



Information for **Parents and Guardians**

Welcome to Aber

Choosing where to go to University and what to study is one of life's big crossroads. As a parent myself, I know that such decisions can often involve the whole family as well as friends, so I hope you'll find this booklet useful as you consider the advantages of an Aberystwyth University education.

First and foremost, we are a University with a reputation for academic and research excellence dating back to 1872. Our teaching

staff includes many who are leading experts in their field and whose aim is to provide innovative and inspiring learning in a stimulating environment. We've invested in high-quality teaching spaces which harness the latest technology and where lectures are recorded so that students can watch them again as they revise. It is why we have been awarded Gold in the 2018 Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework (TEF 2018) and University of the Year for Teaching Quality in the Times and Sunday Times, Good University Guide (GUG) for the second year running (GUG 2019).

Our staff also know their students. We're not a big, faceless institution. We're a supportive, welcoming and diverse community not only on campus but also across the wider town of Aber, which plays such a big role in student life here. It's a stunning coastal location and an extremely safe environment, where students can thrive and develop as they embrace the challenges of higher education and independent living.

To help ease the transition between home and campus, all our first-year students are guaranteed a place in university accommodation. It's a great way of making new friends and there's a wide choice to suit different needs and budgets.

We offer an excellent package of scholarships, bursaries and awards too – recognising achievement, providing support and helping with the costs of studying.

Read on to find out more and if you have any questions or queries, please let us know. My staff and I are here to help you and your child make informed choices for their future, and we look forward to meeting you on campus.



Professor Elizabeth Treasure
Vice-Chancellor

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Why choose Aberystwyth University?

Why your child should choose Aberystwyth University?

Since 1872, students have been drawn to Aberystwyth University by our reputation for teaching excellence, research with impact and for our exceptional student experience. At a glance, these are just a few more reasons why your child will want to study at Aberystwyth University.

Welsh University of the Year

(The Times & Sunday Times, Good University Guide 2020)

University of the Year for Teaching Quality 2019

(The Times & Sunday Times, Good University Guide 2019);

University of the Year for Teaching Quality 2018,

(The Times & Sunday Times, Good University Guide 2018);

Gold Award in 2018 Teaching Excellence and Student Outcomes Framework

(TEF)- (TEF 2018);

97% of graduates are in employment or further education 6 months after graduating

(Higher Education Statistics Agency 2018);

Top university in England and Wales for overall student Satisfaction

(National Student Satisfaction survey 2019);

95% of the University's research is of an internationally recognised standard

(Research Excellence Framework 2014)



Helping your child to make their decision

With such a wide choice available, choosing which subject and course to study is probably one of the hardest decisions facing students today.

At Aberystwyth, the main subject areas we teach include:

Accounting, Finance, Economics, Marketing, Business and Management; Fine Art and Art History; Biological Sciences; Computer Science; Drama, Theatre, Film and Television Studies; Education and Childhood Studies; English and Creative Writing; Environmental Sciences; European Languages; Geography and Earth Sciences; History and Welsh History; International Politics; Law and Criminology; Mathematics; Physics; Psychology; Agriculture and Rural Sciences; Sport and Exercise Science; Veterinary Biosciences; Welsh; Professional Welsh; Celtic Languages and Celtic Studies.

97% of our full-time, first degree students were either in work or further study six months after graduating

(HESA 2018)

Top tips on how you can help

- Make sure that your child takes their time to research and gather information about all of their choices.
- Visit the UCAS website (www.ucas.com). It has a fantastic course search that lists all the courses available in the UK by subject.
- Look at the university websites and their prospectuses.
- Visit the universities that interest your child the most, if you can. Most universities have Open Days, which give you a chance to get a feel for the university and the area, and to speak with staff and current students.
- Be sure to find out about scholarships and bursaries available at the university. Many universities offer a variety of financial packages to help your child through their studies. Scholarships and bursaries are usually money that is in addition to the loan, and usually they don't have to be paid back.

Aberystwyth is ideally located for the study of geography, environmental and countryside courses, as it's located within easy reach of mountains, the sea, estuaries, forests, sand dunes and marshlands.



Some terms explained...

Conditional Offer	Details the conditions your child will need to meet for entry onto their chosen course (e.g. BBB, to include a B in Biology).
Unconditional Offer	An offer of a place of study without conditions.
Firm Choice	Of the offers your child receives, this is effectively their preferred choice of course/provider.
Insurance Choice	From the offers received, this would typically be your son/daughter's second preference if they failed to meet the conditions of their Firm choice.
UCAS Apply	This is the online application system used for submitting applications via UCAS.
UCAS ID	When your child applies for a place at University through UCAS at the very beginning of the process, they will be given a 10 digit UCAS ID number that is unique to them. Keep it to hand as you will need it several times throughout the application process, and if your son/daughter enters Clearing or Adjustment.
UCAS Track	Once your child registers and completes their application online through UCAS, they will be able to view the progress of their application, view and respond to offers, and add clearing choices through UCAS Track. .
Deferred Entry	If your child has completed the process of applying to university and has been accepted onto a course, and then decide that they don't want to start in September, they can defer their course (effectively put it on hold) for a year. This could be done to enable them to go on a gap year, or work experience, for example.



Undergraduate studies at Aberystwyth

At Aberystwyth we offer various foundation degrees, single honours, joint honours, major/minor degree combinations and Integrated Master's across our subject areas. Don't worry if you are not sure what these qualifications mean, we will explain each and every one of them below. Here's an overview of the ways in which your child can study at Aberystwyth.



Generally, there are six types of degree available to you at Aberystwyth:

Foundation degrees

Usually 2-3 years in length, these vocational degrees offer your child a more practical training. Successful completion can lead to direct entry of a final year of a BSc course in some subjects. A great option if you want to retrain or embark upon an entirely new area of study.

Bachelors honours degrees with foundation year

Designed for applicants seeking an alternative route into higher education, these degrees offer a year's preparatory study, for direct entry onto a bachelors degree.

