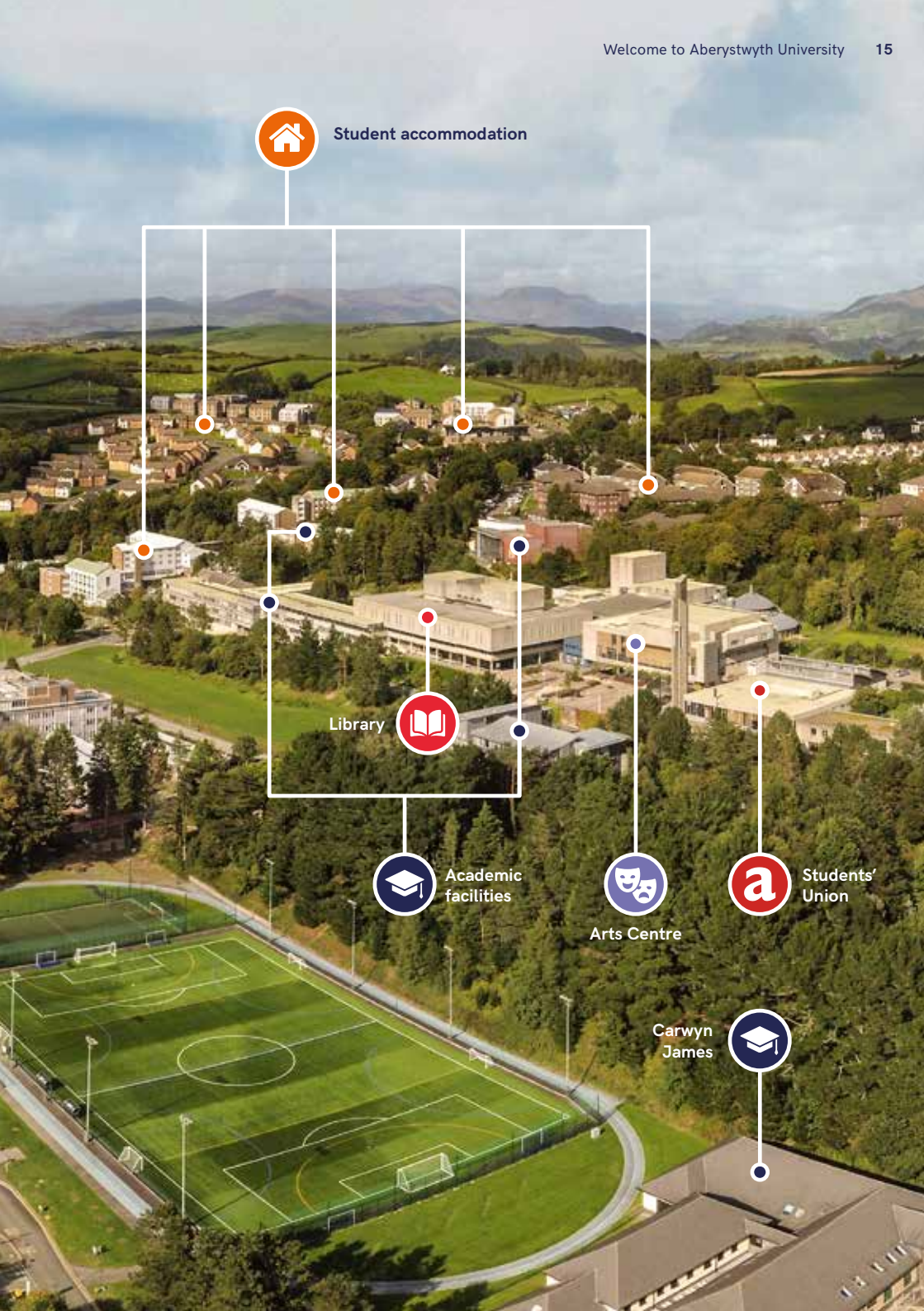


Physical Sciences Library



Sports Centre





Student accommodation



Library



Academic facilities



Arts Centre



Students' Union



Carwyn James

Payment of tuition fees

All tuition fees will be due for payment in full by no later than 2 October 2020. The option of paying in instalments is also available.

