

KCLMSOC's FRESHER'S GUIDE



FACEBOOK: KCL MALAYSIAN SOCIETY

INSTAGRAM: @KCLMSOC

WEBSITE: KCLMSOC.COM

~ prepared by Erin
Suriawinata



WHAT TO EXPECT

From Us, To You

- WHO WE ARE - KCL Malaysian Society 2023 / 2024 Committee Members

Pre-Departure

- Financial Planning - Spending & Saving
Money Packing List - What to Bring
- VISA and BRP

Living in London

- KCL Campuses
- Travelling in London & Student Discounts
Setting up Bank Accounts
- Mobile Phones

Food & Drink

- Western, Italian and Steaks
- Japanese, Chinese and Korean
- Indian, Malaysian, Vegetarian & Vegan
Desserts
- Bubble tea
- Groceries



WHAT TO EXPECT

Stores

- Pharmacies
- Home
- Shopping

Entertainment

- Theatre and Plays
- Drinks and Nightlife

Places to Go

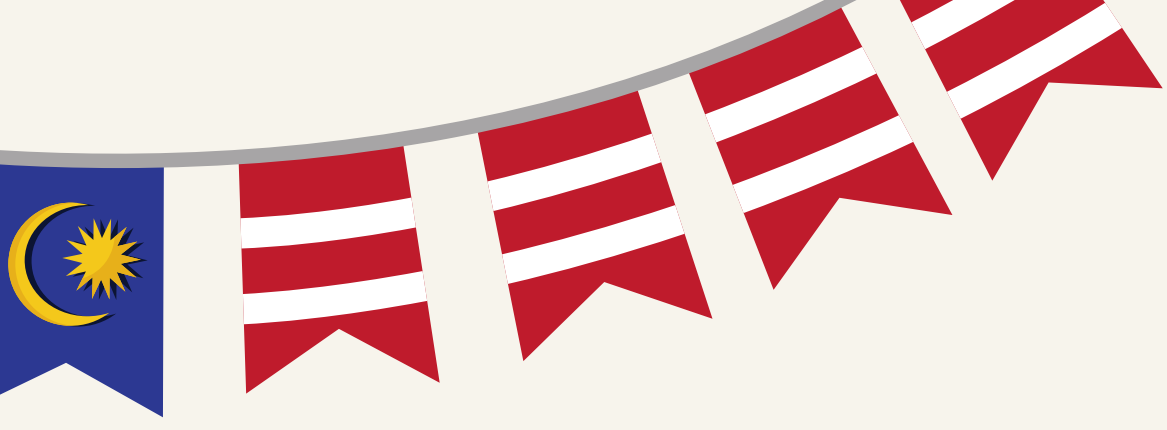
- Markets
- Public Libraries, KCL Libraries & Museums
Gyms, Parks
- Places of Interest, Travelling Outside London

Religion

- Islam
- Christianity
- Catholicism, Buddhism, Hinduism

Other Information

- Our Affiliates Part time
Work



FROM US, TO YOU

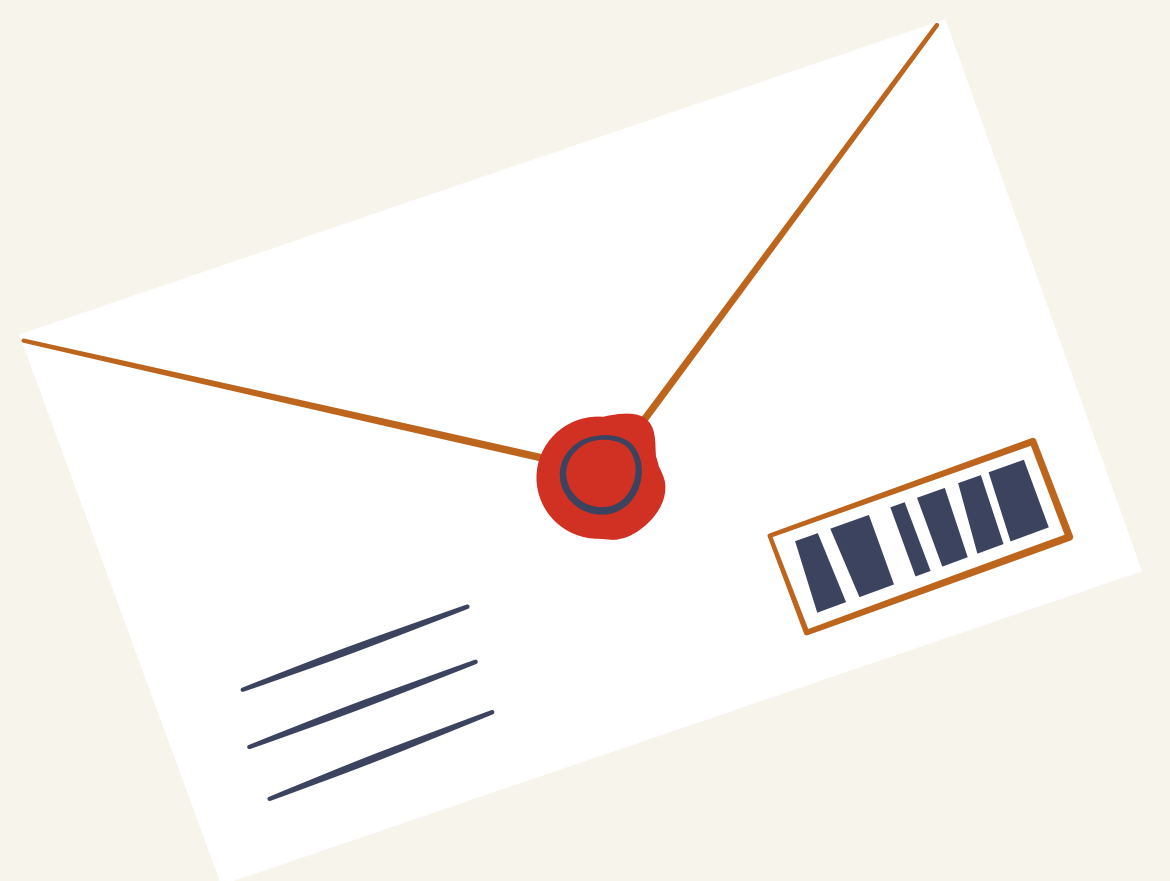
DEAR Freshers,

This guide has been kindly prepared by Erin Suriawinata and the rest of the 2020/21 Committee. It is packed to the brim with hours of recommendations on how to live to the fullest in London with everything from the best clubs to restaurants. It has served us extremely well and we hope you enjoy it too.

We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we had fun recalling our first-year memories. It's been an amazing year for us and we hope to make it an awesome experience for you when you see us here in September.

Best wishes,

- 2023/24 MSoc Committee



WHO WE ARE



"WE AIM TO BE A MALAYSIAN SOCIETY FOR EVERYONE AT KING'S BY EMPOWERING, SUPPORTING, AND ASSISTING THEM IN ANY POSSIBLE WAY."

Enthusiastic, Supportive & WHOLESOME.

