



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT GUIDEBOOK

2025



WELCOME to Bath Spa



Professor Georgina Andrews
Vice-Chancellor, Bath Spa University

"I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to you as you embark on your educational journey at Bath Spa University. We are truly happy you are here and look forward to learning from the multitude of perspectives you bring with you.

Bath Spa is committed to providing a transformative learning experience, unlocking your potential to be confident, curious and creative professionals.

As you read the following pages and immerse yourself in our beautiful campus, you will have access to a wealth of resources to help you succeed. We are here to support you every step of the way.

I wish you success in your studies and in the adventure ahead and look forward to witnessing what you achieve."

CONTENTS

| | |
|----|---|
| 4 | Key teams |
| 5 | Accommodation and transportation |
| 6 | Before your arrival |
| 6 | Arrival and Welcome |
| 8 | Student Status letter |
| 8 | Bank accounts |
| 8 | Safety |
| 9 | Healthcare and registering with a GP |
| 9 | Beware of scams! |
| 10 | Work during your course or during vacations |
| 10 | Travel outside the UK |
| 11 | Academic expectations |
| 12 | The Students' Union |
| 13 | Graduation and beyond |
| 13 | Feedback and complaints |
| 14 | Rights, responsibilities and restrictions |
| 15 | Top tips! |



DOWNLOAD THE CAMPUS APP

The MyBathSpa App gives you access to University Services on your phone or computer. It brings together news, information and updates in one place.

You will need the app to check in to your classes and see your timetable!

Check out the international students tile for more resources for international students!

You can download the app from the App Store, Google Play, or access it on your computer at my.bathspa.ac.uk

KEY TEAMS

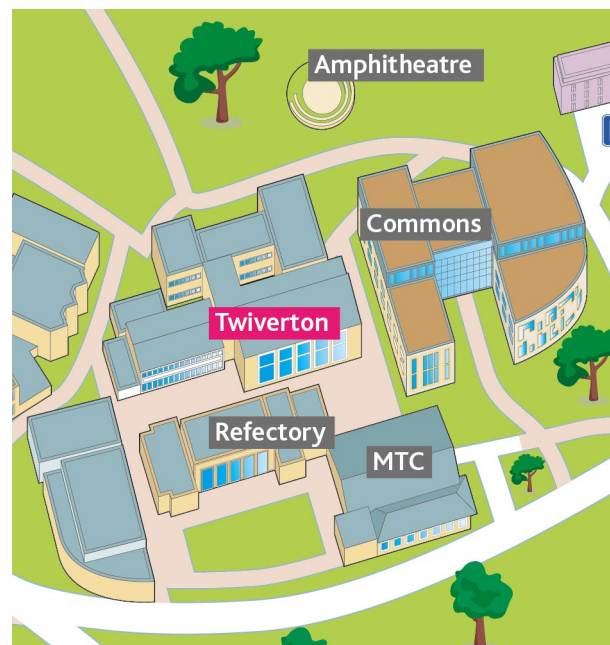
THE STUDENT INFORMATION TEAM AT THE STUDENT HUB

The Student Hubs are drop-in spaces that offer all our students the opportunity to speak to members of our friendly and experienced IT Service Desk and Student Information teams.

The Student Information Team can offer advice and support to all students, including those studying in London at our London campus, on the following areas:

- General queries and questions and helping you find your way around our campuses
- Proof of student status letters
- Making an application for exceptional circumstances
- Taking a break from your studies
- Transferring to another course
- Changing your modules
- Withdrawing from your course

Both our IT Services Desk Team and Student Information Team can also be contacted via the [MyServices](#) student portal.



OPENING TIMES (HOLIDAY HOURS MAY BE DIFFERENT) Newton Park (Located in Ground Floor, Twiverton):

Student Information Team

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

IT Service Desk:

Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm

Locksbrook (Located in G.18 off The Street):

Monday - Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Bath Spa London 1st Floor:

9:00 - 4:00

IMMIGRATION ADVICE SERVICE (IAS)

The IAS sits within the wider Immigration Compliance and Advice service. They provide student-centred, high quality, impartial and free immigration advice and support to international applicants, students and graduates who are subject to immigration control. An overview of services, and the areas of support and advice that we offered can be found online [here](#).