Please refer to www.aber.ac.uk/en/student-finance/undergraduate-uk/tuition-fees for full payment terms and conditions.

Eligible home/EU undergraduate students can defer the tuition fee until after their studies by obtaining a student loan for fees. The Student Loans Company (SLC) will pay this amount direct to the University. Students who do not submit an application form will become liable to pay the full tuition fees. If you decide not to apply for a tuition fee loan, the fee will be due for payment by **2 October 2020** as detailed above.

📞 Fees (Tuition and Accommodation):
01970 622043 or 01970 628434

@ fees@aber.ac.uk

Information services Library and IT

Information Services provide IT and library services to registered users at Aberystwyth University, subject to Information Services Regulations and Guidelines.

To make use of our facilities you will need an Aberystwyth University IT account and an Aber Card.

During Big Welcome and Orientation we hold regular tours to introduce new students to the facilities and services available within the library.

📞 01970 622400

@ is@aber.ac.uk

🌐 www.aber.ac.uk/en/is/help/ug

Online chat: www.aber.ac.uk/en/is/help



Shops, bars and food outlets on campus

Ensuring you maintain a balanced and healthy diet is really important while studying. So we're committed to delivering tasty, great value food using fresh and, where possible, local ingredients.

With two restaurants, four cafés, two 'grab-n-go' shops and two bars, you can pick and choose your refreshments to suit your taste, diet and budget.

From 8:00am to 10:00pm, seven days a week, our venues are here to serve you. For specific locations and opening times, please see: www.aber.ac.uk/en/hospitality.

Conveniently located in the Students' Union building, the **Student Shop** provides a wide variety of everyday items alongside an in-house bakery and a pasta bar. Stocking a range of grab-n-go food options, confectionary, clothing, stationery, toiletries and gifts - there's something for everyone!

Meal Plan Offer: why not take advantage of our fantastic value 'Eat with us - Shop with us' flexible meal plan packages? Eat what you want, when you want, where you want: from hot dinners to Starbucks on the go, or just pick up some ingredients to cook yourself.

See cateringpackage.aber.ac.uk for details.



Student support

We appreciate that when you arrive at university there's a lot to take in. We want to assist you with the transition so that you can make the most of all university life has to offer.

Our services include support for international students, disabled students, students who need help with mental health and well-being and employability. We can also advise if you have any concerns about money and run various mentoring schemes to help you adjust to university life.

You can find out more about the range of support available at Aberystwyth on our website at www.aber.ac.uk/en/student-support

Care leavers

If you come from a care background, are a young adult carer or are estranged from your family, please see our website for the support we can offer: www.aber.ac.uk/careleavers

Emergency contact

All students are required to provide details of someone who can be contacted in the event of an emergency. When you have activated your student account, please add your emergency contact details to your student record.

Please ensure that the named person is aware and has agreed to give their details to the University for use in the event of an emergency.



☎ 01970 621761/622087

@ student-support@aber.ac.uk

🌐 www.aber.ac.uk/en/student-support

Home and University address details

Students must ensure that the contact details they provide are correct and up to date.

Registration with a doctor

Students are required to register with a GP (local doctor) of their choice within the first week of arrival. This is vitally important to ensure continuity of care, especially if you are in receipt of any prescription medicine or other treatment.

Each GP practice has a website which explains about the services they offer and how you can register as a patient.

More detailed information about GP registration details will be sent to you nearer arrival time

Information about GP practices in the area can be found here:

www.wales.nhs.uk/ourservices/directory/hywelldauniversityhealthboard/gps

UK students should bring their National Health Medical Cards with them. Students who have an NHS number (ie UK students or non UK students who have previously registered with a GP) will be required to provide their NHS number in order to register with a GP.