2022/2023 COMMITTEE



ASHLEY PHANG
PRESIDENT



ARWIN KHOO
VICE-PRESIDENT



CHARISSE CHAI
SECRETARY



WEI KAI LIM
TREASURER

2022/2023 COMMITTEE



DARRELL TAN
CORPORATE RELATIONS
DIRECTOR



ABBY CARISSA
PUBLICITY DIRECTOR



PAIGE CHAN
EVENTS DIRECTOR



TRACY CHONG
EVENTS DIRECTOR

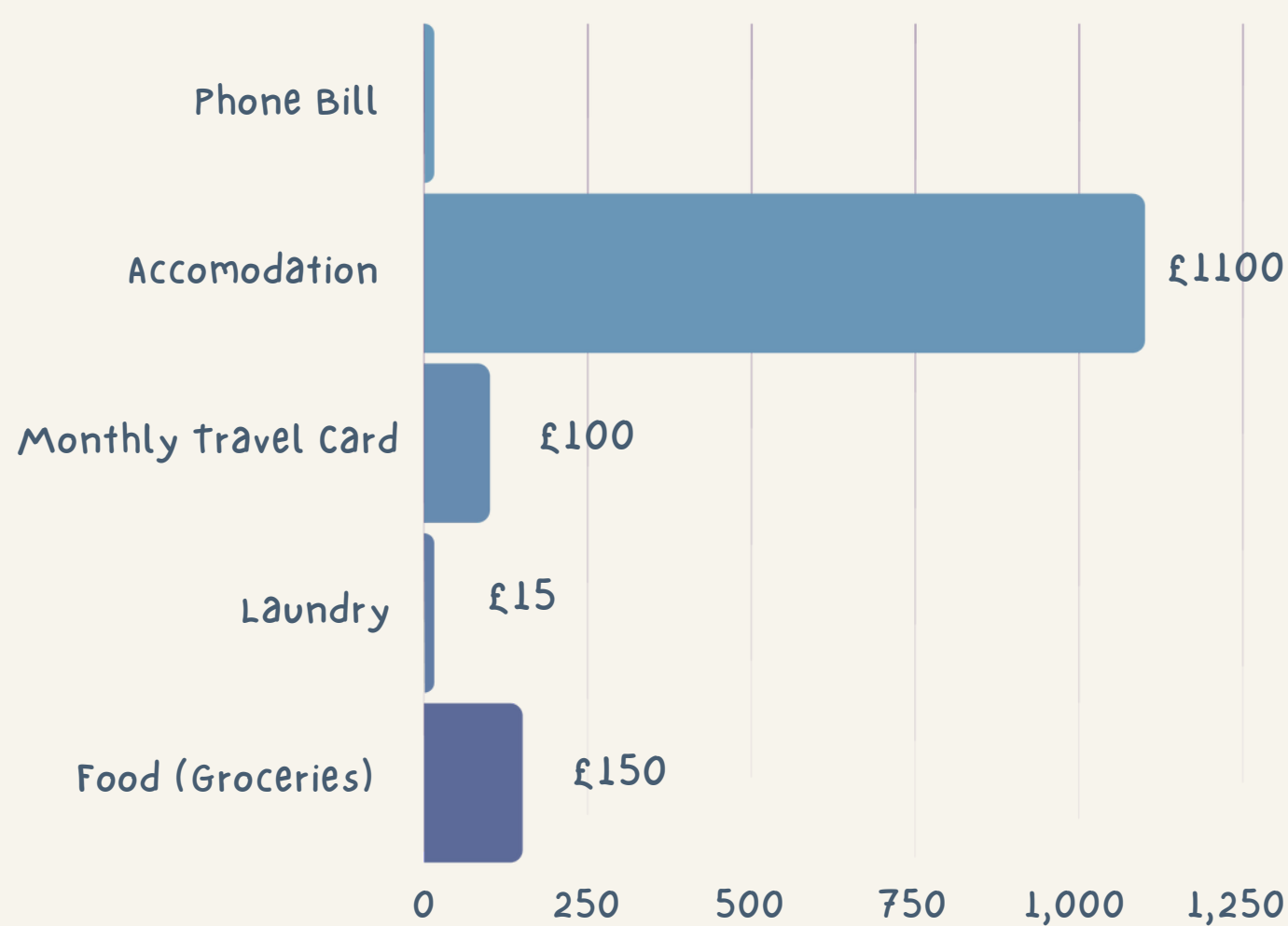
02

PRE- DEPARTURE

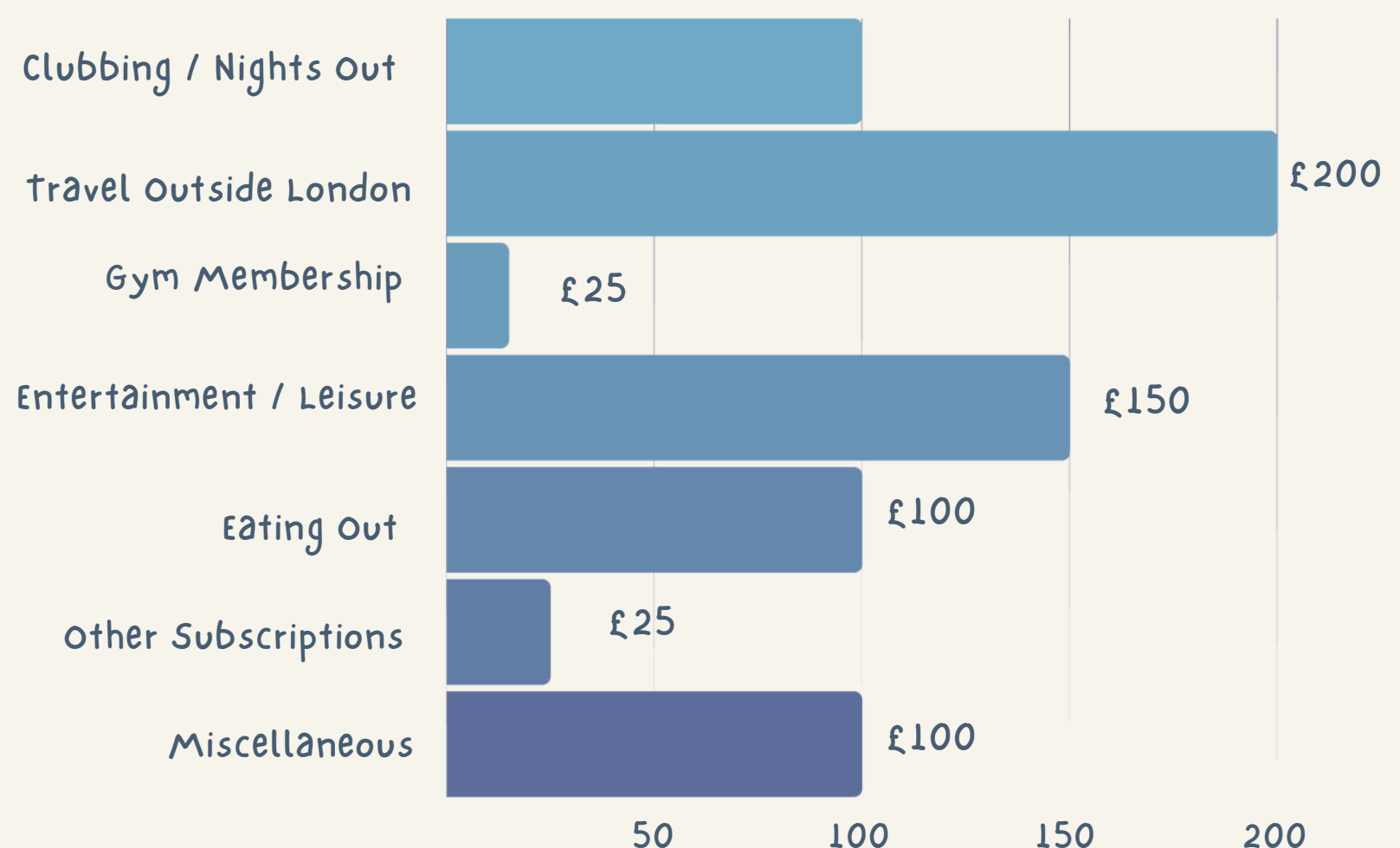


FINANCIAL PLANNING

FIXED COSTS (per month)



OPTIONAL COSTS (per month)



** THIS IS JUST AN ESTIMATE, ULTIMATELY IT DEPENDS ON YOUR LIFESTYLE NEEDS

UNDERSTANDING YOUR FIXED (MONTHLY) COSTS

These costs don't change over time and we've included an estimate of what your budget for university could look like

[1] Phone Bill -- see [Mobile Phones](#) page for more information on different phone plans!

[2] Accommodation -- in London, the average accommodation would cost you £275 per week, which is £1100 a month. KCL accommodations range from £169 - \$410 per week!

[3] Monthly Travel Card -- See [Travelling in London](#) for more info on how to make use of student travel deals!

[4] Groceries -- This only includes a weekly spending of about £37.50, but this depends on how much you intend to purchase. A good idea is to get membership cards for groceries so that you can collect points.

ADDITIONAL COSTS

These costs are optional and it ultimately depends on what you would like to do! It can range depending on what you spend on.

[1] Clubbing / Nights Out -- drinks at the club can be expensive! Go to [Drinks and Nightlife](#) for more information!

[2] Travel Outside London -- Train tickets can be cheaper if you book in advance. See [Travel Outside London](#)!

[3] Gym Membership -- Some gyms are free (e.g. King's Gyms) but public gyms require you to pay. See [Gyms](#) for this!

[4] Entertainment / Leisure -- Most art galleries/museums in London are free for students! (Make sure you bring your student card). See [Museums, Parks and Places of Interest](#).

[5] Eating Out -- The more frequent you eat out, the more expensive it is! See [Food and Drink](#) section

[6] Other Subscriptions -- a good investment would be Amazon Prime for £4.50/month, for next-day deliveries. You can consider Spotify or Apple Music

[7] Miscellaneous -- For any shopping needs or money in case there is an emergency!

WHAT TO BRING PACKING LIST

CLOTHING

- ☐ THICK JACKET & SWEATERS to keep warm
- ☐ THERMAL WEAR & HEAT TECHS (for the coldest days) @ Primark & Uniqlo SUMMER CLOTHING
- ☐ for the late Spring / early Summer period
- ☐ FORMAL WEAR in case of special occasions or interviews/internships

TEXTBOOKS

- 💡 DO NOT buy them until you arrive
- 💡 Attend lectures first to see which books are CORE and which are OPTIONAL
- 💡 Cheapest Option: check if the LIBRARY has a copy of the book (there are no limits on renewals unless someone requests the book)
- 💡 For new books: there are bookstore stands around and you can get them on AMAZON (Amazon Student for free delivery) and EBAY (second-hand)
- 💡 Some courses DO NOT REQUIRE textbooks!

STATIONERY

- 💡 In Central London - more expensive shops like FOYLES or in large Sainsbury's and TESCO's supermarkets have their own brand products (cheaper)
- ☐ RECOMMENDED to bring stationery from home (NOTEBOOKS, LOOSE PAPER, FILES and a new CALCULATOR: Casio Fx-83 or Casio Fx-85 ONLY)
- 💡 RYMAN'S STATIONERY for 10% student discount
** PENS ARE CRAZY EXPENSIVE -- a Pilot pen would cost you £2.50 but RM3.90 !!

