



Nottingham Trent
University

Parents and carers guide



THE SUNDAY TIMES
GOOD
UNIVERSITY
GUIDE
2023

MODERN
UNIVERSITY
OF THE YEAR





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Supporting parents and carers

Higher education is changing all the time. If you're the parent, guardian or carer of a new student, you've got a big role to play — and even if you've attended university yourself, there are still some important things you'll need to know about their upcoming journey.

In this guide, we'll give you all the key details, and show you how to strike that perfect balance between useful support and stepping on toes. We've covered everything — from key application dates, to the ins and outs of student finance, to what to pack on moving day.

We're proud of our student experience, and we hope this guide gives you a taste of the teaching expertise, learning options, lifestyle opportunities, and tailored support that every NTU student can count on as standard. Because for generations of young people, this has been more than just a university: it's been a place to grow, and somewhere to call home.

Enjoy the guide, and remember that if you've still got questions, we're always available for a chat — in-person, online, and over the phone.

Chat online

Want to know what it's like here at NTU? Maybe you want to find out what it's like studying on campus, making new friends, or living in and around Nottingham — we've got all the answers.

Chat with our students and staff today!

ntu.ac.uk/chat

Other ways to contact us

Visit ntu.ac.uk/parents for tailored advice — and sign up for regular email updates on the 'Stay Connected' page

Call our Admissions and Enquiries team on **+44 (0)115 848 4200** (9.30 am – 4.30 pm, Monday – Thursday and 9.30 am – 4 pm, Friday)

Use ntu.ac.uk/askntu to get in touch with any general queries

Join our online community



Find out what makes life and learning at NTU so special by visiting one of our open days.

Book now at ntu.ac.uk/opendays

Why university?



Today, most skilled professions require some form of higher-level study as standard. The numbers speak for themselves: the median salary for working-age graduates is £36,000, compared to £26,000 for non-graduates.*



People create lifelong friendships and connections at university. The cultural diversity of their community, the huge range of extracurricular opportunities, and the chance to study and work abroad all help to broaden their horizons and perspectives. A university education builds better people — not just graduates.



Jobs aren't for life anymore — on average, people in the UK are now swapping employers every five years. Students will want to progress in their professional lives, and a degree will give them the knowledge, confidence, and transferrable skills to do that.



Studying at university builds independence, confidence, and resilience. For many students, it's their first time away from home; a transformative experience that marks their transition into adulthood.



Nothing beats university for professional networking opportunities. If your son or daughter has a particular job in mind, they won't just be learning about the industry's key players — they'll be working face-to-face with them on real-world projects and placements.

*Graduate Labour Market Statistics 2021. Gov.uk

Why NTU?

Deciding where to study can be daunting — there are currently 164 universities and higher education institutions to choose from in the UK alone!

Often, the right choice comes down to more than just a course: it includes other factors like location, and opportunities outside the classroom.

At NTU, we provide a student experience like no other. We combine great teaching with a global network of industry connections, a thriving extracurricular scene, and award-winning care services.

Our students learn by doing — from the in-work opportunities built into every course, to volunteering schemes, to self-employment enterprises and the chance to study abroad.



AWARD-WINNING

LIKE NO OTHER

We are a university that is committed to driving forward meaningful change, and that is why we're an award-winning university like no other. We've been named 'University of the Year' four times out of the last six years, and most recently named Modern University of the Year by *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* Good University Guide 2023.



A STUDENT EXPERIENCE

LIKE NO OTHER

We've been named University of the Year at the Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2023 – voted for exclusively by students. This highlights our commitment to excellence and innovative approaches to education. We empower our students to achieve their aspirations and unlock their full potential. Blending academic excellence with a vibrant campus life and countless opportunities for personal growth and unforgettable memories, we offer a student experience like no other.



A GRADUATE PROMISE

LIKE NO OTHER

Our personal advice and strong focus on employability starts from day one and we'll get your child ready to develop their career. We'll even support them after their studies for up to three years and offer them a paid internship opportunity if they're not in employment or further study 12 months after graduating. This is a Graduate Promise like no other!

Support with learning

Personalisation is a big part of the NTU experience.

All our students can customise their course — from what they're studying, to how they're assessed, to the kinds of support they feel they'll most benefit from. It's about providing them with the freedom to plot their own path, and the expertise to help them reach their goals.

To achieve that, NTU has an army of support staff — advisers, administrators, and coaches, all committed to helping our students reach their potential.

Dedicated personal tutors provide one-to-one academic, pastoral, and professional care, and will help your child access any additional support they might need.

CERT mentors — second- and final-year students on the same course as your son or daughter — are also allocated to new students; they'll share their own experiences, helping them get to grips with their studies and surroundings.

We provide dedicated library workshops for our new arrivals too, which cover the essentials of uni-level study — things like research skills, referencing techniques, and how to avoid plagiarism.