For international students please see health information on page 25.


Careers service

Your Careers Service is here to help you gain skills and experience to improve your future employability prospects.

We offer you a vacancy and events portal where you can search for local part-time work, longer-term work opportunities and register for employer events held on campus throughout the year.

You can gain valuable work experience, both at home or abroad: there are lots of options to choose from and there will be something for everyone, regardless of interests, ideas, abilities and level of study.

We can also offer advice with any stage of your career planning, CVs, applications and interviews.

-  01970 622685
-  careers@aber.ac.uk
-  [/abercareers](https://www.facebook.com/abercareers)
-  [/abercareers](https://twitter.com/abercareers)
-  aber.ac.uk/en/careers



Recreation and activities

Here at Aberystwyth we want to provide you with great spaces not just for learning and study but also for sport, recreation and social activities.

Music Centre

The Music Centre promotes a wide-ranging and vibrant programme for performers and listeners.

Whether you are interested in joining the symphony orchestra, one of the choirs or bands, looking for instrumental or voice tuition, or want space to practice your instrument, musicians and colleagues at the Music Centre will be there to welcome and guide you.

For further information, please visit www.aber.ac.uk/music or get in touch with us on music@aber.ac.uk

National Library of Wales

Situated next to campus is the National Library of Wales – one of only five copyright libraries in Britain entitled to receive a copy of every book published in the UK. As a student at Aberystwyth you'll have free access to its facilities, which include exhibitions, a gift shop and café and millions of books, journals, digital images, electronic resources, rare manuscripts and maps. The National Library is also home to the National Screen and Sound Archives of Wales.

Current information on accessing the National Library of Wales resources can be found at: www.library.wales

Aberystwyth Arts Centre

We'll have plenty on offer for you this autumn: enjoy amazing contemporary art in our galleries and join in one of our many courses, from live drawing to ballet, theatre groups to pottery. Our cinema programme caters for all tastes and offers you access to fabulous films right here on campus.

There's lots to see and do here, and we want you to consider us your home from home during your time in Aber. Call up and see us, have a cup of tea in our café or bar, browse the craft shop and bookshop – and then relax while looking at the best view campus has to offer over the whole town and out to sea.

Welcome to Aber, it's the best place in the world!

As we approach the start of term our website will be updated to show information on our opening times.



01970 623232



www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk





Sports Centre

The Sports Centre is on the main campus and is a core element of student life. We have worked hard this summer to provide you with a safe environment in which to workout, relax and enjoy your favourite sports and exercise.

Here are some of the ways in which you can participate with us:

- All students living in university accommodation receive free and unlimited access to the Sports Centre and the Wexer exercise app with Student Platinum Membership.
- Any students not living in university accommodation can enjoy the same unlimited access by purchasing Student Platinum Membership for £25 per month or £125 per annum.
- We are currently installing the new satellite 24-hour gym at Y Sgubor, Fferm Penglais which will be ready for September and is available on the doorstep of those students in halls.
- We have developed a new booking system to ensure you can exercise when you want in a comfortable space.

- Our main centre includes state-of-the-art Matrix fitness equipment which has been adjusted to ensure compliance with social distancing requirements.
- We also offer the free-weights area and plate-loaded room.
- We have a dedicated studio for indoor cycling and other group exercise classes such as Yoga, Pilates and conditioning workouts. The Sports Cage facility gives us plenty of extra room for sports training, circuits, HIIT and Zumba.
- Our swimming pool forms part of the main Sports Centre – book in advance to secure a lane for your swim session.
- We have great outdoors facilities including a floodlit short-pile 3G competition surface; floodlit 3G training pitch; 400m 2-lane track; an equestrian centre, 48 acres of sports pitches and specialist facilities for watersports.

Please come down to see us, we are just along from Edward Llwyd building and behind the International Politics building. Whatever is going on, we always have a warm welcome for you.