ELECTRONICS & KITCHEN APPLIANCES

- ☐ HAIRDRYER
- ☐ CHARGING PORTS : SAME as Malaysia (EU PLUG POINT for travelling)
- ☐ ETHERNET CABLE : some Wifi systems aren't as quick
- ☐ KETTLES, RICE COOKER, PANS, UTENSILS and APPLIANCES
- ☐ WATER FILTER as drinking tap water isn't healthy , at AMAZON or in LONDON [BRITA] other Retailers:
- 💡 JOHN LEWIS & PARTNERS, MARKS & SPENCERS

WHAT TO BRING PACKING LIST

FOOD

- 💡 INSTANT NOODLES, ASIAN CONDIMENTS, MALAYSIAN CURRY PASTES can be found in CHINATOWN
Some items are MORE EXPENSIVE but they are AVAILABLE
- 💡 Other locations: ELEPHANT AND CASTLE and local shops



MISCELLANEOUS (MEDICINE, CONTACT LENSES, etc)

- ☐ Bring MEDICINE from HOME since you might not be able to purchase it in the UK or that it can be expensive
- 💡 Do bring precautionary medication like PARACETEMOL, ALLERGY MEDICATION (hay fever in Spring)
- ☐ CONTACT LENSES USERS: bring a YEAR's SUPPLY of contact lenses as well as travel size solution bottles.
If you need to buy some in London, make an appointment at either SPECSAVER'S or
- ☐ BOOT'S EYECARE for a contact lenses PRESCRIPTION to buy them.
- ☐ Buy UMBRELLAS as winds can get quite strong and you need umbrellas that are more flexible
If umbrellas fail you, a WATERPROOF JACKET would be useful!

VISA & BRP

TIER 4 VISA

- Obtain a TB (tuberculosis) certificate by going to any of the approved clinics listed in this link : <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tuberculosis-test-for-a-uk-visa-clinics-in-malaysia/tuberculosis-testing-in-malaysia>
 - bring a proof of identification (eg. passport / IC)
 - TB test fee (RM100-200)
 - details of previous screenings/ notes if you've had TB in the past
- Get your biometrics done at a Visa Application Center
<https://www.vfsglobal.co.uk/my/en/how-to-applyVFS>
Global Services Malaysia Pty Ltd, VFS (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, Suite 19.06 19 Floor, Wisma MCA, 163 Jalan Ampang, 50450
Opening hours: Monday - Friday, 08:00-14:00
Bring passport and booking confirmation, arrive 15 mins earlier
- KCL Guide to getting a Tier 4 VISA
<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/campuslife/services/student-advice-support/how/international-student-support/immigration-and-visas/tier-4-visas/tier-4-interactive-guide>
- You will also need your CAS NUMBER (Confirmation of Acceptance of Study) to get your VISA and KCL will send it out when it's ready. It might take a while so once you get it, start your VISA application immediately!

BRP

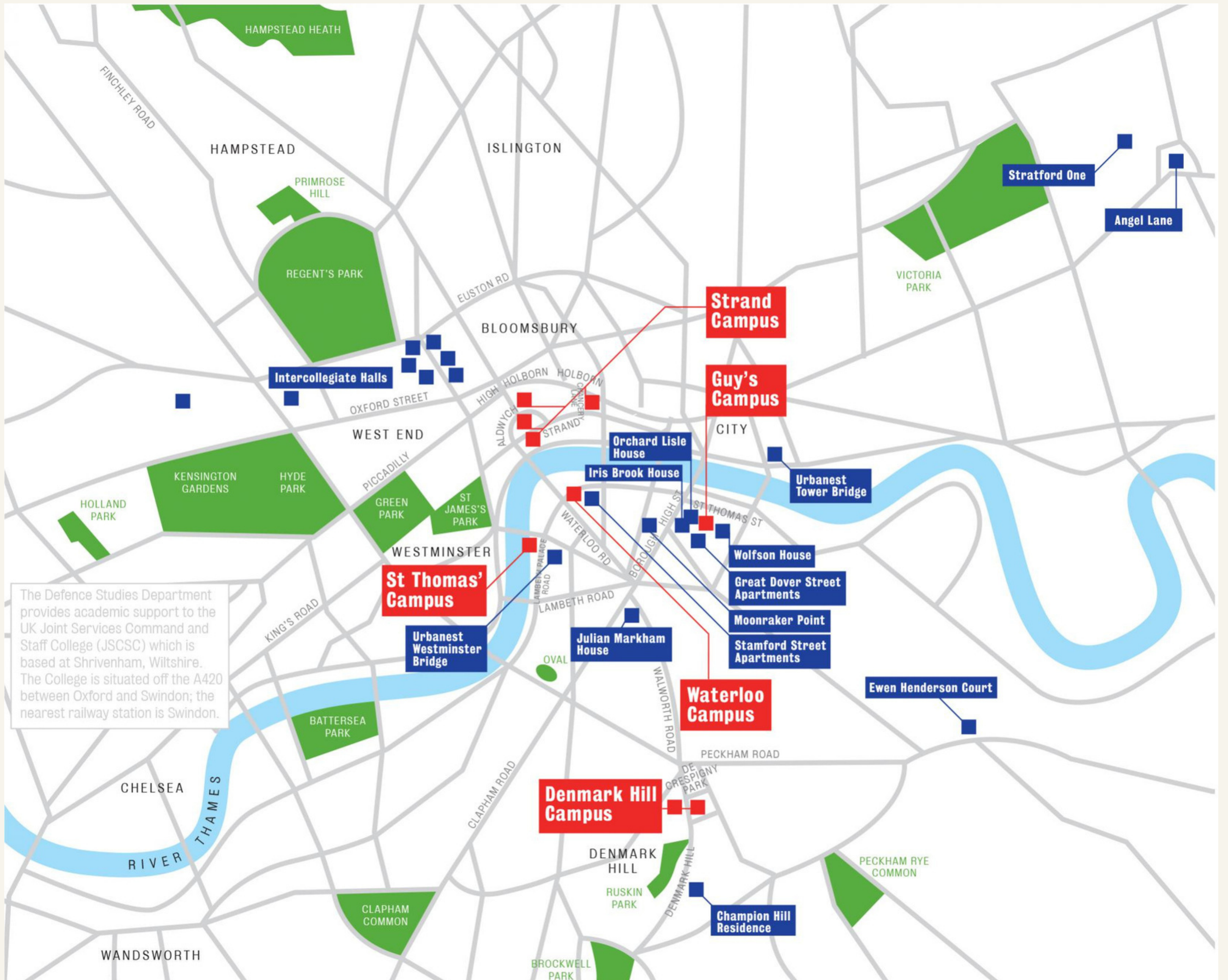
- An email will be sent as to when and where your BRP needs to be collected from
- The BRP is an extended version of your visa - because the visa that you receive to enter the UK isn't a residency permit, it is temporary therefore you will need to collect your BRP to rectify your residency
 - The BRP should be carried alongside the passport and will be needed everytime you enter the UK
- There are two collection points of the BRP, be sure to tick the King's College London Strand Campus when making the selection so there is less hassle
- The BRP collection process is usually quite quick, around 15 mins, depending on the queue. However, you will have to go at an allocated time
- Download the 'Welcome to King's' app, there will be more detailed instructions on how to collect your BRP

03

LIVING IN LONDON



KCL CAMPUSES



KCL Accomodations
 KCL Campuses



STRAND CAMPUS Nearest Station = temple

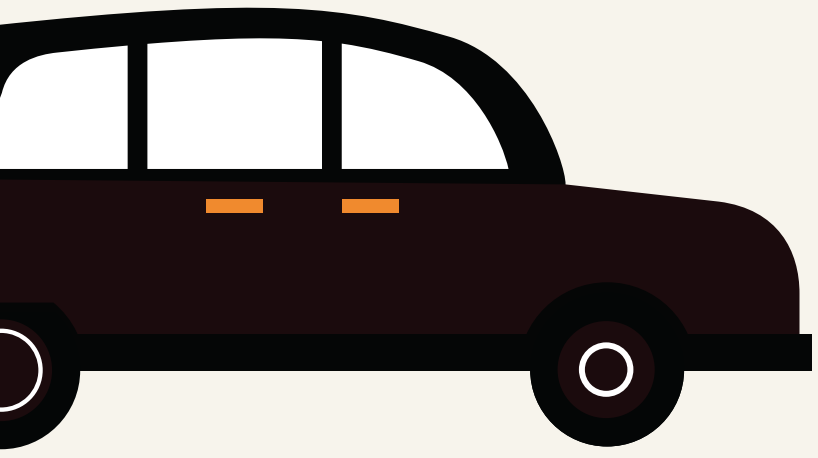


WATERLOO CAMPUS Nearest Station = waterloo



GUY'S CAMPUS Nearest Station = London Bridge

FROM THE AIRPORT TRAVELLING



BLACK CAB

PROS: Easy to use, ideal for heavy luggage and takes you directly to your accommodation

CONS: Costly! £45 - £70 for 1 hour to get to Central London -- make sure to have cash on hand!