There are many ways to contact the IAS
Immigrationadvice@bathspa.ac.uk
+44(0)1225 875645

Learn more about in person
drop-in times here:



IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE

The Immigration Compliance looks after the University's license to sponsor international students. They ensure that the University fulfils its sponsorship duties and remains compliant with UKVI guidance. This includes assessing CAS requests from students to extend their visas, monitoring student engagement with their studies, and notifying UKVI of student changes of circumstances such as successful course completion to apply for the Graduate Route visa.

The Immigration Compliance team are contactable at:
immigrationcompliance@bathspa.ac.uk

ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNIT (ELU)

If you are a pre-sessional student, arriving in Bath for English classes before the start of your degree, the ELU will be your primary point of contact.

The ELU can also support you with your English language development throughout the duration of your degree.

They offer advice and support to improve your reading, writing, speaking and listening. Contact: Elu@bathspa.ac.uk

GO GLOBAL

If you are an exchange student from another country or on a short-term programme, the Go Global team is your primary point of contact.

- Location: Main House G02 at Newton Park Campus
- Open: 10:00 - 4:00pm, Monday-Friday
- Email: BSUexchange@bathspa.ac.uk

ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORTATION

ACCOMMODATION

As soon as you confirm your place at Bath Spa University, we strongly recommend you start looking for accommodation. The UK generally has a difficult housing market and securing accommodation may take longer than you think. If you are unable to secure accommodation from your home country, you should try arrive in the UK two weeks before the start of your course. This will give you time to find suitable accommodation.

We do have limited space in university housing and the accommodation team will contact you directly if you are eligible for this. You can also express your interest in university accommodation on our website - [Applying for Accommodation Bath Spa University](#).

Graduate students and students at Bath Spa London can expect to look for housing in the private sector. We have created an in-depth private sector guide to aid you in this search. Find it in the international student tile on the app or [here](#).

You also need to know how to get to campus. Graduate students will need to be on campus at least one day a week and undergraduate students will need to be on campus multiple days per week. International students have an attendance requirement as part of their visa. Lacking transportation, or not being able to afford transportation, is not an excuse to miss class. If you plan to live further away and take the train, plan carefully. Here are a few tips if you plan to live outside the city of Bath:

- The train is most affordable during 'off peak' or 'super off peak' hours. For more information, visit the Trainline website [here](#).
- Getting a [rail card](#) can save you money if you travel frequently.
- Train fares from London can cost between £40-£80 round trip and Birmingham £70-150.
- The [National Express](#) bus can also be an affordable option, though the bus takes longer and has fewer places of departure.
- Trains and buses arrive in Bath City Centre. You will then take the U3, U4 or U5 to campus

PGCE Students should check with their course leader to ensure their accommodation is in a location suitable for their teaching placement. **Bath Spa London** is accessible via Old Street, Hoxton and Farringdon stations. Some PGCE classes are also taught on our [Sion Hill campus](#). BSUL Students are also eligible for a Student Oyster Card: Read the Bath Spa London Welcome brochure or ask at the BSUL Student Hub for details! **TFL** is a great resource to help you plan your trip around London. It is your choice and responsibility to choose where to live.

Students who have difficult housing arrangements struggle more with their academic experience. Your accommodation is an integral part of your experience in the UK and we urge you to think carefully and set yourself up for success.

PAYING YOUR FEES

If you receive an offer from Bath Spa University you will need to pay a tuition fee deposit to confirm your place and issue your CAS. The specific amount you need to pay, and deadlines to pay it will be written in your offer letter. All remaining fees will be due upon registration. **The easiest way to make a debit or credit card payment is online or by Flywire.**

Please note that we do not accept Bank Transfer

BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL

Before you arrive you will be sent important information via email. These emails include:

- Joining instructions to register online
- In person enrolment email with date and time
- Welcome activities for your course and university
- Details for a pre-departure webinar
- Where and when you will have to be to have your immigration documents checked
- Your offer of university accommodation (if applicable)

All of these are important, so please read them carefully!