Bachelors single honours degrees

Enable you to specialise in one particular subject. Usually 3 years in duration, though language students will spend an additional year abroad. Many of our degrees can be studied as 4-year degrees including a year in industry or study year abroad.

Bachelors joint honours degrees

Enable your child to study two subjects equally, with your time divided between two different departments. Our wide selection enables you to study complementary subjects, so you don't have to choose between your favourites!

Bachelors major/minor honours degrees

These provide your child with a rigorous basis in one subject, with the advantage of pursuing an additional subject. Usually 3 years in duration, your child will spend two thirds of your time studying the major subject, and a third studying the minor subject.

Integrated Master's degrees

An integrated Master's degree is three years of undergraduate studies with a Master's year indigtrated into the fourth year. Student finance can be applied for four years to cover the costs.

Studying in Welsh

As a bilingual University, many of our degrees are available through the medium of Welsh. All students can submit their work and sit exams in Welsh. There are also options for getting additional support and living in dedicated Welsh language residences if you wish.

Did you know that being able to work through the medium of Welsh can improves career prospects substantially - 99% of our graduates who studied some part of their course through the medium of Welsh were in work or further study within six months (HESA 2018).

Entry qualifications

Aberystwyth University operates an inclusive admissions policy which values breadth as well as depth of study. Applicants are selected on their individual merits, and offers can vary.

Here are just a few examples of the qualifications that we accept:

- A level
- BTEC (Level 3)
- Welsh Baccalaureate Advanced with Skills Challenge Certificate
- Access to Higher Education Diploma
- Extended Project Qualification
- International and European Baccalaureate

Their future and career

Our Careers Consultants help you recognise the skills you already have, and encourage you to make the most of the opportunities available to you at Aberystwyth. Through one-to-one consultations, advice services, tailored lectures and workshops (some from visiting employers), our Careers Consultants will help you prepare yourself for the workplace.

Industry links

Many of our departments have strong links within their industries, which enable regular guest lectures, workshops and in some cases work placements. Some of our departments also host annual industry conferences and events.

Year in Employment Scheme

Our Year in Employment Scheme allows you to undertake a work experience placement between your second and third year. The University will keep your place on your degree course, and when you return you will enter the third year of your degree. Taking part in the scheme may provide you with the opportunity to make or test decisions about a chosen career path; work abroad and learn a new language; secure sponsorship for your final year, or a promise of work after graduation.



Student support

Our Student Advice, Information and Money Service provides support and referral on a wide range of issues. Our Student Advisers who are accredited by The National Association of Student Money Advisers (NASMA) can also signpost you on any queries relating to accommodation, academic progress and University procedures.

Accessibility Service

The University is committed to maintaining a community that is accessible for everyone and welcomes applications from disabled students and those with specific learning differences. We advise you to consider before you apply the requirements of your chosen course and any elements that might present particular difficulties. We recommend that you visit the campus and department to investigate the support that may be available.

Our Accessibility Advisers are delighted to help before you apply. We also recommend that you contact our Accessibility Advisers to discuss a study needs assessment and to get advice on grants, such as the Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA). For eligible students our advisers can arrange support workers, including one-to-one study skills support, and individual examination arrangements may be available for students with a range of impairments including specific learning differences such as dyslexia and dyspraxia. Our Accessibility Service also provides support for care leavers.



Student Wellbeing Service

We work closely with local GPs, hospital and mental health services, and are committed to supporting your health and emotional wellbeing throughout your studies.

Signpost mentoring

Signpost is a friendly and confidential peer-mentoring scheme for all new undergraduates that offers one-to-one advice, to help you settle down to university life, plan for the future, and make the most of your time at university.

Nightline

This independent listening service run by students, for students, provides a confidential helpline, email and instant messaging service, visit www.nightline.aber.ac.uk for more information.

Advice for applying to university

Applying to university can be a very daunting prospect but we are here to answer your questions no matter what your concerns are. If you have queries relating to admissions and academic criteria contact: ug-admissions@aber.ac.uk

Global Opportunities

Aberystwyth's Global Opportunities Team offer an exciting range of options for you to go overseas as part of your degree. From short courses and volunteering opportunities in the summer, to a full semester or year abroad studying your chosen subject at one of our partner universities.

The University also offers a number of courses which include an integrated year studying abroad, which enables you to study at one of our European or international partner universities for one or two semesters during your third year, returning to Aberystwyth for your final year and graduation.

Reports have shown that students who study abroad are more attractive to employers and earn more than their peers. Take advantage of the opportunity of a lifetime while improving your critical skills by choosing to study abroad.

Language students

Students who study one or more languages at Aberystwyth spend an additional year studying or working abroad. Time spent abroad improves fluency and confidence in the languages chosen and immerses students in the host culture.

Language students

Students who study one or more languages at Aberystwyth, will spend an additional year studying/working abroad, so that they can completely immerse themselves in the language they've studied.

Ryan Kennedy studied French and Italian at Aberystwyth, and here's an extract from his blog about his travels:

"Padova is packed with cute piazzas, bars and coffee shops, colourful flower and food markets and breath-taking architecture. For me living la dolce vita in this stunning northern Italian town was a dream come true - I mean who hasn't dreamt of sipping an aperitivo in a quaint sunlit piazza or going to Venice for the day just because, well, you can! From the moment I arrived, I fell in love with everything

about it. We erasmini (yes Italians have a term for Erasmus students - that is just how trendy they are!) started off the semester in snowy covered Padova, and this prompted all of us to take to the piazza for photoshoots followed by hot pizza and Aperol spritz afterwards in a café owned by a Welsh girl!

These memories, the people you meet and the places you see are something no one can ever take away from you and the only regrets I have were not seeing even more than I did and not picking up Italian dress sense fully!