While inside Heathrow Airport, look for the taxi Area signs.

All cabs are metered with a yellow "TAXI" sign on its front.

Just give them your accommodation address, your postcode is USEFUL!

TUBE (train)

PROS: Cheapest option, traffic doesn't affect it

CONS: Crowded, may need to change lines, not suitable if there's heavy luggage since stations do not have step free access (some)

Look for "Underground" signs and purchase an Oyster Card (£5) or ticket. Single fare ticket to Central London (Zone 1) is £5.70.

Tap your oyster card and make sure you are heading to Central London - using the Picadilly Line.

USEFUL TIP: Download CITYMAPPER for directions or the cheapest / efficient routes!

Heathrow Express

PROS: Moderate Cost, Comfortable, Fast (approx 15 minutes to Paddington station, train leaves every 15 minutes)

CONS: Paddington Station is quite far from student accommodation, needs to change lines.

While inside Heathrow Airport, look for the "Heathrow Express" signs. Purchase a single ticket for £20.

Have your ticket with you at all times as train attendants will check.

Either take a tube or a cab from Paddington station to your accommodation.

UBER

PROS: Cheaper than black cab, ideal for heavy luggage, direct to your accommodation. Fixed Prices.

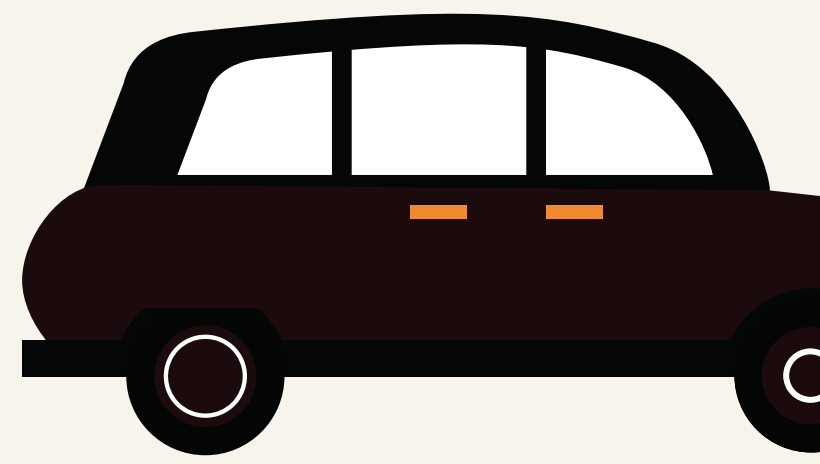
CONS: Needs wifi or 3G to order it, sometimes Wifi doesn't work in some airports and locations

COST: £31 - £50 depending on traffic, weather, etc. No need for cash, will charge the credit card.

Different Types of Vehicles:

- (i) uberpool - Share ride and cost with others
- (ii) uber X - 4 people EXCLUDING large luggages
- (iii) uberXL - Larger vehicles, for large luggages
- (iv) uberLUX - luxury car, higher cost

FROM THE AIRPORT TRAVELLING



PRIVATE TAXI

PROS: Convenient, can be arranged in advance,
ideal for heavy luggage, direct to
accommodation

CONS: More expensive than uber. £55- £70
depending on traffic, weather, etc.

You can book a ride through their website before
you fly off. They will usually send their drivers
wait for you holding a board with your name on
it while you are inside Heathrow Airport.

<https://www.addisonlee.com/services/airport-transfers/>

<https://www.batransfer.com/>

PRIVATE TAXI LINKS

Heathrow to London Options:

<https://www.heathrow.com/transport-and-directions/getting-to-central-london>

Black Cab taxi:

<http://www.heathrow.com/transport-and-directions/taxis-and-minicabs>

Tube (London underground):

<https://www.heathrow.com/transport-and-directions/underground>

Heathrow Express:

<http://www.heathrow.com/transport-and-directions/trains/heathrow-express>



DARK BLUE LINE = PICADILLY LINE
START AT HEATHROW AIRPORT TERMINALS

LONDON TUBE MAP



PLACE TO PLACE TRAVELLING

BUS

- Cashless : you need an Oyster Card to take the bus OR pay with your mobile phone
- Fare: £1.50 regardless of whether or not you are travelling to a different zone.
- Convenient: Many bus stops
- Buses are affected by traffic and they often go on a diversion
- Not recommended when you are in a hurry or you are heading to an important event (exams). Plan your journey before getting on a bus!

- Cashless : you need an Oyster Card to take the rail OR pay with your mobile phone if you are taking the rail WITHIN London
- If you are travelling to OUTSIDE of London, you need to buy tickets online via the TRAINLINE app or at the rail station.

CYCLING with SANTANDER CYCLES



- Fare: as low as £2.00. Go to the docking station terminal with your card and touch the screen.

STEP 1: HIRE

- Select 'Hire a Cycle' and follow the on-screen instructions and take the printed release code (You can hire up to 4 bikes at once)
- Santander is for short trips. After your first journey, all journeys within 24 hours is free, as long as each one lasts no more than 30 minutes.

STEP 2: RIDE

- Choose your bike and CHECK brakes, tyres & bell
- Type your 5-digit release code into the docking point's silent keypad, pull your bike out when the light is GREEN

- TIP: The bikes have lights that come on automatically when you start pedalling

STEP 3: RETURN

- Push bike firmly into an empty docking point and wait for the GREEN light
- If the docking station is FULL, select 'No docking point free' and follow instructions to get 15 mins free
- To find a nearby space, select 'Status of nearest docking station'
- If the bike is unsafe to ride, press the 'Fault' button to let them know it needs repairing within 10 seconds of docking it
- You will need to wait 5 mins before hiring another bike

STUDENT DISCOUNTS TRAVELLING



18+ Student Oyster Card

- Getting student rate travelcards and bus passes (30% off)
- When used with 16-25 railcard, you get 1/3 off off-peak tube fares (outside of 6:30 - 9:30 am and 4 - 7pm)
- One time payment of £20.00, you can only apply for it after you have arrived and enrolled

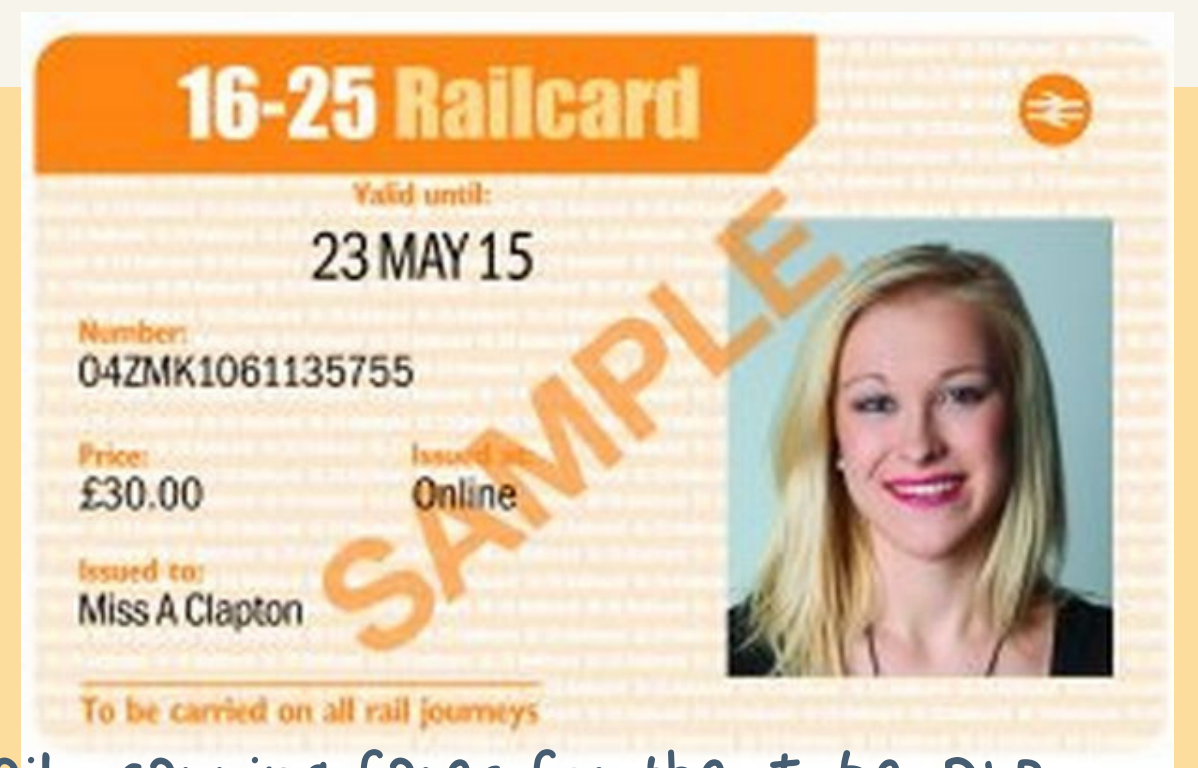
(they
check with the university)

- Approximately £89.90 (Zone 1 - 2) a month for the monthly travelcard OR £23.40 a week for the weekly travelcard
- These travelcards can be purchased/renewed at Oyster kiosks at all tube stations
- Head to <http://photocard.tfl.gov.uk/> to register!