On top of that, we've developed some useful online services help to ease the transition:



The Student Dashboard

— this award-winning tool helps students manage their learning and stay on track with their studies. By measuring things like lecture attendance and participation, it's a great indicator of how your son or daughter is doing... and sometimes, how they could be doing even better!



NOW — a virtual learning environment that gives our students on- or off-campus access to their timetable, course materials, key resources, assignment-submission portals, and file storage. It's also a great way of keeping in touch with their tutors and coursemates.



Lecture Capture — this digital recording tool helps students to revisit their lectures and review anything they feel they might have missed the first time around.



MyNTU — keep in touch with Nottingham Trent University from anywhere, on or off campus.

Access their timetable on the go, find an available PC, register attendance, check NOW and much more. MyNTU provides them with everything they need in one place and with notifications they'll always be up-to-date.



Students' Union, City Campus

Support with living

There's no denying that life at university can be an adjustment.

This might be your child's first time living away from home, so we'll do everything we can for their confidence and comfort. Academically, professionally, emotionally, and socially, we've got their back.

We welcome students from a huge range of backgrounds, which is a big part of NTU's identity. That diversity also means we're committed to providing tailored, useful care to every single member of our community.

Our award-winning student-support services guarantee that your child has instant access to any help or guidance they might need.

That could be anything from some initial anxiety or homesickness, to a long-term physical or mental-health condition. It might mean bespoke support for a particular learning difficulty, or an unexpected bump in the road that crops up further on down the line. Whatever their needs, we'll ensure your son or daughter is properly looked after.

ntu.ac.uk/support

Paying for university

Course fees, student accommodation and living costs are the main expenses of student life. Your child can apply for a tuition fee loan and maintenance loan.*

A range of grants and bursaries might also be available, depending on their personal circumstances.

Tuition fee loan

This covers the tuition fee charged by the university, and it's available no matter what your household income is. It's paid directly to the university and, if a student is from England or Wales, starts getting repaid once they've graduated and are earning more than the government's repayment threshold.

Maintenance loan

This helps towards rent, bills, and other living costs. The loan is paid into your son or daughter's bank account in three termly instalments. The amount of loan they can get will depend on whether they're living away from home, whether they are entitled to certain benefits, and towards your household income.

Bursaries, scholarships, and other funding

In certain circumstances, extra funding is available to supplement living costs. Make sure you're applying for everything your child is entitled to!

ntu.ac.uk/funding

Financial support while at university

Support is available for students who run into financial difficulty while attending NTU. What's more, they don't have to be in hardship to access our services; it's a general advisory and support service that's open to everyone. If your son or daughter wants help with managing their money or setting up a budget, they can email financial.support@ntu.ac.uk and speak with one of our friendly and experienced financial support advisers.



Student loans aren't repayable until they are earning more than the repayment threshold.

Visit gov.uk/repaying-your-student-loan to find out more.

* Eligibility criteria applies. Please see your national funding body for guidance.

Supporting success

Here's just a few of the benefits and free services designed to enhance student experience. From studies, extra-curricular activities and travel, to career development and support after graduation – we cover it all.



£20 printing and photocopying credit each academic year *



a complimentary copy of Microsoft Office 365



24/7 library access



field and study-trip costs covered for all essential course excursions



free language-learning from beginner to advanced level **



free careers advice and employability events



complimentary employability support for up to three years after graduation



subsidised bike hire, with secure cycle parking and bike services



free professional body accreditation for specific courses †



discounted student travel for the city's comprehensive bus and tram networks



60+ sports clubs with discounted memberships, offers, and sporting events throughout the year

* For use on NTU printers or copiers, and for professional printing services at NTU's printshop services.

** A deposit is required to register and is refunded on successful completion.

† See course pages for full details and exclusions.

Employability

Hands-on, work-focused experience makes all the difference to a degree.

NTU's courses are built around the kind of applied, vocational opportunities that get our students work-ready. What we teach and what they learn is based on what the industry expects.

The graduate market is competitive, and we work closely with steering groups, advisory bodies and consultants to ensure our students are a priority for employers — not just an option.

NTU's Employability team has partnered with over 2,300 businesses across the region — from international big-hitters like Boots and Experian, to hundreds of up-and-coming SMEs.

**NTU is a Top 10 University
for Work Experience**

(RateMyPlacement Awards 2023)

Your son or daughter will have access to a range of employability programmes, experts, and events, including volunteering opportunities at home and abroad; face-to-face meetings with the biggest names at our job fairs and employer sessions; and the bronze, silver and gold Employability Awards, which will supercharge your child's CV by officially recognising their extracurricular work.

JobShop

If your child is looking to make some extra cash during their studies, our JobShop can connect them with a huge range of part-time opportunities across Nottingham. Our in-house recruitment provider also offers lots of paid casual positions on campus, in the University's cafés, restaurants, and bars — and much more.

Employability Centres

Students love our Employability Centres. They're a one-stop consultancy service, providing support with everything from CVs and interview practice to advice on career planning and life after graduation.

Each one of our Academic Schools also has a dedicated careers consultant, armed with the specialist sector knowledge to help your son or daughter access the career of their dreams.