Going abroad changes you completely, and you can rest assured that you will have a heart full of beautiful memories when you return. I have books filled with pictures of the beautiful places I visited and the amazing friends I made and in short, I would go abroad all over again without batting an eyelid!"



Fees and financial support

At Aberystwyth, we offer a generous package of scholarships and bursaries worth thousands of pounds to support our students with day to day living costs.

The tuition fees for 2020/21 entry are yet to be confirmed. For Home/EU students enrolled on full-time undergraduate and PGCE courses starting at Aberystwyth University in September 2019, fees were £9,000. The fees position is different for international/non-EU students.

International Students

- > Full-time Arts / Social Sciences £13,600 *
- > Full-time Science £15,200 *

**Aberystwyth International Scholarships, worth £2,000 each year towards tuition fees, are available for International (non-EU) students commencing a full-time undergraduate programme in September 2020.*

See: www.aber.ac.uk/en/undergrad/scholarships/non-eu for details and conditions.

For the latest information on our fees, visit our website. For further information on loans and grants available to you, visit your government's student finance website for further information.

Students from:

Wales

www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

England

www.gov.uk/student-finance

Scotland

www.saas.gov.uk

Northern Ireland

www.studentfinancenai.co.uk

Help with living costs

At Aberystwyth, we understand that it can be hard to get to grips with budgeting and we are devoted to advising our students as best we can. The Student Welcome Centre and Students' Union can offer you advice on budgeting and where to find part-time work during the holidays or your studies.

Other sources of funding

You may be able to get additional funding elsewhere. Other options could include sponsorship, working part-time, or charitable bequests. Students with disabilities might be eligible for The Disabled Student's Allowance that offers a range of financial support, and an additional grant may be available for travel costs. For further information visit your Government's website.



01970 622065



www.aber.ac.uk/scholarships



www.aber.ac.uk/en/student-finance

Scholarships, bursaries and awards

We offer a range of scholarships which are open to students from the UK, including academic awards such as the Entrance Scholarship competition, scholarships for sporting and musical achievement, support for care leavers and related groups, and scholarships for students who wish to study through the medium of Welsh. We also offer scholarships for European and international students.

It's possible to hold a number of awards together, to make your financial package more valuable. Here are some examples of what we offer.

Entrance Scholarships

Worth up to £2,000 a year.

Entrance Scholarships and Merit Awards are awarded on the basis of your performance in two 1.5-hour exams set by the University and can be held for any degree scheme. All scholars are given the opportunity to live in a university residence throughout their time as an undergraduate student. Successful candidates may also receive a reduced offer.

Academic Excellence Scholarships

Worth £2,000 in the first year.

To reward academic excellence achieved prior to beginning at the University, we are pleased to offer Academic Excellence Scholarships to applicants from the UK/ EU who place Aberystwyth University as their Firm choice through UCAS and go on to achieve at least grades AAA at A level (or DDD in the BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma, or

36 points in the International Baccalaureate; please see our website for a list of other accepted qualifications).

Sports Scholarships

Worth £500 a year, free Platinum Membership of the University Sports Centre and guaranteed university accommodation for the duration of your course.

Sports Scholarships are intended for applicants who can demonstrate recent achievement of a high standard in sport, and a commitment to developing their sporting performance whilst at university. You can hold a Sports Scholarship for any full-time course at Aberystwyth.

Aber Uni/Aberystwyth Town Football Club (ATFC) Scholarship

Worth £4,000 a year, plus additional benefits.

This Scholarship is for male applicants from the UK applying to study full-time for a degree at Aberystwyth

University. Applicants MUST have experience of playing football in the Welsh Premier League or at an equivalent standard.