16 - 25 Railcard

- Apply online at <http://www.16-25railcard.co.uk/>
- Gives you 1/3 off off-peak train services, so if you plan to travel a lot, you'll end up saving money
- Gives you a 1/3 discount on off-peak pay-as-you-go and daily capping fares for the tube, DLR, Overground, and most National Rail Services if you have a 18+ student Oyster Card (link them at the tube Station).
- Gives you promotions and discounts on some events (check website for what's available)
- Railcard can be expensive if you don't travel a lot. Buy 3 years at the same time to save money!
- Do not rush to buy them! There may be Railcard student deals early in the academic year, so keep an eye out for those!!



KEEPING MONEY SAFE BANK ACCOUNTS

For More Information about Opening a UK Bank Account
<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/campuslife/services/student-advice/support/AGs/pdfs/Moneyissues/openukaccount.pdf>

KCL'S
GUIDE

More Popular UK Banks



Very student friendly, the app allow you to get a new card if your old card has been stolen.



Efficient and quick service, it does however carry an annual account fee of £12.



Only recommended if you have a HSBC Premium Account back in Malaysia

BOOKING APPOINTMENTS

Make sure to book your appointment with your preferred bank as soon as you arrive in London or before, by making a phone call as their slots can be full. You might need to wait a week or two, or even longer!

BRING REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Remember to visit the bank's website before the appointment to make sure you have all the required documents. Your bank account will usually be opened during the appointment, your debit card will be mailed to you in a few days!

MOBILE PHONES

COMPANY	CONTRACTS	DEALS	UNDERGROUND PLATFORM WIFI	OVERALL COMMENTS
Giffgaff	No	<p>300 minutes, 500 texts , 500MB - 6</p> <p>500 minutes, unlimited texts, 2GB - 8</p> <p>unlimited minutes & texts: 3GB - 10 4GB - 12 8GB - 15 40GB - 20 unlimited - 25</p>	Virgin Media Wifi	<p>Free calls and texts to giffgaff users. Runs on the O2 network- essentially the same quality and coverage</p> <p>Flexible, cheapest and good value. Not the best coverage though.</p>
O2	30 days, 12 months, 18 months	<p>500 minutes, 500 texts, 500MB - 14</p> <p>1000 minutes, unlimited texts, 1GB - 16</p> <p>unlimited minutes and texts: 3GB - 19 9GB - 21 15GB - 25 25GB - 30 40GB - 40 50GB - 47</p>	Virgin Media Wifi	<p>Pricier, but has reward schemes for loyal customers, better for long term plans</p>

MOBILE PHONES

COMPANY	CONTRACTS	DEALS	UNDERGROUND PLATFORM WIFI	OVERALL COMMENTS
three	1 month, 12 months, 24 months	unlimited minutes and texts: 4GB - 16 12GB - 19 30GB - 24 unlimited - 30	Virgin Media Wifi	Feel-at-Home allows usage of mobile data in over 18 countries cheap calls, generous data allowances, roaming all around Europe for free
Voxi	No	unlimited minutes and texts: 6GB - 10 15GB - 15 45GB - 20	Vodafone	Endless social media data on top of base data plan. Good if most of your data use will only be social apps

PRO TIP!

Voxi (by Vodafone)

Although these are all great choices, most of us use Voxi as it has good coverage, is cheap, and suits students who use a lot of social media.

You can order the SIM online to be delivered to your accommodation and instructions will be provided on how to set it up.

04

FOOD & DRINKS



WESTERN

THE BREAKFAST CLUB

\$\$

11 SOUTHWARK STREET (NEAR BOROUGH MARKET)

LOBSTER ROLL

\$\$

6 LITTLE PORTLAND STREET

BURGERS & LOBSTERS

\$\$

36 - 38 DEAN STREET

DUCK AND WAFFLE

\$\$\$

40th FLOOR OF 110 BISHOPSGATE

ITALIAN

HOMESLICE

\$\$

13 NEAL'S YARD, WEST END

FRANCO MANCA

\$

51 BERWICK STREET, SOHO

BANCONE

\$\$

39 WILLIAM IV STREET, CHARING
CROSS

PADELLA

\$

6 SOUTHWARK STREET (IN BOROUGH
MARKET)

STEAKS

THE FLAT IRON

\$\$

17 - 18 HENRIETTA STREET, COVENT GARDEN

OMNINO

\$\$

78 - 79 LEADENHALL STREET

MAZE GRILL

\$\$\$

LONDON MARRIOTT HOTEL GROSVENOR SQUARE, 10 - 13 GROVESNER SQUARE

GUANABANA

\$\$

85 KENTISH TOWN ROAD

JAPANESE

EAT TOKYO

27 CATHERINE STREET

\$

CHOTTO MATTE

11 - 13 FRITH STREET

\$\$\$

KANADA-YA

3 PANTON STREET, WEST END

\$\$

IPPUDO

31A VILLERS STREET, CHARING CROSS

\$\$

CHINESE

FOUR SEASONS

CHINATOWN, 23 WARDOUR STREET, WEST END

\$\$

GOLD MINE

102 QUEENSWAY, BAYSWATER

\$\$

PLUM VALLEY

20 GERHARD STREET, CHINATOWN

\$\$

GERRARD'S CORNER

30 WARDOUR STREET,
CHINATOWN

\$\$

KOREAN

ON THE BAB

36 WELLINGTON STREET, COVENT GARDEN

\$\$

ASSA

23 ROMILLY STREET, SOHO

\$\$

OLLE

88 SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, WEST END (CORNER OF CHINATOWN)

\$\$\$

SEOUL BAKERY

14 GREAT RUSSELL STREET, BLOOMSBURY

\$

INDIAN

DISHOOM

\$\$

12 UPPER ST MARTIN'S LANE, WEST
END

KHAN'S

\$\$

13 - 15 WESTBOURNE GROVE,
BAYSWATER

MALYSIAN

RASA SAYANG

\$\$

15 FRITH STREET, SOHO

ROTI KING

\$

40 DORIC WAY

CAFE RASA MALAYSIA

\$\$

GREAT EASTERN MARKET, LOWER GROUND FLOOR WESTFIELD STRATFORD CITY

C & R CAFE RESTAURANT

\$\$

4 - 5 RUPERT CT, WEST END

VEGETARIAN & VEGAN

MILDREDS

\$\$

45 LEXINGTON STREET, SOHO

TIBITS

\$\$

124 SOUTHWARK STREET

RASA SOUTH INDIAN VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT

\$

55 STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH STREET

DESSERTS

TOMBO

28 D'ARBLAY STREET, SOHO

\$\$

GAZA CAFE

47 GREET STREET, SOHO

\$\$

TSUJIRI MATCHA HOUSE

47 RUPERT STREET, SOHO

\$\$

SHACK-FUYU

14A OLD COMPTON STREET,
SOHO

\$\$

MY OLD DUTCH

131 - 132 HIGH HOLBORN, HOLBORN

\$\$

AMORINO GELATO

7 GARRICK STREET, COVENT GARDEN

\$\$

MEET FRESH

100 SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, SOHO

\$

WA BAKERY

5 NEW ROW, COVENT GARDEN

\$\$

CRÈME

4 D'ARBLAY STREET,
SOHO

\$\$

BUBBLE TEA

COCO FRESH TEA & JUICE

52 - 53 DEAN STREET, SOHO

\$

XIN FU TANG

29 FRITH STREET, SOHO

\$

MACHI MACHI

59 SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, SOHO

\$

HAPPY LEMON

24A NEWPORT CT, CHINATOWN

\$

KISSATEN

30 BREWER STREET,
SOHO

\$

CHATIME

4 GERHARD STREET, WEST END

\$

CUPPACHA

23 NEWPORT CT, WEST END

\$

BIJU BUBBLE TEA ROOM

45 OLD COMPTON STREET, SOHO

\$

THE ALLEY 鹿角巷

UNIT 3, 272 HIGH HOLBORN

\$

YI FANG

13 MOOR STREET, SOHO

\$

WOO TEA ARTISAN BUBBLE TEA

G, F, 26 WARDOUR STREET, CHINATOWN

\$

05

STORES



PHARMACIES

BOOTS

- Equivalent to your WATSONS or GUARDIAN in Malaysia
- Sells cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, travel-sized items and daily necessities
- Has BOOTS OPTICIANS for eye tests and to buy contact lenses (contact lenses prescription)
- Boots is more reliable than Superdrug with daily necessities like shampoo, etc. and occasional pharmaceutical items

SUPERDRUG

- Also offers an eyebrow threading service!!
- Sells cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, travel-sized items and daily necessities
- Has a better selection when it comes to make-up related items (except for the Boots outlet at Picadilly Circus)

CITY PHARMACY

39 - 41 Borough High Street

- Nearest to Guy Campus, located on Borough High Street
- Sells pharmaceuticals, some make up, travel-sized items and daily necessities -

You can collect NHS medicinal prescriptions from there

BEDROOM & KITCHEN HOME ACCESSORIES

ARGOS

- Reasonably priced and convenient
- Sells KITCHEN UTENSILS and EQUIPMENT
- Buy online for delivery to your home or you can browse online, reserve and collect from a store

JOHN LEWIS

300 Oxford Street,
Marylborne

- For electrical appliances and bedroom supplies (sheets, duvets, pillows and towels)
- Buy online for delivery to your home or you can browse online, reserve and collect from a store

MARKS & SPENCERS

- Trusty British mainstay, for sheets and basics
- More expensive compared to other retailers

CURRY'S

- Sells electrical appliances including kitchen appliances and printers
- Buy online for delivery to your home or you can browse online, reserve and collect from a store

STUDENT ESSENTIALS

www.StudentEssentials.co/pages/uk

USE THE CODE
MSoc

Get your Box full of Bedroom, Kitchen, Bathroom items for when you arrive to your UK Accommodation.

