

Guide to supporting students under the age of 18

Increased support for students under the age of 18

Anyone under the age of 18 living in England is considered a child under English law. Because of this, King's College London has a particular duty to keep all students under the age of 18 safe.

When students under the age of 17 apply to study at King's College London, the Admissions Department will arrange a meeting, either via phone or Skype, to talk about the key points included in this guide and to make sure that the student is ready to study in an adult environment. The meeting will include academic staff from the department of study (including the English Language Centre where appropriate), student services and wellbeing, accommodation and the student and their parent/legal guardian. It is essential that this meeting is attended by the student and their parent/legal guardian or the student's offer may be rescinded.

Restrictions on students under the age of 18

Under English law, students have some restrictions until they reach the age of 18. For example, they cannot buy alcohol or cigarettes, or go to nightclubs. Further details of these legal restrictions are available [here](#), and these will also be discussed with students during the induction period.

Students who are under the age of 18 when they enroll at the University will receive a King's College London ID card with 'Under 18' clearly stated in red. This makes it easier for staff to identify students under the age of 18.

A university environment

Like most universities, King's is a mainly adult environment where students are not usually supervised in the same way they would be in a school environment.

King's expects all students to have the necessary skills and maturity to study alongside others from a wide range of ages. Additionally, King's expects all students to act responsibly and maturely, and to obey English laws and the [regulations of King's College London](#).

It is important to understand that King's does not act *in loco parentis* (in the place of a parent) toward its students.

We do not monitor how students spend their free time or manage their personal lives. Extra-curricular activities we recommend to our students may take place off-campus with minimal or no supervision.

We do not organise travel for students and we do not normally organise accommodation for students when they travel. This means that the student will need to organise transport from the airport when the student first arrives. Students will also need to organise their own day-to-day transport to and from King's College London and anywhere else the student decides to travel. The student will need to organise accommodation if the student decides to travel and stay overnight in England or another country.

Accommodation for students under the age of 18

Students who are under the age of 18 must live either in university-owned residences or with their parent, legal guardian or UK-based educational guardian in the UK.

We do not permit students under 18 years old to live in private accommodation if their parent, legal guardian or UK-based educational guardian does not live with them. To view our Under 18 Accommodation Policy click [here](#).

Where students under the age of 18 have selected to live in King's College London accommodation, they will be grouped in the same accommodation blocks as other students under 18 years of age. These residences have extra welfare and personal support for students under 18 years of age.

Students under the age of 18 studying at King's Foundations

KF staff members who have regular contact with students under 18 years of age complete an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check (you can see details [here](#)). This is an official check of a person's background to make sure that the university does not employ people who are unsuitable for work with students under 18 years of age.

The KF monitor attendance particularly carefully for students under 18 years of age, and the names of all students under 18 years of age are highlighted on class registers to make it easier to check that these students are attending class.

All students under the age of 18 are also invited to an individual meeting with their personal tutor within the first two weeks of their programme.

For further information, see our [College-wide Safeguarding Policy](#).

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