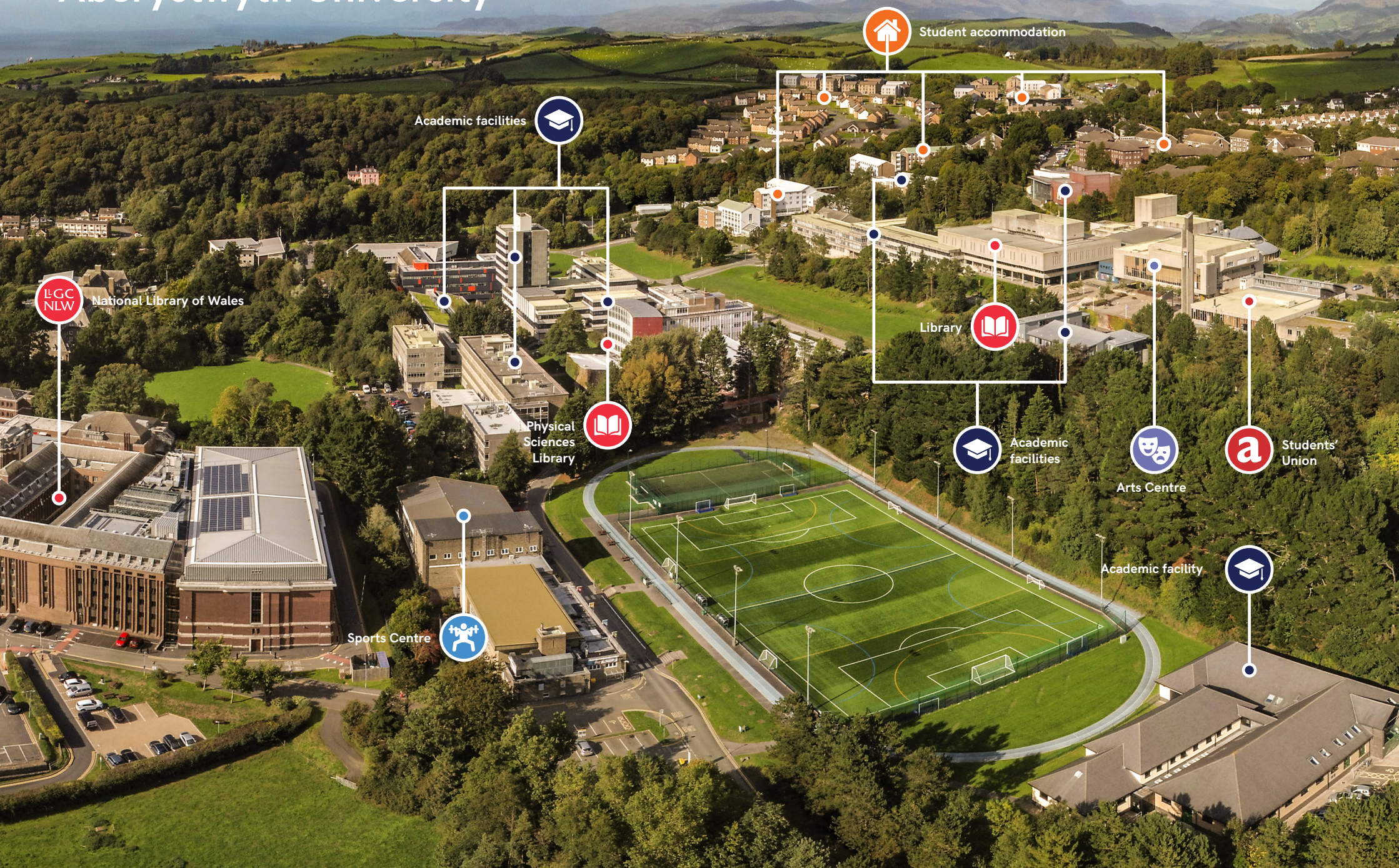
Music Scholarships

Worth £650 a year, free membership of the Music Centre ensembles, free use of their practice rooms, library and other appropriate facilities, and guaranteed university accommodation for the duration of your course.

Music Scholarships are intended for experienced players of orchestral instruments who can actively contribute to the University's wide range of orchestras, bands etc. They are awarded on the basis of competitive audition.

A number of other awards are also available, including Care Leaver Bursaries, departmental awards, and scholarships if you're thinking of studying some/all of your course through the medium of Welsh. For more details, visit our website.

Aberystwyth University



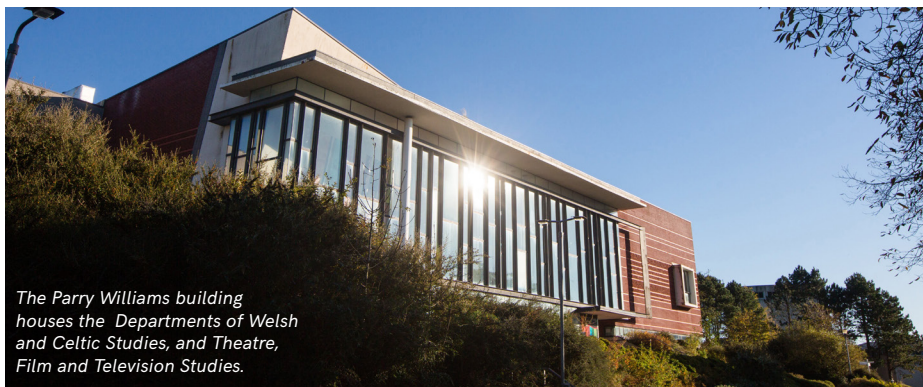
The new IBERS building on Penglais Campus is the administrative home of the Institute of Biological, Environmental and Rural Sciences (IBERS), and includes a café. Next door is the Edward Llwyd building which houses laboratories and teaching rooms.



The International Politics building houses the Departments of International Politics and History & Welsh History.



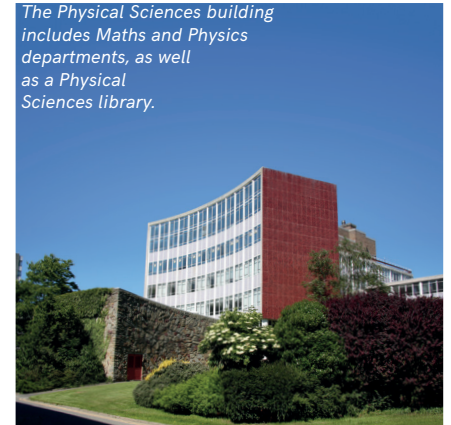
The Parry Williams building houses the Departments of Welsh and Celtic Studies, and Theatre, Film and Television Studies.



Located in the P5 building are the Department's of Psychology, Information Studies, and the School of Education.



The Physical Sciences building includes Maths and Physics departments, as well as a Physical Sciences library.



The Hugh Owen building is home to the Departments of English and Creative Writing, Law and Criminology, Modern Languages and Aberystwyth Business School.



The Llandinam building includes the Departments of Geography and Earth Sciences, and Computer Science.



Accommodation: Your next home

At Aberystwyth, we offer a variety of styles and locations to find the space that works for you, with the majority of our residences being only a short walk away from campus.



Each residence has its own distinctive character offering you a safe and secure environment in which to socialise, study and relax. Whilst living in our accommodation, there is no need to worry about fluctuating bills as the accommodation fees include utilities, internet connection including Wi-Fi and a high level of personal contents insurance.

We offer a wide range of self-catered accommodation with either en-suite rooms, or flats with shared facilities along with our self-contained studios, with prices ranging from approximately £85-146 per week*. We also have dedicated catered accommodation available for students who are Welsh speakers or learners and would like to live in a Welsh speaking environment. Our accommodation fees include the platinum gym membership at the University's sports centre, for further details see page 246.

As soon as you arrive our Residences Team will welcome you into your new home and our campus community.

Applying for accommodation

If you have received a conditional or unconditional offer to study at Aberystwyth University and are holding us as either your firm or insurance choice, we will send you an invitation to apply for accommodation, both by e-mail and post, from April in your year of entry. We advise that you complete your application as soon as possible, as we offer accommodation on a first-come, first-served basis.

We can also continue to provide you with university accommodation throughout your time here. If you would like to live with the friends you have made in your first year, then you can apply to live together.