In general, expect to do the following before your departure:

- Pay any remaining balance you owe (you cannot enrol without doing this)
- Complete your online registration and select a day to enrol in-person
- Attend a pre-arrival webinar
- Review your Welcome Handbook to familiarise yourself with the university and what to expect
- Review the Welcome Pages and resources sent to you to familiarise yourself with the university

More information on these tasks are to follow...

Your offer of university accommodation if applicable.

PRE-DEPARTURE WEBINARS

You should be notified about a pre-departure or in-country webinar for your region. This webinar will provide more details on the arrival process and what to expect when you are adjusting to the UK. You will also be given instructions on what to do at the airport. Look out our [arrival pages](#) for the most up-to-date information for the current semester.

ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

IN-PERSON ENROLMENT

All students who are not British or Irish Citizens are subject to an in-person enrolment check to verify your immigration documents. Visit our [registration and enrolment](#) pages for more info.

In addition to the in-person enrolment session, You will participate in the university's Welcome Week. It is during Welcome Week that you will meet other new students and learn more about your course expectations. Attending this week is critical for your social and academic success so please do not ignore these invitations! Please make sure you know when these are so that you are able to attend them.

ACCESSING YOUR EVisa

Since the beginning of 2025, the UK has moved to a digital immigration system. This means that you will no longer be issued with a physical visa. Instead, you will need to use a share code to prove your immigration status.

Details of how to access your eVisa will be provided in the "What you need to do now" section of the e-mail you receive (or have already received) informing you that your visa application has been successful. Once you have received your visa, please generate a view-and-prove (not right-to-work or right-to-rent) share code. **You do not need to wait until you are in the UK to do this – you can do it as soon as your visa has been granted.** Once you have your share code, please upload it directly to your CAS Shield account.

You must send your share code in advance of attending registration, or you may not be permitted to enrol on your course. You will also not be able to collect your BSU ID card or prove your student status until you have sent your share code. You will also not be able to prove your right to work or rent in the UK until you have created your gov.uk account.

TRAVELLING TO THE UK

You must ensure that you travel to the UK after the start date of your Student visa. If you travel before this, you will have entered the UK as a visitor and will not be permitted to enrol on your course.

You should carry your valid passport, a hard copy of your CAS, and documents relating to your accommodation and finances in your hand luggage in case required. Border Force's top tips for students can be found [here](#).

Border Force no longer routinely stamp passports, so it is vital that you retain evidence of the date you enter the UK. You will need this to enrol on your course, and it will be important evidence for future UK visa applications.

CULTURE SHOCK

It is difficult to adjust to a new country and culture. It is normal to feel frustrated, anxious, lonely, and sad while you adjust. You also may experience physical symptoms such as tiredness or sickness.

There are lots of good resources online to help you with your adjustment including advice from UKCISA. If you ever feel like you cannot cope, please contact a staff member at the University and we will get you help.

You can also contact Student Wellbeing Services through [MyWellbeing](#) to book an appointment to speak to someone.

The Wellbeing Helpline is provided by Student Wellbeing offers professional and free additional wellbeing support. The service is also available in over 200 languages, just state which language you would like to use and a practitioner will call you back.

For immediate support call the Student Wellbeing Helpline on

0800 028 3766

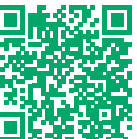
You may also find some of the resources on the [Wisdom App](#) useful:

Download the app using code MHA173635 to be able speak or chat to someone and access many useful tips on maintaining your wellbeing while adjusting to life in the UK.

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

The [British Council](#) provides information and advice on living in the UK and accessing support while you study. The UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA) also offers lots of advice on studying and living in the UK.

For more information, visit the UKCISA website [here](#).



Settling into Life in Bath

STUDENT STATUS LETTERS

After you arrive and have fully enrolled, you may need a student status letter to provide confirmation of your enrolment at Bath Spa University. Student Status letters are used for several reasons including bank accounts, council tax exemption and academic verification. You can download a Student Status letter with or without term dates through [e:Vision](#).