Free Delivery + Student Prices +
Great Convenience 😊



***MOVING IN TO UNIVERSITY
MADE SIMPLE***

SHOPPING

Covent Garden / Oxford Street

- Usual brands like Topshop, Bershka, American Apparel, Hollister, Urban Outfitters, H&M and many more
- Oxford Street tends to be quite crowded, so please take care of your belongings!

Harrods, Selfridges, Harvey Nichols

- Usual brands like Dior, Alexander McQueen, Hermes, etc.
- and Loyalty cards can get you discounts can get you discounts in brands like Adidas and Under Armour, make it cheaper than if bought in the high street.

Westfields

- Shopping centers are located in Sheperd's Bush and Stratford
- Westfield caters from your normal street brands such as H&M to high end brands such as Chanel
- Westfield's is quite crowded, especially after 5pm! Make sure to take care of your belongings!

Online Shopping

- ASOS, Misguided, Boohoo, prettywildthing
- Easily accessible and delivers right to your doorstep / reception
- Sign up with websites such as studentbeans or Unidays to get student discounts up to 30% on certain stores!

"Buy and Return" Policy

- For many UK online stores, you're allowed to return for free.
- Whether the size is wrong or you don't really like it, go to your nearest post office, deliver within 30 days and your money will be refunded
- SAVES MONEY !!!

Non-Clothing Items

- Amazon, eBay and Gumtree sells non-clothing items such as furniture and miscellaneous items
- Students will get a free subscription of Amazon Prime the first 6 months which grants you free next day delivery, free movies and audiobooks.

DESIGNER OUTLET STORES

- Designer Outlet in Wembley (Postcode HA9 0QL) with brands such as Adidas, Guess and GAP -
- Most popular designer outlet would be BICESTER VILLAGE

06

ENTERTAINMENT



THEATRE & PLAYS

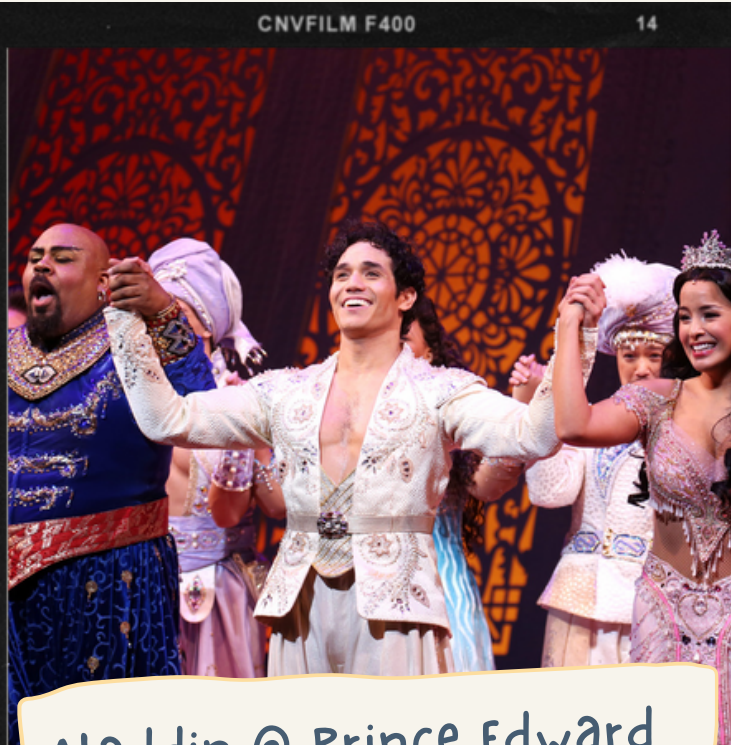
13 @ The Ambassador's



An American in Paris @ Dominion



Aladdin @ Prince Edward



Dreamgirls @ Savoy



Hamilton @ Victoria Palace



Lion King @ Lyceum



Les Miserables @ Queen's



Mamma Mia @ Novello



Matilda @ Cambridge



The Phantom of the Opera @ Her Majesty's



The Book of Mormon @ Prince of Wales



Wicked @ Apollo Victoria



Student Discounts and Discounted tickets

- Most musicals have day-seat/discount policies so head to the respective theatre's box office before the production. Use THEATRE MONKEY for approximate queue times for these tickets.

<http://www.theatremonkey.com/dayseatfinder.ht>

- Head to the TKTS BOOTH @ LECEISTER SQUARE as many tickets are sold there at half the original price. Tickets can only be bought in person. Head there early in the morning for better seats and more options!

<http://www.tkts.co.uk/>

What to Expect From a Musical

- Musicals have 2 acts with a 15 minute interval, with each act lasting from 45 mins to 1 hour and a half
- Showing up to a theatre in a t-shirt and jeans is okay, if you couldn't be bothered to dress up
- Subscribe to What's On Stage newsletter if you're a huge theatre fanatic as they're usually the first to announce upcoming productions and cast. Bring a sharpie along with your ticket stub or programme booklet (usually £4)

NIGHTLIFE

BARS AND PUBS

- You can find pubs located at the corner of nearly every street. Locals frequently visit pubs after work for drinks and food. Most pubs serve proper hot food during dinner time and the usual pub grub. Prices are around £2 - 4 for a pint of beer and a good meal will cost about £10.
- Most bars do not serve food but there's a great variety of drinks and cool lighting. Good ambience, great cocktails but pricier than drinking at a pub.
- Most bars are located at SOHO, Oxford Circus, Camden and Leicester Square area. On Friday nights, some bars in SOHO will open a dance floor with live music. They may charge £5 - 7 cover charge for entering.
- Student bars are basically bars that are open exclusively to students. At King's, we have Guy's Bar (Guy's Campus) and the Waterfront (Strand Campus). Drinks are really cheap and it's a great way to hang with your mates after class. It's also possible to bring one friend as a guest. Remember to always bring your student ID.
- Other student bars: Saucy (LSE) which does a clubbing night every Friday, Phineas (UCL) and Mulley's (UCL).

CLUBS

- Popular clubs are Ministry of Sound, Tiger Tiger, Sway Bar and Saucy. Ministry of Sound has very cheap student nights on Tuesdays, going as low as £3 for early bird purchases
- Clubs that are considered expensive are usually located in Mayfair, including Mahiki, Cirque and Maddox.
- Our MSoc committee's personal favourites are Heaven (a gay club that plays good fun pop music) on Thai Square (TSQ) which is an "Asian" club and has free entry for students before 11pm.
- We recommend taking advantage of attending Freshers' week clubbing events as it's gonna be the few times where clubbing is reasonably priced and you'll be able to find a club you enjoy going to.
- Look forward to ABACUS Clubbing Events as it plays Asian Music as well as London Uni MSoc Clubbing Events because that's where you'll most likely to meet your other Malaysian friends.
- Clubbing is a norm and weekly affair, and because drinks are expensive in clubs there's a culture of pre-drinking and this is done at someone's house or student bar. However, do not drink too much as clubs have the right to refuse entry if one is too intoxicated.
- For heavyweights, it is prohibited to carry or drink alcohol in public so a hack is to buy a bottle of mixer (orange juice, coke, lemonade) and pour alcohol into it.
- Please do be careful in clubs as guys can be quite touchy so make sure to be firm or have friends to protect you. Make sure to go to the bathroom as a group and take good care of your belongings. Also, do bring your BRP when you go clubbing as security will not enter without a valid ID.
- In autumn/winter, you will most likely have to pay for the coat-room and this will cost around £2 if you're lucky so make sure to have some cash. Another option is not wear a coat but it is COLD!
- When clubbing night is over, head over to OldTown97 at Chinatown which opens until 4am. Have LSE Fried Rice, which is not on the menu but one of their most famous dishes

CULTURE SHOCK

- Londoners are more liberal than Malaysians so it is not uncommon to see couples showing PDA. It is quite rude to stare at them so don't!! Most fights break out happen between drunk people. If you see a drunk person picking a fight with anybody, leave. The start of a pub brawl usually starts with a cockstare and the initiator saying "You wot m8".

SAFETY

- Most of Central London is monitored by CCTV and it is relatively safe to walk around at night. However, it is better to walk in groups and when walking alone, avoid small alleys and stay vigilant
- Be careful of phone snatch thieves. It is not uncommon to hear of phones snatched out of one's hands by a moped (scooter).
- Areas to avoid at night are Elephant and Castle, Camden Town, London Bridge, King's Cross and Southwark.

