



INTERNATIONAL WELCOME WEEK

18-22 SEPTEMBER 2017

**INTERNATIONAL
STUDENT SUPPORT**

WELCOME!

I would like to welcome you personally to De Montfort University Leicester (DMU) and wish you the very best for your time with us.

DMU is a truly global university, committed to providing you with a fantastic student experience in a welcoming and inclusive environment. With a strong focus on employability, we will help you to achieve your ambitions with the perfect combination of award-winning teaching and world-class facilities.

You will begin your studies at DMU as part of a vibrant multicultural community, including more 2,700 overseas students from 135 countries. We also have 200 quality international partnerships, providing worldwide placement opportunities and helping you secure a global future.

Our enviable location gives you a campus university your studies through embracing a new culture, and with one of Europe's most diverse cities on your doorstep, and home, also, to Premier League champions Leicester City Football Club (LCFC).

Our friendly and approachable international student support team are also on hand to provide any guidance you may require, ensuring a smooth transition into the DMU family as you start your journey with us.

At DMU we focus on helping students achieve their full potential. Our aim is to provide you with the skills and relevant experience to prepare you for your future career, including international placement opportunities. Our highly employable graduates have gone onto work at world-leading companies including Warner Bros, HSBC, BBC, Nike, GUCCI, BMW, Levi's, KPMG, Abercrombie & Fitch and NASA.

DMU is a community of learners, inspired by lecturers who are passionate about teaching and research. Our £136 million campus transformation is creating the modern, inspiring environment our students deserve, complete with the very best cutting-edge facilities in the UK. Take full advantage of our clubs and societies, volunteering in the community with the university's Square Mile and #DMUlocal, or participate in organised country-wide trips.

At DMU, you'll not only receive an excellent education; you'll enjoy unparalleled opportunities, and make memories and new friendships that last a lifetime. Our exciting #DMUglobal programme offers all students a meaningful international experience, both overseas and on campus. Enrich your studies through embracing a new culture, and graduate with skills guaranteed to boost your future employability, in a competitive global environment.

Over the following pages we have provided you with your guide through the next week, with important advice and information you are sure to find helpful, as you settle into your new life at DMU.

Please enjoy your first week with us.

I look forward to welcoming you onto our friendly campus.



James Gardner
Pro-Vice Chancellor,
Strategic and International Partnerships



INTRODUCTION

This timetable will help you plan activities for your first week here at DMU. We hope you attend as many of these events as you can, as they will help you settle into life in the UK, make new friends and get to know the DMU campus and the city of Leicester.

Some activities in the first half of the week (including the Welcome event on Monday and the Stratford-upon-Avon trips) will take place more than once, and so we will allocate all students into two groups - red group and blue group. We will email everyone who has booked a place on International Welcome Week, to let you know which group you are in and which sessions you should attend.

If you're not sure, there'll be an Information desk outside the Food Village on Monday, who will be able to assist. From Tuesday onwards, you can visit Student Gateway if there's anything you're not sure about.

We recommend you attend the health centre session to register with the doctor. There will also be sessions where you can find out about working in the UK, how to manage your money, and about academic requirements and expectations in a UK university.

You can find answers to frequently asked questions on page 12.

We hope you enjoy your week!

MONDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

Information desk

10am–3pm

Outside Food Village

Campus walking tours

9am

Meet outside Food Village

Student ambassadors will be available to show you around the university.

Chaplaincy Meet and Greet

1.30–3.30pm

Ground floor, Portland Building

DMU chaplains offer spiritual support, advice and encouragement to students of all faiths and none.

Drop in for a chat with our Christian or Muslim chaplains... or just to find out more.

International Welcome Event

This event will be running twice –

10.30am (red group only)

4pm (blue group only)

The Venue@DMU

Please arrive promptly for the start of this event.

We will be welcoming you to DMU with this colourful, vibrant event featuring music, performances, and British-themed food and drinks. This will be a great chance to meet other new students, and chat to DMU support staff and current students, who can tell you more about life on campus. We expect this event to last around 2 hours.

TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER

BLUE GROUP ONLY

Campus and city walking tours

9am

Outside the Food Village

Student ambassadors will be available to show you around the university, Leicester city centre and a supermarket.

How to manage your money

11am

Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05

Find out how to make the most of a limited budget and plan to make your money go further.

Register with the health centre

12 midday

Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05

One of the doctors from the nearby De Montfort Surgery will explain how the healthcare system works and answer your questions. You can also register with the health centre here – it's completely free.