BANK ACCOUNTS

There are various banking services in the UK and your choice to determine which type of bank is best for you. Each bank has different rules and requirements for opening an account. For example, Santander requires your course to be at least two years in length. Typical documents required to open a bank account include:

1. Passport and view-and-prove share code
2. BRP card (if applicable) or National ID
3. Student status letter
4. Proof of address in the UK
5. Your student ID card



NEED HELP?

CAMPUS EMERGENCY NUMBER If you are on campus and need urgent help, please call security on +44 (0)1225 875555.

CALL 111 for medical advice that is not life threatening. This is free and is a service available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. You can also visit [111.nhs.uk](#)

CALL 999 if someone is seriously injured or in distress.

HIGH STREET BANKS

The main high street banks in the UK are Barclays, HSBC, Halifax, Lloyds, Metro Bank, NatWest and Santander. All banks will normally offer you a basic account to begin with and may offer you further services after you have banked with them for some time. The basic account will allow you to withdraw cash for free from most cash machines, set up a direct debit payment, and use online and telephone banking.

DIGITAL BANKS

Digital banks are usually more flexible with how you open an account and there has been a recent rise in mobile-only banking in the UK. It is important to note that there is no in-person or telephone banking with these banks, and they are purely app-based. Some of the main digital-only banks include Monzo, Monese, Revolut, Starling, Atom Bank and Wise.

This article outlines different digital banks and what they offer:



SAFETY

Bath is one of the safest cities in the UK! Still, in case of emergency it is best to be prepared. Student Wellbeing Services works closely with Security and our Accommodation team to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of students - this includes out of hours. There are many ways you can get support and you can find each of these on our [website](#).

HEALTHCARE AND REGISTERING WITH A GP

If you are on a student visa, you will have paid the NHS surcharge and can access all NHS services. **Your healthcare, including mental health and sexual health, is completely confidential.** Your records will not be shared with anyone unless you give permission.

You will be exposed to stress and new illnesses and at some point, you may need a doctor. You should register with a GP (General Practitioner) as soon as you can so that when you need this service, you can access it. UKCISA provides a good [overview on UK healthcare](#) and how the system works.

You should keep a record of all medical treatment you receive in the UK, as you may require this information for future immigration applications.

UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SERVICE

Bath Spa has a University Medical Service. If you live in Bath, you can register for this in-person in the Sophia building or [online](#).

If you do not live in Bath, you can register with a GP close to your home. Most have information on how to register with them available on their website. Sometimes the process can take a couple of weeks to complete, so again, we urge you to do this early. If you need further help the NHS has guidance on their [website](#). After paying the NHS surcharge, all appointments and treatments are free, including urgent and emergency services.

TIP:

Look up your closest hospital and how to get to it so you know where to go in case of an emergency.

DENTISTS

Depending on where you live, you may or may not be able to find an [NHS dentist](#) as many NHS dental surgeries do not have capacity to take on new patients at this time. If you cannot find an NHS dentist, you should be able to find private care. There may be a waiting list to join the surgery, so again, we suggest you do this as early as possible.

If you do not register with a dentist and have a dental emergency call 111 and ask for assistance. More information on '[what to do with a dental emergency](#)' is available on the NHS website.

Please note that dental care and prescriptions are not free in the UK (with the exception of dependent children). Most prescriptions are less than £20 and dental costs will be listed on the dentist's website.

BEWARE OF SCAMS

Even if Bath is one of the safest places to live, the UK has seen a rise in sophisticated, digital scams, particularly targeting international students. Scams usually start with attempts to obtain your personal information and a request or requirement for payment that can seem quite urgent and important. This could be related to your tuition, visa, or accommodation. The University and UK banks will never ask you to give bank details, your login or passwords – especially over the phone or email. If you are concerned that you are being targeted by a scam and wish to check with a member for staff, please contact immigrationadvice@bathspa.ac.uk

Scams the Home Office is aware of:

Scam guidance and advice from Bath Spa: scams targeting students:



Scam prevention guidance from Avon and Somerset Police for Chinese students:



WORK DURING YOUR COURSE OR DURING VACATIONS

Work rights are a condition of your [immigration permission](#) so it is important that you are clear about what you can and cannot do.

The Careers team also have created this brief guide to help you find part-time work in the UK. Part-time jobs are also posted on the [MyCareer](#) platform.