Please note that the listed accommodation options are subject to change for future academic years, further information and updates are available at - www.aber.ac.uk/accommodation.








Free Sports Centre
Platinum membership.



Guaranteed first year
accommodation*.



Key

-  Catered
-  Shower en-suite
-  Laundry Rooms
-  Wi-Fi
-  Dedicated Welsh Residences
-  Social and Study Areas
-  Parking

**To qualify you must ensure that your application is received by the 1st of August in the year of entry and that you respond to the offer of accommodation by the date given in the Accommodation Offer. Please note that a place in University-owned or managed accommodation is guaranteed, but not a specific type of room or location. Please note that the listed accommodation options and fees are for academic year 2020/21, but are subject to change for future academic years, as we continue improving our Estate. Please see our website for up to date information. www.aber.ac.uk/accommodation.*

Self-catered



Self-catered



Fferm Penglais



- single en-suite rooms (with double beds), in flats of 6-8 students with shared kitchen/living area
- on site shop and café, with social and study areas
- 5 minutes' walk from Penglais Campus
- dedicated area for Welsh speakers and learners
- single self-contained studios also available
- £139.97 per week (40 weeks)*- ensuite room
- £146.58 per week (40 weeks)*- studio

Cwrt Mawr



- single rooms, in flats of 6-10 students
- shared communal facilities (bathroom and kitchen areas)
- use of The Lounge @ Rosser
- located on Penglais Campus
- £85.40-£95.41 per week (39 weeks)*



Pentre Jane Morgan



- single rooms, in houses of 5 or 6 students
- shared communal facilities (bathroom and kitchen areas)
- use of The Lounge @PJM
- 5 minutes' walk from Penglais Campus
- £105.63 per week (39 weeks)*

Self-catered



Trefloyne



- single rooms, in flats of 7 students
- shared communal facilities (bathroom and kitchen areas)
- use of The Lounge @ Rosser
- on Penglais Campus
- £95.41 per week (39 weeks)*

Rosser



- single en-suite rooms, in flats of up to 8 students
- shared communal facilities
- use of The Lounge @ Rosser
- on Penglais Campus
- £117.18 per week (39 weeks)*



Catered (Welsh-medium) Pantycelyn



Pantycelyn



- Re-opening for September 2020
- single, en-suite rooms
- catered residence for Welsh speakers and learners with communal dining room, common rooms, study and social spaces
- within walking distance of campus and town
- £167.02 per week (33 weeks)*



Artist's impression
of a representative
bedroom in
Pantycelyn.



Students' Union

We want Aber students to love student life and be ready for anything.

Led by students and supported by a team of staff, Aber Students' Union works to ensure that Aber students have an epic student journey, are happy, healthy and empowered, with lasting friendships and promising futures.

As a Students' Union we are committed to:

- Preparing students for their next adventure
- Always giving students the last word
- Helping students to be as happy and healthy as possible
- Growing together with students as an Aber family

These promises are fulfilled by providing students with a range of benefits and opportunities to get involved in, including:

- Helping students to meet new people, make friends and build communities
- 100 student Sport Clubs and Societies - including a PG Students Association, academic societies and a chance to start your own group
- Supporting, training and working with over 300 Academic Reps to have a positive impact for students at course level
- Free, impartial, friendly and confidential advice
- A representative voice for all Aberystwyth University students
- Opportunities for students to campaign on the issues they care about
- Spaces to study, meet and socialise

The Union team also offer independent support and representation, whether academic, welfare or financial, for students who find they may need a little extra support while at University. Visit the Students' Union website to find out more or click the links below to navigate to different parts of the Students' Union website for further information.

Sports and societies

The Students' Union is home to Team Aber, with competitive and non-competitive sports clubs for all abilities and over 100 clubs and societies. Everyone should be able to find a new or existing hobby that interests them, and if not, you can even set up your own club or society!

Arts

- Aber Photography Society
- Art Society
- Broad-Ways Theatre and Film
- Curtain Call
- Elizabethan Madrigal Singers
- Nomadic Players

Community

- Aber Pride
- Aberystwyth LINKS St John - Cymru Wales
- GradSoc (Graduate Society)
- Organic Food Co-op
- SSAGO (Scouts and Guides)
- VegSoc

Language and cultures

- AberBSL (British Sign Language)
- African Caribbean Society
- Erasmus and European Languages Society
- German Society
- Global Students Society
- Italian
- Malaysian Society
- Nordic Society
- UMCA

Environmental

- Aberystwyth Sustainability Society
- Bee Conservation Society
- Conservation Volunteers (ACV)

Fundraising / campaigning

- Aber Marrow
- Aber WWF
- Marie Curie
- Oxjam Society
- Student Minds Aberystwyth
- Ticked Pink

Gaming

- Card Society
- Chess Club
- Community of Gamers
- Kaotica Wargames
- Pokemon GO
- WARPSoc

Department / course related

- AberCompSoc
- Aerospace Society
- Agriculture Society

- Biochemistry Society
- Criminology
- Crisis Games and Model UN Society
- Debating Society
- Education Society
- English and Creative Writing
- Geography
- Global Development Society
- History
- Interpol
- Law Society
- Marine Society
- Mathematics Society
- Physics and Astronomy Society
- Psychology Society
- Robotics
- Zoology Society

Interests and beliefs

- Aber Car Enthusiasts
- Aber Dogs
- Aber Howl Society
- Aber Student Media
- AberPara (Aberystwyth Paranormal Society)
- Aberystwyth Beer Pong Society

- Aberystwyth Cartoon and Comic Society
- Anime
- British Film and Television Society
- Catholic
- Christian Union
- Fantasy and Science Fiction
- Feminist Society
- Foxes in Bathrobes
- Knit Soc
- Medieval Re-enactment Society
- Nightline
- Real Ale Society