Opening a bank account

2.30pm

Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05

Not sure which bank to choose? Want to know how to open an account? Find out what to do and what documents you'll need.

Counselling explained

3pm

Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05

'Why would you speak to a counsellor?' Simply talking about problems can help them to be resolved. At this session we will explain what you can do when you have a problem or difficulty, and why counselling can be a valuable service for students.

Job hunting and working in the UK

4pm

Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05

Do you want part-time employment while you're studying? Find out how we can help with your job search.

RED GROUP ONLY

Essential information session

8.45am

Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05

Important: You must attend this session from the start if you want to visit Stratford-upon-Avon. If you arrive late, you may not be allowed to join the trip.

This session will introduce you to DMU and provide essential information about living and studying in Leicester. This will include important information about support services, visas and immigration, and about safety and security on campus.

Visit to Stratford-upon-Avon

This day trip, which leaves after the morning information session has finished, provides a memorable taste of English culture and history.

Stratford-upon-Avon is the birthplace of William Shakespeare, the world-famous poet, playwright, and actor. You can visit many beautiful Tudor buildings (including the house where he was born), plus a range of shops, restaurants and tea rooms. Once we have arrived in the town, a free sightseeing bus will be available.

The trip is expected to take all day and we should arrive back in Leicester late in the afternoon. The weather in the UK can be changeable, so please bring warm clothes and a rain jacket or umbrella, just in case.



EVENING ACTIVITY

Karaoke Tuesday!

8pm

**De Montfort Students' Union,
Campus Centre**

Sing your favourite songs with your friends or simply watch the fun! It's also a great way to meet new people.

There is free admission with this booklet, and you will be able to buy either alcoholic or soft drinks from the bar.

WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

BLUE GROUP ONLY

Essential information session

8.45am

Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05

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Outside the Food Village

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EVENING ACTIVITY

Sports Taster Sessions

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Leisure Centre

Try out the facilities at our Leisure Centre. Simply show this booklet for admission. Free sessions will be run by DSU Sport as follows -

6.00–7.30pm Table Tennis and Dodgeball (Area 1)

Volleyball (Area 2)

7.30–9.00pm Basketball (Area 1)

Futsal (Area 2)

Futsal is a type of indoor five-a-side football, suitable for all. The sessions will be led by volunteers from the DMUactive Recreational Programme and students from DMU sports clubs.

Bring along your sports kit to take part or simply watch the fun

Free swimming sessions

You can also show your wristband to join free public and lane swimming sessions on Friday 22, Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September. To find out more, you can pick up the timetable from Student Gateway or ask at the leisure centre.

Because of the capacity of the sports hall and pool, places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first serve basis.



THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

Campus walking tours

9am

Outside Food Village

Student Ambassadors will be available to show you around our campus. There is no need to pre-book – just meet outside Food Village at 9am.

Culture workshop

10am

Hugh Aston Building, ground floor, room 0.08

What is 'culture shock' and how can you adapt to life in the UK? Is it possible to define what British culture is? We will be exploring these questions at this workshop session.

Sustainability at DMU

11am–1pm

Hugh Aston Building, room 0.08 and ground floor atrium

A short talk (from 11-11.30am in Room 0.08) about how you can become an eco-friendly student and can get involved with some of the sustainability projects at DMU. The team will also be running a drop-in interactive session in the ground floor atrium until 1pm – come along for some fun activities with an environmental twist, helping you to develop new skills and make new friends.

International Societies Fair

1–4pm

Campus Centre, ground floor atrium

Come along to meet some of the different international societies at DMU – find out how you can get involved – or even set up your own society.

EVENING ACTIVITY

Outdoor Cinema

6pm

Vijay Patel Building, Outdoor screen (Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05, if unsuitable weather)

De Montfort Students Union will be showing the film *Guardians of the Galaxy* and free popcorn and drinks will be included. Please note that places are limited for this event – register online at demonfortsu.com/freshfest/internationalwelcomeweek

FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER

Campus walking tours

9am

Outside Food Village

Student Ambassadors will be available to show you around our campus. There is no need to pre-book.

Learning and studying in a British university

10am

Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05

We explore what it means to learn at a British university. You will have the opportunity to hear other students' experiences of studying in the UK. The workshop will include the following topics:

- What is expected of you as a student?
(Self-directed learning, participation in seminars, critical thinking, avoiding plagiarism)
- What type of assignments will you write?
(Essays, reports, blogs and presentations)
- How can you make the most of your library?

You will leave the session with an awareness of what is expected of you and an understanding of how you can develop your own effective approaches to learning.