☎ 01970 622280

@ sports@aber.ac.uk

🌐 www.aber.ac.uk/sportscentre



Students' Union

Being a student is about much more than simply attending lectures and studying! It is about the overall experience, trying new things, being adventurous and making the most of the opportunities available to you. We want Aber students to love student life and be ready for anything.

As a student-led, independent part of the University, Aberystwyth Students' Union represents students and provides a diverse and inclusive array of activities, events and services that enrich student life. These include advice, volunteering and leadership opportunities and supporting over 100 clubs and societies.

To find out more about your Students' Union, check out our website and join us on social media. Full details about Students' Union membership benefits can be found at www.abersu.co.uk

 01970 621700

 union@aber.ac.uk

 www.umaber.co.uk

   [UMABerSU](#)

Relaxing in the Students' Union

The Cwtch Bar in the Union building is a relaxed space for students with pool tables and plenty of comfortable seating. It offers a full range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks (including Starbucks) coffee and has a wide selection of snacks and paninis available all day.


Nosh Da offers a range of cooked-to-order pizzas, burgers and wraps to cater for all tastes. Orders can be taken at the bar or online and the food can be delivered locally too.

Students' Union advice

Free, friendly independent advice for all Aberystwyth University students on a range of areas, including academic, housing, money and personal support.

 **Students' Union Advice: 01970 621700**

 union.advice@aber.ac.uk

 www.abersu.co.uk/advice

UMCA

UMCA is the Welsh Students' Union which represents its members socially, linguistically and educationally. As well as organising all kinds of social events throughout the year, UMCA is home to many Welsh societies which allow you to be part of a great community.

 **UMCA President: 01970 621738**

 umca@aber.ac.uk

The Welsh Language at Aberystwyth

Many students choose Aberystwyth because of the vibrancy of its Welsh speaking community and the exceptional opportunities to study through the medium of Welsh.

Welsh is a living language in Aberystwyth and in many other parts of Wales. Around a fifth of the country's population can speak Welsh. However, about half of the population of (the county of) Ceredigion speaks the language. We operate a Bilingual Policy and ensure that the Welsh language is treated no less favourably than the English language.

Learning Welsh

We'd encourage you to discover for yourselves a little about the language and its unique culture. There are plenty of opportunities to learn Welsh at Aberystwyth University. Each year many students without any prior knowledge of Welsh express an interest in learning the language.

Details of various courses will be available at registration and information can also be found at: www.learnwelshinmidwales.org






Information for international students

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Aberystwyth, and we're working hard to make your journey and arrival as straightforward as possible.

Welcome events

A variety of welcome events will be held for international students. These will be a mixture of online groups from as early as the 5 September (for those self-isolating) and in-person, in small, socially distanced groups. More information will be provided. We are planning for a larger Welcome Ceremony later in the year.

 +44 1970 622367

 international@aber.ac.uk


 Live chat on:
www.aber.ac.uk/international

Arrival dates

If, under current Government regulations, you are required to self-isolate for 14 days after entering the UK, you can arrive to Aberystwyth University from 5 September. We will provide a safe and comfortable environment for you to self-isolate in, with support to get food and other supplies delivered to your door. This means you can complete your self-isolation before Orientation activities begin, from 22 September.

If you do not need to self-isolate, you can arrive during the main welcome period from 16 September.

We recognise that many students will find it difficult to travel to the UK in September due to visa, travel, health or other restrictions. We are therefore offering an 'online start' for these students, meaning you can register online, begin your studies online and travel to the UK once the restrictions have been removed and it is easy for you to travel.

 www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors

Airport Pick-Up

An Airport Pick-Up service will be provided from Birmingham International Airport (BHX). This will be across the weekends of 5–6 and 19–20 September. Socially distanced coaches will be provided to transport students from the airport to the campus. Booking is essential.

To book:

www.aber.ac.uk/meet-greet-booking

Opening a bank account

When opening a bank account in the UK, you will need a 'Letter of Introduction to UK Banking Facilities', available to download from your Student Record.