Music

- Abercoustic
- Kpop Society
- Roc Soc

Political

- Conservative Association
- Labour Students
- Student and Young Liberals
- Union and Liberty Society
- Yes Myfyrwyr

Sporting

- Aber Archers (archery)
- Aber Pool Club
- Aber Snow
- AberCycling
- Aerial Fitness (athletics)
- Aikido Club
- Airsoft
- Badminton
- Basketball
- Canoe and Kayaking
- Caving
- Clay Pigeon Shooting
- Cricket
- DanceSport
- Digs League Football
- Dodgeball
- Equestrian Club
- Expeditions
- Fencing
- Football
- Futsal
- Golf
- Harriers Athletics and Running Club
- Hiking Club
- Hockey Club
- Kalah System
- Karate
- Kickboxing
- Korfbal
- Lacrosse
- Mountain Biking
- Mountaineering Club
- Netball
- Panthers Street Dance
- Rugby (league and union)
- Sailing
- Showdance
- Slacklinking
- Squash
- Student Rowing
- Sub Aqua
- Surf Club
- Swimming and Waterpolo
- Table Tennis
- Taekwondo
- Tarannau Aberystwyth American Football Club
- Tarannau Cheerleaders
- Tennis
- Triathlon Club
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Underwater Hockey (Octopush)
- Volleyball
- Wrestling Society
- Yoga Society

Sports Centre

The Sports Centre offers a range of equipment and facilities to support your well-being. From the basics, including a gym, treadmills and a swimming pool (including a sauna), to the extras, including a female-only weight room.

If you don't fancy exercising on your own, you could always join one of the wide range of classes which include HITT, Yoga, Pilates, Step and Tone, Circuits to name a few.

One of the benefits of being a resident in one of the University managed accommodation (see p.22), is that you will receive a platinum gym membership included in your rental fees. The platinum gym membership will give you free and unlimited access to the gym, all fitness classes, the swimming pool and saunarium.



Arts Centre

The Arts Centre is the perfect place to see a show, watch a film, enjoy some treats, buy your books and socialise with friends. There is something here for everyone whether it's a London West End show or the ballet on tour, the latest film releases, specialist films, a range of festivals, some of the biggest names in comedy, or the annual Christmas, craft and gift fairs. In addition, our galleries regularly host exhibitions. Recently, the Arts Centre has been proud to welcome The Print Line works by Lucian Freud, David Hockney, Pablo Picasso, Bridget Riley and Rachel Whiteread to name a few.

Our award-winning Arts Centre on campus hosts performances from major national and international touring companies, as well as producing its own in-house productions. Performances are presented in the Centre's 1,200 seat concert hall, 300 seat theatre and in the more intimate studio, and there's a busy programme of screenings in the 120 seat cinema.



The Arts Centre comedy night.



Jack Savoretti performing in the Great Hall.



The Music Centre

The Music Centre is here for all students. Whatever you're studying, you can be part of a vibrant musical community in the heart of Aberystwyth. Located in Old College on the seafront, the Music Centre offers a range of musical ensembles, including a Symphony Orchestra, a Concert Band, a large choir, and guitar, string and other smaller groups. There are also spaces for group rehearsals and for individual practice. Each practice room has a piano and a sea view and gives you an opportunity to continue with your love of music, whether that's playing an instrument or singing. We also have a team of instrumental and vocal tutors and can arrange individual tuition if you wish to develop your musical skills further. For those of you who sing and play at a more advanced level, a Music Scholarship is also an option and is awarded through competitive audition.



The Music Centre's choir prepares major works for a concert with soloists and orchestras during the academic year. Recent concert highlights include Mozart Requiem and Karl Jenkins's The Armed Man and Stabat Mater.



Food and Drink on Campus

With a wide range of award winning restaurants and cafes manned by our trained baristas, servers and chefs, you will be spoilt for choice!

Throughout all of our restaurants and cafes, we pride ourselves on providing high quality, responsibly sourced produce at affordable prices. We always aim to cater to all our students' cultural, nutritional and dietary needs including vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, halal and lactose-free.

Whenever you are on campus you can enjoy a hearty breakfast, lunch and dinner in the main eateries, or a wide choice of light snacks, 'grab and go' products and hot & cold drinks in our cafes and shops. We also do deliveries to all campus halls from Nosh Da in the Students' Union.

Our catering services enjoy Fairtrade status, we have our own Sustainable Food Policy and are an essential part of the University wide initiative that helped Aberystwyth become the first university anywhere in the world to gain Plastic Free status.

Students enjoy a 10% discount when purchasing food or hot drinks in our outlets and there are further savings to be made with our loyalty card and re-useable cup initiatives. Paying with your Aberystwyth student card is an easy way to avoid the need for carrying cash and you can load credit onto your card either on-line or via ApAber. We offer flexible meal plans which enable you to budget for your termly or full year catering needs.

Places to eat on Penglais Campus

- Arts Centre
- IBERbach
- Tamed Da & Tamed Bach (including Starbucks)
- Sguborfach (including Starbucks)
- Students' Union (including Student Shop)

Lifelong Learning



Lifelong Learning courses are offered in addition to your degree and can be taken without interfering with your undergraduate timetable. Lifelong Learning deliver Higher Education accredited courses, that are included in your academic student record.

At Aberystwyth you can make the most of these opportunities to enhance your skills and develop new interests that will make you all the more attractive to employers when you've finished your degree, and will put you one step ahead of the competition. For more information on the courses available, visit:

www.aber.ac.uk/en/lifelong-learning/courses

The courses available are:

- Art and Design
- Ecology and Conservation
- Creative Writing and Literature
- Photography
- History, Genealogy and Archaeology
- Philosophy
- Psychology
- Modern Languages: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Russian and Spanish

If you are an undergraduate or postgraduate student, a selection of our courses are offered to you free of charge, visit:

www.aber.ac.uk/en/lifelong-learning/freecourses

All other courses are available at a concessionary rate.