Mindfulness at DMU

12 midday

Hugh Aston Building, room 0.08

Find out how you can reduce stress and tension during this fun and interactive session; you will learn easy and useful techniques to enhance your health and wellbeing. It is also a chance to meet the Mental Health team and find out what services you can access during your time at DMU.

The Great British Tea Party

1–4pm

Milly Lane's, Campus Centre, ground floor

Join us for a traditional English afternoon tea, where you can meet new and current international students and find out more about De Montfort Students' Union (DSU).

This event is free to attend and includes free tea and snacks.



EVENING ACTIVITY

Outdoor Cinema

6pm

**Vijay Patel Building, Outdoor screen
(Hugh Aston Building, floor 3, room 3.05
if unsuitable weather)**

This evening, DSU will be showing the film '*Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*' and there will be free popcorn and drinks included.

Please note that places are limited for this event – register online at demonfortsu.com/freshfest/allevents/

SATURDAY 23 AND SUNDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

Welcome Weekend

10am–4pm

Mill Lane and Campus Centre

Most UK students will begin to arrive at DMU from Friday 22 September. During Welcome Weekend there will be a range of lively entertainment and performances for you to enjoy.

Colourfest

3–6pm

Bede Park

Join us for some colourful, messy fun to celebrate the end of International Welcome Week and the beginning of #FreshFest17, which is a week of events organised by De Montfort Students' Union to welcome you to your new home.

Colourfest is free to attend and bags of colour will cost £1 each, with the money being donated to charities.

MONDAY 25 – FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

Registration Week

We celebrate your arrival at DMU with our Matriculation Ceremonies, which are the point at which you become a student here.

You will have already completed registration and this ceremony formally welcomes you to our university.

Please check with your faculty for the date and time of your ceremony.

Tuesday 26 September

Trip to Harry Potter World

Join us on a magical behind-the-scenes tour of one of the biggest British film series, Harry Potter.

The trip costs £48, including entry and return coach travel. Places are limited – book online at demontfortsu.com/freshfest/internationalwelcomeweek/





FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Which group am I in?

Some activities, including the Welcome events on Monday and the trips to Stratford-upon-Avon will be run twice. We allocate all students into two groups - red group and blue group, and email everyone who has booked a place on International Welcome Week, to let you know which group you are in and which sessions you should attend. If you're not sure, there'll be an Information desk outside the Food Village on Monday, who will be able to assist. From Tuesday onwards, you can visit Student Gateway if there's anything you're not sure about.

Which sessions should I attend?

Attendance is not compulsory. However, you are encouraged to go to the information sessions, as these include important details about life in the UK, as well as information on healthcare, campus safety, opening a bank account and study skills in a UK university. We also hope you can join in a range of social events and trips.

Do I need to book a place on the events?

You don't need to book a place on most of the activities during the week. However because of limited capacity, numbers are limited for the cinema evenings, so please sign up for these online. To join the Harry Potter trip on Tuesday 26, you must buy a ticket online.

Will alcohol be served at any events?

Alcohol will be available at the Karaoke evening on Tuesday 19 September. Soft drinks will also always be available.

Where can I get a Welcome pack?

Welcome packs are available from Student Gateway on the ground floor of Gateway House.

This is your one-stop shop for all student enquiries and the place to get advice, information and support. This pack contains maps of the city and campus, information about services for students and a SIM card for your phone. This pack contains maps of the city and campus as well as information about services for students and about living and studying in Leicester.

Where can I register on my course and meet staff from my faculty?

Registration for most courses starts during the week after International Welcome Week and you should contact your faculty about this. Faculty representatives will be available at Welcome Weekend events on Saturday 23 and Sunday 24 September and you can find details for your faculty advice centre at: dmu.ac.uk/dmu-students/student-resources/your-faculty-advice-centre.aspx

Where can I access the internet during International Welcome Week?

Wi-fi is available on campus throughout International Welcome Week. If you have already booked your place, you should have been emailed about this before your arrival. If not, ask for details at the Student Gateway, open Monday to Friday on the ground-floor of Gateway House, where you can also use our computers to access the internet and check email. Please ask staff if you need any help with this. Internet access is also available in halls of residence – speak directly to hall staff if you have any questions.

Safety and security: What if I have to walk home after an evening activity?

The DMU campus is generally very safe and you should feel comfortable in your new surroundings. Our security team will be providing information

before the Stratford-upon-Avon trips and you can also find out more about staying safe in your welcome pack. If you are worried about getting home after an evening activity, please talk to a member of staff and we will assist you.