Your Student Visa will indicate how long you are permitted to work each week (Monday-Sunday) during term-time. For most students, the work allowance is 20 hours per week during term-time with the ability to work full-time outside of term time. You will also be able to work full-time after your course end date on your CAS during your 'wrap up period'. Please refer to our [term dates web page](#) for specific dates.

Please consider, that just because you can work 20 hours, does not mean that you should. Postgraduate courses in particular are extremely time intensive and work that takes away from your studies and academic success is not advised.

RESTRICTIONS ON WORK

- You cannot be employed on a permanent full-time contract.
- You cannot be self-employed or set up your own business
- You cannot be employed as a professional sports person (including coach) or entertainer.
- This guidance is for student visa holders. If you are on another type of visa, this guidance may not apply.

We also recommend that you read '[Navigating work](#)' a study on a Student visa, a blog for students which looks at some of the most common questions and conundrums about working with Student immigration permission.

RIGHT TO WORK CHECKS

Your employer will also be required to submit a Right to Work check to confirm it is legal to employ you. You will need to obtain a share code for your employer.

PLACEMENTS

You are also permitted to take up any work placements that form an assessed part of your course, providing the work placement does not amount to more than 50% of the course. Work placements can be paid or unpaid and can be full-time, even in term time. You should consult with the Placements Team - placements@bathspa.ac.uk and Immigration Advice Service - immigrationadvice@bathspa.ac.uk to ensure this fits into the conditions of your student visa.

Please note: PGCE students are exempt from the requirement for their placement to be less than 50% of the course.

TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF THE UK

You may want to travel outside the UK during vacations. It is your responsibility to check the entry requirements of the country you are visiting. In addition, to be admitted back into the UK after your visit to another country you must have proof of your immigration status (for example, your valid BRP card). In addition, to be admitted back into the UK after your visit to another country you must ensure that your current passport is linked to your [eVisa](#).

You are not permitted to travel during term-time and are expected to attend and engage with your studies at all points during your course. We understand that there may be exceptional personal circumstances as well as festivities and celebrations held in your home country or culture that may fall at times of the year when you are expected to be in full-time study. We have extensive guidance on authorised absences listed on the website under '[Authorised absence](#)'

If you need to leave the UK for a field trip or part of your course or research, please contact immigrationadvice@bathspa.ac.uk ahead of departure so we can ensure you are fully prepared.

SCHENGEN VISA

If you would like to travel around Europe, the Schengen visa will grant you entry to most countries. The Schengen Area is the area including 29 European countries that have abolished passport and border control at their mutual borders, thus travel is simple once you have obtained the Schengen visa.

Please note: The Republic of Ireland is NOT included in the Schengen Area.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

ATTENDANCE

Attendance in class is a mandatory requirement of your Student Visa. All students will use the MyBathSpa app to check-in to classes.

You can view the full Student Engagement and Attendance Policy [here](#).

Your attendance is regularly monitored by the Immigration Compliance Team, and you will receive warning emails if you miss too many classes. **Your visa will be cancelled if you have excessive absences without good reason.**

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Current international students say that the academic culture of the UK was one of the most difficult aspects to adjust to. There are a lot of resources available online discussing UK academic culture, particularly Skills for Study tool kit, Prepare for Success and [UKCISA resources](#).

Generally you can expect a mix of:

- Written assignments
- Exams
- Group work
- Assessments
- Dissertation

The UK emphasises independent learning and critical analysis which may be quite different to your previous education. We strongly encourage you to go to your course's welcome session to get a better understanding of your specific course expectations.

Luckily, Bath Spa has many resources to help you with your academic journey which can be read about on our website or in the **Welcome Handbook** for all new students.



The **English Language Unit** offers one-to-one support, group workshops, and drop-in sessions for English language support.



The **Library** has a wide range of resources to help you with your academic journey, including help with referencing and research.



The **Academic Skills team (ASK)** also offer workshops on academic writing, critical thinking, presentations, and various digital literacy skills. They can also help you with assignments in individual appointments.



DIGITAL EXPECTATIONS:

- You will need to bring or purchase a laptop for your course
- You will need to check and respond to your university email every day as well as Ultra our virtual learning environment.