“Strong teaching environment, excellent teaching and much room for class discussion.”

Equality and diversity at Aberystwyth University

At Aberystwyth we're proud of our close-knit community, within the University and the town, and although it's relatively small, anything goes here. The student body includes a rich variety of people, cultures and beliefs. You'll have a chance to try different things, make new friends but more importantly, to be yourself.

Volunteering

Whether you want to work within the student community, with local charities or fundraising, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer at Aberystwyth, both within the University and the town. The Students' Union provides a complete volunteering service, connecting you with opportunities and allowing you to record your hours towards an award every year.

Eco Aber

Perhaps it's natural that a seaside town cares deeply about its environment. Here you can be a part of a multitude of campaigns, initiatives and activities that are all doing their bit to protect our environment. From beach cleans to plastic free campaigns, you can be sure to find something that suits you.

LGBT

Aberystwyth University provides a supportive, inclusive and safe environment where you can embrace your individuality. AberPride student society arranges regular events, an annual last big event of the year, and weekly social nights. The University also has a LGBT staff network and is a Stonewall top 100 Employer.



Research excellence

Our excellence in research seeks to address some of the greatest global challenges the world is facing. 95% of our submitted research was of an internationally recognised standard or higher in the latest Research Excellence Framework 2014.

Ranging from climate change, food quality and production, to human health and helping to advance space exploration, our researchers are at the forefront of innovation and the impact of our research has far reaching international, national and local benefits.



Did you know?

Biological Sciences

Our researchers created a world-leading collection of *Miscanthus* genetic resources - a global energy crop.

Geography

Did you know that a glacier in the Antarctic is named after an Aberystwyth glaciologist? Maybe you've heard of it - the Glasser Glacier.



Image by Dr Bethan Davies

Physics

Did you know that our Department of Physics is involved in every European Space Agency (ESA) planetary mission from the Sun to Saturn and as a result the Aberystwyth University logo will be the first piece of Welsh text to be in space.



Art

Our researchers helped authenticate a painting thought to be Leonardo Da Vinci's earlier version of the Mona Lisa.

Theatre, Film and Television Studies

Did you know that the first and last of the Bridget Jones Diary films were directed by Aberystwyth graduate Sharon Maguire?



Computer Science

Did you know that Computer Science graduate Jan Pinkava directed The Incredibles and co-directed Pixar's Oscar-winning film Ratatouille?



Law

Our research has helped combat people trafficking in Romania.



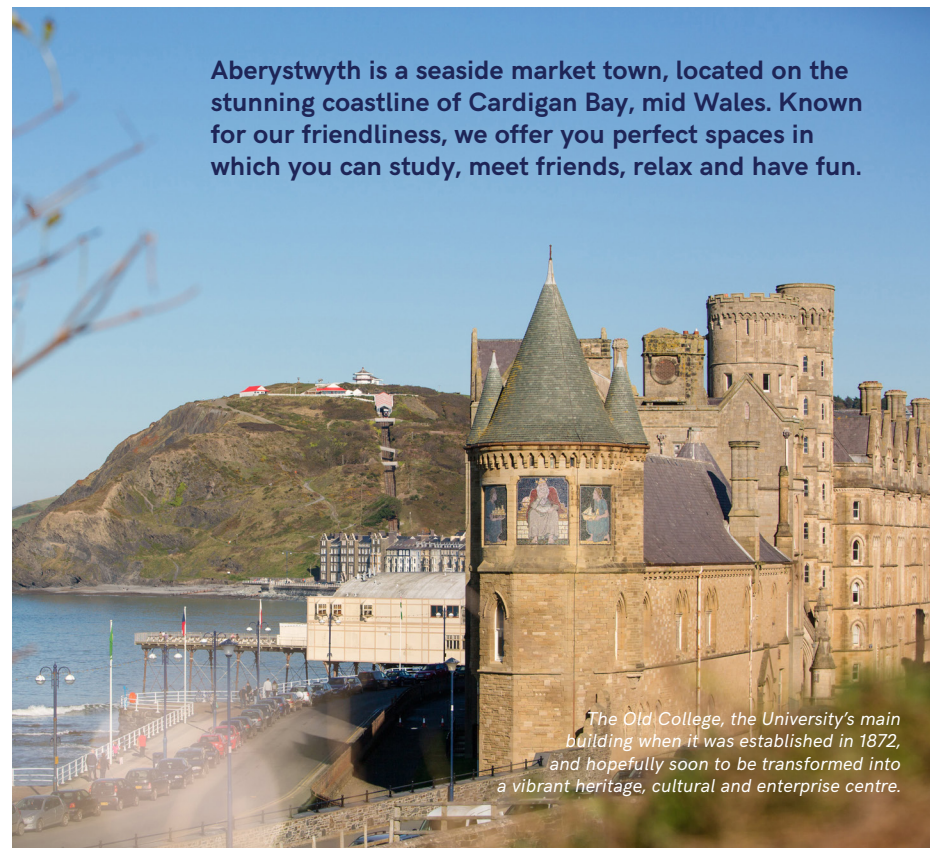
Sport and Exercise Science

Our researchers developed a high-intensity warm-up regime used by elite Olympic athletes.

Aberystwyth: the town



Aberystwyth is a seaside market town, located on the stunning coastline of Cardigan Bay, mid Wales. Known for our friendliness, we offer you perfect spaces in which you can study, meet friends, relax and have fun.



The Old Collage, the University's main building when it was established in 1872, and hopefully soon to be transformed into a vibrant heritage, cultural and enterprise centre.



Aberystwyth



How to apply

Once you have decided what course you want to study and where, you'll be able to start the university application process. Here's a brief overview of the process and our procedures here at Aberystwyth.

1 Apply through UCAS.com

Deadline 15 January. Aberystwyth University institution code: A40.

TOP TIP: You'll be given a 10 digit UCAS ID number. Keep this to hand as you'll be asked for it many times.