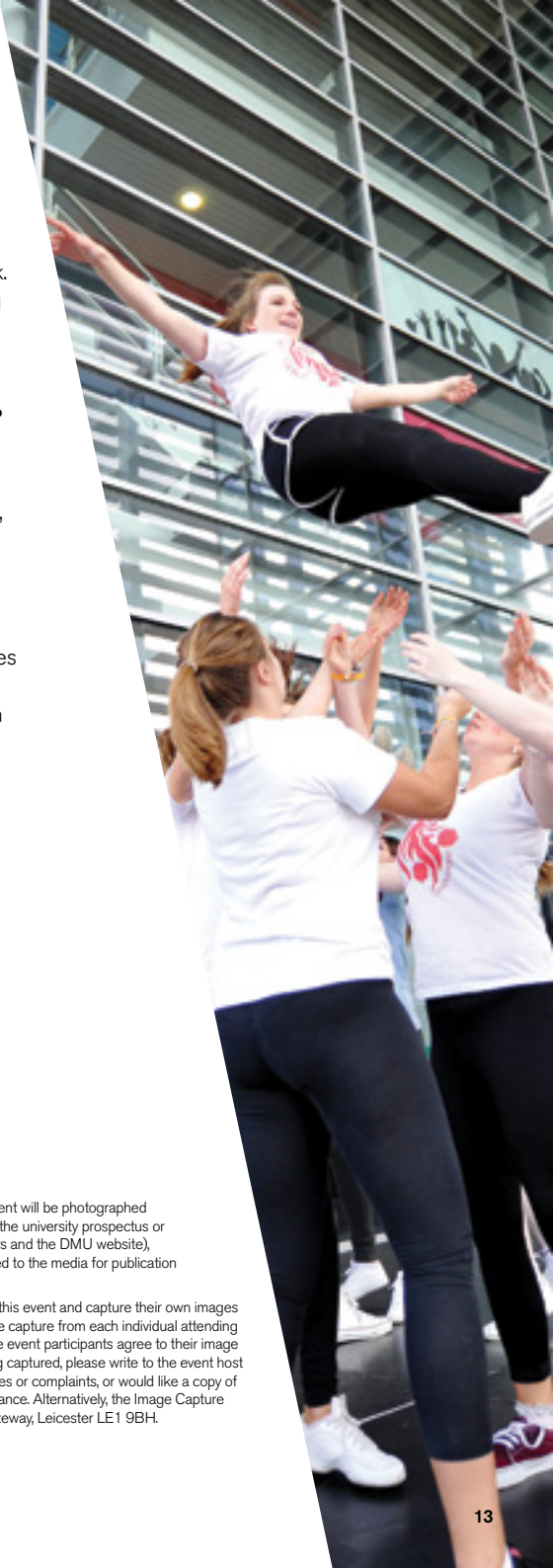
What happens after International Welcome Week?


International Welcome Week finishes on Friday 22 September, although the activities don't stop then. Most UK students begin to arrive from Friday onwards, and there are events for all students on campus that weekend, as well as the trip to Harry Potter World during Registration Week, which starts on Monday 25 September. Most students register onto their courses during Registration Week and are introduced to facilities such as the library. It's also FreshFest (also known as Freshers' Week) at De Montfort Students' Union, when you can find out about clubs, societies and activities

Image Capture Policy:

In accordance with DMU policy on image capture, we must inform you that this event will be photographed and/or videoed and/or otherwise captured in image form. Images may be used in the university prospectus or course brochures, other publicity material (such as internal and external newsletters and the DMU website), exhibitions of student work or graduation ceremony brochures and may be provided to the media for publication in local or national newspapers or educational magazines.

It is also possible that representatives from print and broadcast media may attend this event and capture their own images for publication or broadcast. It is not possible or practical to seek consent for image capture from each individual attending this event. The university will therefore conclude that by attending/remaining at the event participants agree to their image being captured for the purposes stated above. If you do object to your image being captured, please write to the event host at the address given: the university will respect your decision. If you have any queries or complaints, or would like a copy of the university's Image Capture Policy, please contact the event host in the first instance. Alternatively, the Image Capture Policy can be obtained from Corporate Communications, Heritage House, The Gateway, Leicester LE1 9BH.





Comprehensive information and support for international students is available in the Student Gateway.

- International student support
- Employability and careers
- Counselling and wellbeing
- Mental health
- Money management and advice
- Disability advice and support

**Student Gateway
Ground Floor
Gateway House
Leicester**

T: +44 (0)116 257 7595

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9am–5pm