For full details about how to obtain a letter or Registration Certificate to open a bank account in the UK please refer to www.aber.ac.uk/en/academic-registry/certification

Visa support

The International Student Adviser can offer support, advice and information on matters related to your student visa. Please do contact us if you have any concerns or queries.

 **International Student Adviser:**
+44 1970 621548

 immigrationadvice@aber.ac.uk

 www.aber.ac.uk/international

Health

EEA nationals are eligible to access free NHS services. You should however obtain a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) from your home country before coming to the UK to show you are eligible for free health treatment. Visit the European Commission's website for more information on how to apply for an EHIC card. **The EHIC card is available free of charge, please take care to only use an official website to avoid the risk of using a website that will charge you a fee.**

Non-EEA nationals who are coming to study for six months or more will need to pay an Immigration Health Surcharge as part of their visa application process. If you paid the Immigration Health Surcharge then you will qualify for free NHS treatment on the same basis as anyone who is ordinarily resident in the UK.

Non-EEA nationals who are coming to study for less than six months and have not paid an Immigration Health Surcharge should take out private medical insurance for the duration of their visit to the UK.

Family members of students who are not travelling to the UK on a dependant type visa will also need to take private medical insurance for the duration of their visit to the UK, as they may not be eligible for free NHS treatment.

Biometric residence permit (BRP/Visa)

(applies only to non-EU Students)

Aberystwyth University will provide information on how to pick up your BRPs. Further details will be emailed to you nearer the start of term.

Go abroad

Our commitment to the development of international academic links is part of the reason why Aberystwyth University was presented with Gold in the International category in the 2020 What uni Student Choice Awards.

Aberystwyth's Global Opportunities team offer an exciting range of options for you to go abroad as part of your degree. From short courses and volunteering opportunities in the summer to a whole semester or year abroad studying your chosen subject at one of our partner universities. Studying, interning or volunteering abroad - even for a short period - provides the opportunity to gain new perspectives, both personally and academically. Funding is available to help make an overseas experience accessible for everyone. Immerse yourself in another culture and language - be more than a visitor!

📞 01970 628719

@ studyabroad@aber.ac.uk

🌐 www.aber.ac.uk/en/international/study-abroad



Lifelong learning

Lifelong Learning courses are offered in addition to your degree and can be taken without interfering with your undergraduate timetable.

Lifelong Learning delivers high quality teaching and learning experiences, offers courses to enhance your employability and can help you make the most of your time at university.

These courses give you a chance to learn something different, take up a new interest, develop a skill or language and enhance your career potential.

The courses are in different subject areas:

- Art and Design
- Ecology and Conservation
- Creative Writing and Literature
- Photography
- History, Genealogy and Archaeology
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Modern Languages

If you are an undergraduate or postgraduate student, you are eligible for the concession rate. There are many courses that are offered to you free of charge.

🌐 www.aber.ac.uk/en/lifelong-learning

To-do list

- Keep checking your personal email account to receive important information and instructions.
- Download the ApAber to your mobile.
- If you will be living in University accommodation, when prompted via email, follow guidance to complete your pre-arrival Induction Programme found in the Accommodation Licence Pack.
- Check into accommodation during your pre-booked slot.
- Activate your email account and obtain your Aber Card - these give you access to library and computer services, and some of our residences. You need to activate your email account and obtain your Aber Card before you can register as a student.
- Keep checking your new University email account once it has been activated.
- Complete registration by 22 September (first year and foundation year) or 23 September (all other years).
- Make arrangements to pay your fees (tuition and, if appropriate, accommodation).
- Enter your emergency contact details onto your student record.
- Check your home and University address and contact details are correct.
- Register as a patient with a local doctor's surgery.
- Open an account with a local bank (unless you already have a UK account).

We also recommend that undergraduate and foundation students attend the Online Meet and Greet event on 2 September (see p. 13 for details).

See you soon!



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