Official communication from the university will be sent to your university email. You will also receive newsletters with events, opportunities and student updates. It is your responsibility to check your university email daily. You will also get notifications on events and reminders, as well as check into your classes using the MyBathSpa App.

Bath Spa has reliable Wi-Fi and you will get information on how to access it, as well as how to activate your university email at your in-person enrolment.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

'Academic Integrity' means that a student must ensure that the work they produce for assessment is their own. This concept - based on the UK values of honesty, fairness and respect, is a core part of studying in higher education in the UK.

There may be consequences that impact your ability to study in the UK if you are found to have acted dishonestly.

If you are accused of academic misconduct and are confused by the process, we encourage you to reach out for help. The Students' Union offers an advice service that can explain the process and help you respond to the accusation. If you are here on a Student Visa then your permission to remain in the UK depends on your continued engagement with your programme. If you leave your course of study early for any reason (including academic failure or misconduct, suspension or withdrawal) then your Student Visa will be cancelled, and you will need to leave the UK or apply for a different type of immigration permission within 60 days of visa sponsorship being withdrawn.

With the introduction of AI, Chat GPT and many other AI applications, academic misconduct becomes even more confusing. We suggest you read the University's policy around AI to better understand how you can and cannot use it in your studies. You can ask your tutor for clarification as well.

THE STUDENTS' UNION

The Students' Union (SU) is an independent organisation from the University that is located on the Newton Park campus. Their role is to represent Bath Spa's student interests and advocate for change when needed. In doing so, they offer a variety of advice and support. They also facilitate activities, clubs and societies and other opportunities for students to meet each other and enjoy university life. There is also a bar – serving food during the day, hot drinks, soft drinks and alcoholic drinks, and gym, within the Students' Union building itself at Newton Park.

The SU is a great resource to go to for help if you want independent advice on university processes or even housing help.

Check out their website for more information



EVENTS AND SOCIAL LIFE

We are proud to have international students at our university and want to make you feel welcome. We regularly celebrate international holidays, including Diwali, Lunar New Year, and Holi as well as UK holidays like Christmas and Easter. You should also look out for our international photo competition every year! These events are a collaborative effort across many teams, **but you will receive information on upcoming events in the International Student Newsletter and through the MyBathSpa App.**

Want to provide ideas or organise events yourself? Join the international student network!

We also have a Chinese Student and Scholar Association, Asian Student Network, and faith-based societies such as the Islamic Student Society, Jewish Student Society and Christian Union. ' There are also several other student societies you can join that are focused around academic courses, various sports, and interests like K-Pop, Anime, video games, music, theatre and more!

GRADUATION AND BEYOND

GRADUATE ROUTE

After successfully completing your studies, you may be interested in applying for a Graduate Visa.

This is a post-study work visa that allows you to stay in the UK for two years (three years for PhD students) after successfully completing your course of study to work or seek employment. **To qualify for this visa, you must successfully complete your course: you cannot apply for a Graduate visa if you fail your course, voluntarily withdraw, or finish with a lower award.**

Having to re-sit modules can also affect your eligibility for a Graduate visa, as it may mean that you cannot successfully complete your course before your current visa expires.

Bath Spa University will inform you by e-mail after your course has finished if you are eligible to apply for a Graduate visa. You must not apply before receiving this e-mail. If you need further guidance, please contact immigrationadvice@bathspa.ac.uk

SKILLED WORKER VISA

If you have been offered a job after completing your studies, you may be eligible to apply for a Skilled Worker visa.

To be eligible for this, you need to have an offer for a specific job with a licensed employer. The job must also be at the appropriate skill level and salary.

You can only switch to a Skilled Worker visa from within the UK if you have successfully completed your studies, or after 24 months of your course if it is at PhD level.

For specific advice about whether a job you have been offered is eligible to be sponsored under the Skilled Worker route, please speak to your prospective employer.

EMPLOYABILITY SUPPORT

As a Bath Spa Student, you have access to Student Circus to help you prepare for and find jobs in the UK, back home and many other countries!



You can also look at the International Student Pathway on the MyCareer platform to explore tips on finding a job.