07

PLACES TO GO



MARKETS



BOROUGH MARKET

- Chorizon Bun from Brindisa
- Raclette & Grilled Cheese Sandwich from Kappacasein
- Doughnuts from Bread Ahead
- Venison Burger
- Monmouth Coffee
- La Tua Pasta
- Duck Confit Sandwich from Le Marché du Quartier
- Pork Belly & Crackling Sandwich with Bramley Apple Sauce

BRICK LANE MARKET

- Old Truman Brewery - Malaysian Pancake Co.
- Bagels from Beigel Bake
- Duck Confit Burger from Frenchie
- Gangnam Kitchen
- Nostegia



BRIXTON VILLAGE MARKET

- Honest Burger
- Pulled Pork Burgers from The Joint
- Various types of crepes from Senzala

CAMDEN MARKET

- Mac n'cheese from the Mac Factory
- Halal Lamb Burger from Baba G's Bhangra Burger
- Caribbean food from Mama's Jerk Station
- Halloumi fries from Oli baba
- Caramel Churros from Brazilian Churros
- Mini Dutch Pancakes



SOUTHBANK CENTRE FOOD MARKET

- Satay Burgers from Sambal Shiok
- Duck Confit Burger from the Frenchie
- Vegetarian Street Food from Horn OK Please

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

British Library



- Located next to King's Cross, the British Library is the national library of the United Kingdom and one of the world's largest libraries.
- You could freely access any of the 11 reading rooms by applying a free reader pass.
- If you don't have a pass, you could still sit down at any of the cafes or spaces at the common area.
- If you're not up for studying, you could also visit their Treasures Gallery which displays over 200 items from around the world!

Senate House Library



- Formerly known as the University of London Library, Senate House Library occupies the fourth to the 18th floors of the Senate House building, with the public areas of the library on the fourth to seventh floors.
- It is a 2 minute walk from the British Museum.
- Since KCL is a college of the University of London, all KCL students are eligible for a free membership.

KCL LIBRARIES

Maughan Library



Franklin-Wilkins Library



About the Library

- You will receive a library PIN and you'll need this to log in to borrow books
- You can borrow books for either 1 day, 1 week or 4 weeks. It depends on the sticker colour on the book's spine. The book will be automatically renewed until another student requests for it.
- You will need your KCL ID card to get into all libraries.

New Hunts House Library



Weston Education Centre Library



- There are quiet study rooms and discussion rooms as well as open study rooms. You can also book group study rooms at the KCL library website. Group study rooms have a larger table and several chairs for group work.

MUSEUMS

National History Museum



Address: Cornwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK

- Located in South Kensington, the Natural History Museum is a museum of natural history that exhibits a vast range of specimens from various segments of natural history

- You might recognise it in Night at the Museum 2 and Paddington

British Museum



Address: Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG, UK

- The British Museum is home to the largest Egyptian Collection in the world (larger than the Cairo Museum).

- Consisting of many galleries and special exhibitions, it is an all encompassing museum filled with several cafes and bistros that offer alfresco dining

Tate Modern Gallery



Address: Bankside, London SE1 9TG, UK

- Home to many great paintings from the likes of Picasso, Rembrandt and various modern artists.

- Tate is located near Southwark in between Waterloo and Guy's Campus.

- There are special exhibitions so look out for those!

The Victoria and Albert Museum



Address: Cromwell Rd, London SW7 2RL, UK

The V&A Museum, is the world's largest museum of decorative arts and design, housing a permanent collection of over 4.5 million objects.

- It was founded in 1852 and named after Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. Located next to Natural History Museum.

GYMS

KING'S SPORT GYMS



WEBSITE: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/sports/gyms/gyms>

- Open from 7am - 10pm on weekdays and 10am - 6pm on weekends and public holidays
- Monthly membership costs £13.99 and allows you to go all 3 sites (Strand, Waterloo and Guy's - London Bridge)
- Membership is free for students that stay at Champion Hill, Stamford Street and Great Dover Street
- King's Gyms offer inductions, Studio Classes and Specialised and Personal Training

FITNESS FIRST



WEBSITE: <https://www.dwfitnessfirst.com/>

- Has over 45 branches in London, with 2 near Guy's Campus and 1 at the Strand
- Monthly student membership costs £46.00
- Some branches are open 24/7 with some also have a swimming pool and even offer beauty and wellness (sauna, steam room, etc.)

PUREGYM



WEBSITE: <https://www.puregym.com/>

- No Contract -- allows you to leave at any time! Take a break when studies get too intense and get back to it whenever you like
- Monthly student membership costs £14.99
- Some branches are open 24/7 and offers induction, Cardio, Mind & Body and Functional Training classes which are free to members.

THE GYM



WEBSITE: <https://www.thegymgroup.com/>

- More than 50 branches in London and open 24/7, No Contract
- Monthly student membership costs £12.99

PSYCLE



WEBSITE: <https://www.psyclelondon.com/>

- Known for its spin classes but also Barre, Strength and Yoga classes
- Uses a credit system with 1 credit = 1 class. The most basic package universal Intro can be purchased at £22.00 with 2 credits. The most basic monthly package is PSYCLE10 which is £155 a month for 10 credits. Extra benefits from monthly packages.

THE PARKS



HYDE PARK

- Boasting 142 hectares, it is one of the largest parks in London
- Has a running track for those who would like to practice sprinting or prefer softer grounds for a jog
- There are cycling lanes and Santander bike docking stations
- In November and December, it hosts Winter Wonderland !!



REGENT'S PARK

- Has the largest outdoor sports grounds in London and hosts the London Zoo - Do check out Primrose Hill as it's a great space to catch both the sunrise and sunset. You can even see a distant image of the London Eye and Big Ben.
- You can catch the New Year's Eve's fireworks for free!!



HAMPSTEAD HEATH

- Located in the North of London, it hosts one of the best views of the city and is a great place to catch the sunset on Parliament Hill
- Best spot for runners to train running up hills. The KCL Athletics Society regularly has their training here if not, Regent's Park



SOUTHWARK PARK

- Located in the South of London, it has a deep history with Dr. Alfred Salter, one of Guy's bacteriologists who gave free treatment to those who were in poverty which eventually provided inspiration for the establishment of the NHS
- Do check the Ada Salter Rose Garden and the KCL Thrown Ultimate team hosts weekly practices. There's also an art gallery there!

OTHER INTERESTING PLACES

- Check out Kensington Gardens, Green Park (that's where Buckingham Palace is) and St. James Park. If you're super adventurous, travel out of London to Richmond Park ! You can see deers if you're lucky and Kew Gardens!
- Check out Peak District, Lake District, Seven Sisters, Ashridge & Ivinghoe Beacon in Hertfordshire and Epping Forest if you have to change to get out of London. You might have to do some hiking and trust us, Google Photos doesn't do the views of these places any justice!!

TRAVELLING OUTSIDE LONDON

Train (National Rail)

- Connects London to most cities in the UK
- Prices of train rides according to destination, time and booking date. The earlier you book your ticket, the cheaper the fare will be.
- A Railcard can be bought and it'll give you a 1/3 price reduction on train fares.
- Third party websites like <https://www.thetrainline.com> and 'Megatrain' may sell certain fares at cheaper rates (sometimes less than half price).

<https://www.ukmegabus.com/products/megatrain>

Train (Eurostar)

- Departs from St Pancras International and go directly to most Western European cities such as Paris, Brussels and Amsterdam
- Trains are a slight premium over plane tickets but there is an added convenience of not going to the airport.

Coach

- Operated by two companies: National Rail and Megabus
- Megabus is usually cheaper than National Rail but it is slower and less comfortable
- Most coaches depart and arrive from a Victoria Coach Station that is a 5mins walk from Victoria Train Station

Airplane

- London is served by 5 major airports: Heathrow, Gatwick, City, Stanstead and Luton
- Heathrow and City airport are connected via the London Underground whilst Gatwick, Luton and Stanstead can be reached by trains departing from Liverpool Street, King's Cross and Blackfriars Station.
- Budget airlines are Easyjet and RyanAir. Baggage allowance on standard fare for both are just 1 luggage bag and this includes handbag/laptop bag.
- British Airways is preferable as it has better service, food and drink served on board, comfier chairs and you're allowed to bring 2 cabin bags.