4 Decide where to go

Once you've received all your offers, you'll need to decide which university you want to go to, within a set time. This is when you'll need to note which universities will be your firm and insurance choices.

2 The university will consider your offer

TOP TIP: Use UCAS Track to keep an eye on your application. At Aberystwyth we aim to make a decision within 4 weeks.

5 Accommodation

Once you've chosen your firm/insurance choice you'll be able to apply for your accommodation (April 1st onwards).

3 The offer will show on UCAS track

6 Results day

UCAS Track will confirm your offer of a place. If you're not clear what the offer is, contact the university directly. Make sure you're not on holiday on results day. If you don't get the grades you've hoped for, you may want to consider entering Clearing.

7 Start packing!

Key dates

Early September 2019
UCAS open for applications for entry in 2020.

– 15th January for EU/international applicants, 18th January for UK applicants.

15 January 2020
Main scheme deadline for applying via UCAS. All applications received after this date will be considered on a case by case basis.

29 January
Entrance Scholarship Examinations.

15 & 18 January
Closing date to apply for Aberystwyth University Entrance Scholarship

April (and onwards)
Online accommodation applications open for students holding Aberystwyth UF, UI, CF, CI offers.

30 June
Those who submit UCAS applications after this date will be entered into Clearing.

Mid August
A level results published.

20 September
Final deadline for applications to 2020 courses.

How you can help your child to prepare for university

Here are some things you can do to help your child to prepare for their next adventure...

- ☐ Check they have sent their student finance application and information to the relevant student finance body (e.g Student Finance England). Not doing so on time could mean that your child misses out on some of the means-tested bursaries available to them, or that they don't get their loan through in time.
- ☐ Can your child use a washing machine? Can he or she cook a few simple dishes?
- ☐ Does your child have a bank account? Be sure to shop around and try to find one that has a gradual decrease in overdraft amount after graduation. Martin Lewis offers great advice on his website (www.moneysavingexpert.com/students-family/).
- ☐ Ensure that the catering arrangements suit your child. Self-catering can be traumatic for students who have never previously boiled an egg!
- ☐ Does your child need any additional support? If so, have they/you already been in touch with our Student Support Services? If not, please contact them by email (disability@aber.ac.uk) or phone (01970 621761).
- ☐ Make sure your child has activated their Aberystwyth University account, and that they have applied for their AberCard online.
- ☐ Encourage them to have some passport photos taken before they arrive, as they'll need quite a few of them during the first week!
- ☐ Be sure to have a look through our Residents' Handbook, provided by the accommodation office (also available online) as it contains lots of useful information and some handy hints about living in halls.

Before they go...

Moving in...

- ☐ Remind your child of the paperwork they need to take with them (including birth certificate, original examination certificates – these may be asked for).
- ☐ Advise them on what and how many personal effects to bring to the University and ensure that they are insured. Students in residences are covered by an integral insurance. You can find a useful checklist on our accommodation pages of what they should bring: www.aber.ac.uk/en/accommodation/new-students/moving-in
- ☐ Students must have a Television License to watch programmes on TV and some iplayers.
- ☐ They will need to bring their Key Release Form for the accommodation with them. They will get this when they complete their online accommodation induction programme.
- ☐ Encourage them to take some homely effects with them - pictures, bunting, posters, bed linen, or extra cushions. It will help them feel more comfortable in their bedroom. A pinboard is provided, but bringing some white-tack might be useful too.
- ☐ You can now pre-order bedding or kitchen essentials packs to be delivered to your room from www.Click2Campus.co.uk; and a few shops in town also offer Click and Collect services, including Matalan, M&Co, Argos, M&S, Accessorize, Monsoon and Next.
- ☐ Remind your child that they can approach members of our A-Team. They are all current students and will be wearing red t-shirts for that first moving in weekend. They can answer any questions and show them where things are if they get lost.
- ☐ Try to make some time for taking them to buy essentials, they may be looking forward to doing something with you to mark the beginning of their adventure!
- ☐ Before you leave, encourage them to stay safe and have fun - join as many clubs and societies as they can, and really make the most of their time at uni!

Term times

The academic year is divided into two semesters which are spread over three terms. Most modules are examined at the end of the semester in which it is taken. Before each examination period, departments organise a reading week to enable students to catch up with their studies and prepare for the examinations.

SEMESTER 1					SEMESTER 2								
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	VACATION	JANUARY	EXAMINATION	FEBRUARY	MARCH	VACATION	APRIL	MAY	EXAMINATIONS	JUNE
Term 1 (Michaelmas Term)					Term 2 (Lent Term)					Term 3 (Easter Term)			

Contact us

Student Support Services

Student Welcome Centre
Penglais Campus
Aberystwyth University
Aberystwyth, SY23 3FB
Tel: 01970 621761
E-mail: student-support@aber.ac.uk

Student Fees Office

Student Welcome Centre
Penglais Campus
Aberystwyth, SY23 3FB
Tel: 01970 628434
E-mail: fees@aber.ac.uk

Undergraduate Admissions Office

Cledwyn Building
Penglais Campus
Aberystwyth University
Aberystwyth, SY23 3DD
Tel: 01970 622021
E-mail: ug-admissions@aber.ac.uk

Accommodation Office

Y Sgubor
Fferm Penglais
Aberystwyth University
Aberystwyth, SY23 3FH
Tel: 01970 622984
24hour helpline: 01970 622900
E-mail: accommodation@aber.ac.uk

Complaints procedure

We hope you will find us a friendly and efficient organisation. However, if you have a complaint about any aspect of our admissions and recruitment service please contact: Pro Vice Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor's Office, Visualisation Centre, Penglais Campus, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3BF. The Pro Vice Chancellor will try to deal with your complaint within 5 working days. However, if this is not possible, we will contact you to explain what the difficulties are and when we can give you a full reply.

The information published in this brochure was correct at time of going to print (February 2020) but some of it may be subject to change. Please check online or contact us for the latest information.

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