FEEDBACK AND COMPLAINTS

Like any new experience, things may not always go exactly as planned or expected. We encourage you to embrace minor bumps in the road with humour and patience and view them as part of the learning process. However, if you feel strongly about a particular experience you encountered at the university, you have a right to offer feedback or formally complain.

Unitu is our online student feedback platform. Any student can offer anonymous feedback or ideas on this platform and a representative from the University or Students' Union will respond.

You may also choose to submit a formal complaint relating to a specific issue around the delivery of teaching or another service provided by the University. The complaints section of the website has more information on the process.

International students may be hesitant to submit feedback or complaints for a variety of reasons. While we certainly hope that your experience is positive, if there is information that you wish to share, it is okay to do so. **It will not affect your student visa or degree and may help improve teaching and services. If you would like guidance on filling out the forms or with the process, the SU Advice Centre can help.**

RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RESTRICTIONS

YOUR RIGHTS ON A STUDENT VISA

- You have a right to part-time work
- You have a right to use the National Health Service (NHS)
- You have a right to be exempt from council tax, like other students
- You have a right to complain, appeal, and give feedback on your experience
- You have specific educational rights (check out the [SU website](#) for more info).

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES ON A STUDENT VISA

- Access your eVisa, and ensure that the details in your gov.uk account are [up-to-date](#).
- You must ensure that the dates of your immigration permission are accurate and promptly report any errors on your eVisa.
- You must attend your classes.
- You must keep your address updated with the University
- You must speak with immigration advice about any change in circumstances that may affect your visa (for example, extending your course, withdrawing from studying, or a work placement).
- You must request authorisation from both your Course Leader and the Immigration Compliance Team for an absence of more than 10 working days during term-time.
- You must check your email to keep up to date with University information or immigration and compliance updates.
- You must submit all assessments and exams and fulfil all other requirements of your course
- You must re-enrol on time for your course each year

YOU MUST NOTIFY THE HOME OFFICE IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CHANGE:

- Address
- Name
- Nationality (change of citizenship)
- Date of birth
- Gender
- New passport
- Criminal conviction
- Changes to dependants



YOUR RESTRICTIONS ON A STUDENT VISA

- You are restricted in how much you can work.
- You cannot apply for public funds.
 - » *Public funds are certain specific welfare benefits, such as certain housing, childcare benefits, or disability allowance. For information on what is a public fund in the UK, see [here](#). If you claim public funds it may impact your ability to stay in or visit the UK in the future.*
- You cannot stay in the UK indefinitely. You must depart the UK before your Student Visa expires (unless you are in process for applying for another visa)

THE UNIVERSITY'S RESPONSIBILITIES

As your sponsor, Bath Spa University is expected to ensure that we and our students are compliant with the immigration rules. If we fail to comply, we are at risk of losing our ability to recruit other international students. Thus, we take the following duties very seriously:

- We must have a copy of your current passport and immigration permission
- We must keep up-to-date contact details including address in the UK and telephone number
- We must monitor your engagement (attendance) with your studies.
- We must notify the Home Office if you do not arrive as expected
- We must notify the Home Office if there is a change in circumstances with your studies
- We must notify the Home Office if you are breaching the conditions of your student visa (including lack of attendance).

TOP TIPS AND TAKEAWAYS FROM THE EXPERTS (STUDENTS LIKE YOU!)

- Expect the culture to be different, lean into the experience and learn from it.
- Find accommodation early and consider all costs before signing any agreement.
- Use the University resources, there are a lot of them that are very useful in helping you adjust to your experience abroad.
- Get involved in your community or in campus clubs and societies. This will help you make friends and feel more at home.
- Ask for help if you need it! The university community is a very friendly place.

THE CITY OF BATH

- as seen through the eyes of international students like you!

 Alex Ivanenko - Ukraine



 Ashley Mcdonald - Ukraine



 Abhinav Kukreja - India



 Jiachen Wu - China



 Luyao Wang - China



 Annabel Hillier - Australia



 Kaichi Makigami - Japan



 Qimin Feng - China





QUESTIONS?

Contact: international@bathspa.ac.uk



2025-2026 EDITION