- For currency exchange, it is better to buy your Euros from banks like HSBC and Barclays.
- Try buying your holiday (flight + Hotel) from Expedia or Booking.com for lower rates
- Use TripAdvisor to avoid eating at scam restaurants

RELIGION



ISLAM

Waterloo Campus

DIRECTIONS TO PRAYER ROOM

- Upon entering Waterloo campus, head up the stairs and enter the first door on the right.
- Your card must be specifically activated for entry via Security Desk at the main reception

NEAREST HALAL SHOPS : Chicken Cottage, zabardast, Wrap it up (near Maughan), ALHiBah

Strand Campus

DIRECTIONS TO PRAYER ROOM

- Enter main Strand Building and descent to Floor -1 (Lift). Enter the double doors and turn right.
- The Prayer Room is at the end of the corridor with the brother's entrance on the right, the sister's entrance directly ahead

NEAREST HALAL SHOPS : Subway, Chicken Cottage, Corner shop near tesco's, Cafe near Maughan, ALHiBah Restaurant (15 min walk, 7 min bus)

Guy's Campus

DIRECTIONS TO PRAYER ROOM

- From London Bridge Station, head towards the Guy's Campus entrance (car park), walk past the Spit and into the main campus quad.
- Carry on heading straight towards the Hodgkin Building. Upon entering Hodgkin's Building, take a right down the stairs (follow the signs to the 'Muslim Prayer Room'), and follow the corridor, through two sets of double doors.
- There are two separate entrances for brothers and sisters. Your card must be specifically activated for entry via Hodgkin Security Desk.

NEAREST HALAL SHOPS : HMC Chicken & Chips, Chicken Cottage, Mickey's Fish and Chips, Shringley's, Papaya, Wrap it up, Leb Grill

KCL Islamic Soc

website <http://www.kclisoc.org/> Email contact@kclisoc.com

KCL Islamic Society welcomes everyone to be a part of the Muslim community in KCL! All enquiries about Islam can be directed to KCL ISoc team. There will be two jemaahs every Friday.

CHRISTIANITY

Places of Worship

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON

Address: Brompton Rd, London SW7 1JA, UK

Phone Number: +44 845 644 7533

Website: <https://www.htb.org/>

- Modern Anglican church in West London, near Knightsbridge.
- A rather vibrant church with multiple services on Sundays from morning till night time.
- The church is also the birthplace of the Alpha course.
- Alpha, is an evangelistic course which seeks to introduce the basics of the Christian faith through talks and discussions. It is described by its organisers as "an opportunity to explore the meaning of life".

HILLSONG LONDON

Address: 268-269 Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 7AQ

Phone Number: +44 20 7384 9200

Website: <http://hillsong.com/uk/>

- Arguably one of the most hip churches in London.
- Located at the Dominion Theater at Tottenham Court Road, it is one of the few churches that caters to students as it is near UCL, LSE and KCL.
- There is a large student population in Hillsong London.

Fellowships & Societies

Overseas Christian Fellowship

FB PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/OCFlondon/>

- Popular with many Malaysians & Singaporeans
- OCF is held every Friday at both King's College London Strand Campus and University of London Union (ULU) near Russell Square.
- There are a few of us in KCLMSoc that attend OCF. Don't be shy to approach us for more info!

KCL Christian Union (KCLCU)

Website: <http://www.kclcu.com/>

- The Christian Union meets weekly on a Thursday in the Strand Building at 6pm.
- Expect to hear news regarding upcoming KCLCU events, worship together, engage in prayer and hear a short talk relevant to university life and Christianity.
- Guest speakers come in to give talks, such as Reverend Christopher Lee from St. Saviours Church. You might have seen him on the "Korean Englishman" Youtube channel!!

CATHOLISM

KCL Catholic Soc

FB Page <https://www.facebook.com/KCLCathSoc/>

Email kclcatholicsociety@gmail.com

The Catholic society can be found in King's College London. It may be a religious society but fret not, they're all about finding friends and having fun! Interested to know more about them? Hunt them down during Freshers' Fair and sign yourselves up!

BUDDHISM

KCL Buddhist Soc

KCL Buddhist Society is based at Guy's Campus and holds meetings on every other Friday to meet new people and have discussions about Buddhism! The aim of this society is to raise awareness about what Buddhism is; to introduce different types of meditation and have discussions about Buddhism and its application to day-to-day life.

They have Buddhist monk guest speakers to come and talk about issues that are relatable to everyone; have cultural celebrations; to meet people and share ideas. It's free to join their society and they always welcome everyone to join regardless of background.

HINDUISM

KCL Hindu Soc

Website www.kclsu.org/organisation/Hindu

The KCL Hindu Society is one of the largest and most active Hindu societies in London. Along with its flagship events such as the KCL Garba, the Holi celebrations in March and the Meet and Greet Barbecue.

It also regularly invites guest speakers, organizes debates, movie nights and dinners.

Membership for the year costs £5.

OTHER INFO



AFFILIATES



KPUM

Website <https://www.kpum.org/>

FB Page <https://www.facebook.com/KPUM79/>

KPUM serves as a platform for students to meet with potential employers and future colleagues through various events; predominantly the annual Law Career Convention that is held in London during the Easter holidays. We aim to provide students with information about prospective employers and law firms as well as stimulate intellectual curiosity and knowledge about Malaysia's local legal scene.



iCUBE

Website www.icubeintl.com

FB Page <https://www.facebook.com/icubeintl/>

iCUBE is a non-profit, student-led organisation that seeks to encourage entrepreneurship and innovation amongst Malaysian students in the United Kingdom, Ireland, USA and Australia. As the driving force of entrepreneurship and innovation amongst Malaysian students overseas, we strive to be a world-class platform for students to kickstart their ideas. We hope to go beyond just equipping student startups and connecting them to mentors, industry-experts and investors. By focusing on our vision, iCUBE aims to create a sustainable student entrepreneurs community by helping student-led startups thrive in the ecosystem and realise their goals.



YME

Website <https://ymeglobal.org/>

FB Page <https://www.facebook.com/YMEglobal/>

Young Malaysian Engineers (YME) is a United Kingdom-based student organisation built to empower Malaysian youth in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths (STEM). Founded in 2016, YME is one of the fastest-growing, STEM-oriented student bodies with 600+ registered members and a combined 3500+ followers on all social media platforms. YME strives to provide a professional social platform where passionate and like-minded students connect with each other, as well as with experts across a wide range of STEM fields.



GENCorp

Website <https://www.gencorporate.com/>

FB Page <https://www.facebook.com/GenCorporate/>

An organisation built on transformational theories to bridge the transition of Malaysian tertiary students into corporate careers. Recognising the importance of encouraging corporate-youth synergy, GenCorporate represents aspiring young Malaysian professionals currently pursuing tertiary education in British Universities and provides UK wide networking platforms for idea ignitions and career developments.



AMEU

Website <http://www.ameunetwork.org/>

FB Page <https://www.facebook.com/ameunetwork/>

We are a professional non-profit student-run organisation which congregates aspiring Malaysian undergraduates who are passionate about Economics related pursuits in the UK, Ireland and MY. AMEU is fully committed to delivering the best events to promote economics and to create initiatives which are in the interests of students. Our efforts are reflected by widespread support from both organisations and students alike, and we aim to continue this momentum moving forward.



MBIOS

Website <https://www.mbios.org/>

FB Page <https://www.facebook.com/MBIOS.org/>

Malaysian Bioscience Scholars (MBIOS) is a student-led academic and inquisitive association that aims to serve Malaysian students in pursuit of bioscience careers all around the world. As such, MBIOS strives to enrich the bioscience students' experience with impactful events, academic assistance and debates on ideas based on our 5 founding pillars of Connect, Experience, Develop, Grow and Research within an increasingly significant and pivotal field.

PART TIME WORK

International students on a tier 4 student visa are only entitled to work for up to 20 hours per week during term time and full time during the holidays. Be aware that there are some restrictions as to what type of work you can do, nevertheless there are many options available from working in a bar or restaurant or even finding a position at King's. This is a great way to earn some extra cash or to just gain some valuable experience that can be added onto your CV. Remember to always have your passport and BRP on hand when applying. A tip is to set up a LinkedIn account as you can set up your digital CV, gain connections, and look out for vacant jobs.

At King's

- King's CareerConnectKing's talent Bank <https://www.kingstalentbank.com/>
- Student Ambassador<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/student-life/student-ambassadors>
- Money Mentor <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/campuslife/services/student-advice-support/how/money/mentors>
- King's Student Union <https://www.kclsu.org/about/workforus/>
- King's Internships <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/archive-not-publish/careers/about-us/our-services/internships/kings-internships>

STINT

This platform is slightly different to getting a fixed job; it is much more flexible in the sense that you will be working with different businesses and there is no fixed schedule. Basically once you have applied, they will notify you whenever there is a job available and it is up to you on whether you would like to accept it or not.



This means that you get to work at any time of the day and that your pay will be different each time. To apply you can download this application from the App Store and after you have registered with your King's email, you will have to book an appointment to physically verify your documents (BRP and passport).

OTHERS

- Save the Student <https://www.savethestudent.org/part-time-student-job>
- StudentJob <https://www.studentjob.co.uk/>
- Retail Choice: specifically for those who want to work in retail <https://www.retailchoice.com/>
- TARGETjobs <https://targetjobs.co.uk/>
- Gradcracker: specialises in STEM subjects <https://www.gradcracker.com/>
- Student Circus: they list jobs and internships exclusively from employers who are willing to sponsor the tier 2 Visa (General work visa), this may be important for when you are in your final year <https://studentcircus.com/>

Recruitment Agencies

These specialise in internships and placements:

Graduate Recruitment Bureau, register here <https://www.grb.uk.com/sbm/897%C2%A0Student>

Employment Services, register here: <https://www.studentemploymentservices.co.uk/>