Our employability support doesn't end with their course, either — your child will be able to access our provisions up to three years after they've graduated.

ntu.ac.uk/employability

Supporting entrepreneurship

Many of our students arrive with some great business proposals and dreams of self-employment. NTU Enterprise is our centre for entrepreneurship: we help students bring their ideas to life with experience, expertise, and great business contacts.

ntu.ac.uk/enterprise



**Every one of our undergraduate
courses includes valuable
work-like experience**



Our campuses



Located in Nottingham and throughout the wider county, our five campuses all have a unique identity and sense of character.

From the bustling City Campus to the stunning countryside estate of Brackenhurst and the self-contained student community at Clifton, they're all defined by amazing facilities and an unbeatable living and learning experience.

These cutting-edge spaces and places have been custom-made to enhance your child's university life – in and outside of lectures.

City Campus (Nottingham city centre)

A place that's big enough to inspire, but compact enough to provide a sense of community; one where our best and proudest traditions sit shoulder to shoulder with new theories, new practice, and new possibilities. It's the same mix of heritage and modernity that sums up Nottingham itself.

But most of all, the City Campus is defined by its diversity. From lawyers, journalists and psychologists to entrepreneurs, artists and architects, the quality of your child's learning will be enriched by the huge range of people and disciplines around them.

Clifton Campus (5 miles from Nottingham city centre)

Clifton is community, convenience, and an ecosystem all of its own, with everything your son or daughter could need in one place. If they're fortunate enough to live and study here, they'll find accommodation that's minutes from lectures; lectures that are next door to some incredible sports and leisure facilities; and a whole host of shops, bars and cafés.

With a community of over 8,000 students, Clifton is the definition of 'campus life' – a place with its own spirit and character, and somewhere your child will love living and learning. Located just to the south of Nottingham city centre, it'll give them the best of both worlds – their own place and space, with one of Britain's great student cities on the doorstep.

You can visit virtualtour.ntu.ac.uk for a campus-by-campus look at what's on offer at NTU.

Brackenhurst Campus (14 miles from Nottingham city centre)

Located next to the picturesque market town of Southwell, Brackenhurst Campus hosts our courses in animal, rural and environmental sciences. It offers some of the most scenic university accommodation in the UK, and a strong, focused, passionate sense of community. It's also connected to the bright lights of Nottingham by an excellent bus service that runs into the early hours, saving your child plenty of money on late-night taxi fares!

Confetti Nottingham (Nottingham city centre)

Confetti is a nationally renowned creative hub, and a magnet for digital talent and is located just a short hop from our City Campus. You'll be amazed by the facilities our students can access from day one of their course – from media production labs and hi-res cameras, to broadcast-spec TV galleries.

Confetti London (Whitechapel, London)

Opening its doors in 2023 this new specialist centre for digital arts, production and performance will offer a range of courses in London's Whitechapel district.

Mansfield University Hub (13 miles from Nottingham city centre)

We've partnered with Vision West Nottinghamshire College to deliver career-focused courses, with qualifications including higher national qualifications, and foundation, top-up, and bachelors (honours) degrees. If your son or daughter is looking for alternative higher education, if they're limited by work or care commitments, or if they're simply looking for a taster of university life, this could be their perfect solution.

Staying safe and secure

It's important to us that every single member of our community feels completely safe, and we work closely with our Students' Union, the council, and the local police to ensure that.

24/7 security

Your child will have 24/7 access to our security team, and we'll encourage them to save the number in their phones at induction. It's also included on the back of their student card.

Safe taxi scheme

We've introduced the Safe Taxi Scheme, where any student without cash can quote their NTU ID number to a dedicated phone line, arrange a door-to-door lift home, and then pay later.

Consent workshops

We run mandatory workshops on consent and safety in the first term of each new year, and every NTU student is bound by the rules set out in our Student Charter of personal conduct.

Safe place initiatives

We're also rolling out a new initiative developed in partnership with the Students' Union, where each campus has a designated 'safe place' — an area for students who need help, care, guidance, or breathing space, staffed by our own security team and wardens.



City Campus



Brackenhurst Campus



Confetti Nottingham



Mansfield University Hub



Clifton Campus

Welcome to Nottingham

Our city is a big part of the NTU experience.

For the tens of thousands of students who've come to us from across the country (and around the world), this city has accommodated, supported, and inspired them.

Today, it continues to enjoy a reputation as the third best student city in the UK, ahead of places like Sheffield, Manchester, Birmingham, and Leeds (StudentCrowd 2021).

This isn't a big city, and that's a key part of its charm. It balances the very best in culture, entrepreneurship, sport, leisure, food and retail with a sense of cosiness and genuine community. Most of all, Nottingham is a place where you can know with confidence that your child is safe. And in terms of access, generations of parents have been grateful for how easily reached we are from almost anywhere in the country – a real bonus if (or when) you are requisitioned for a lift back home!

We're proud to be a part of this city, and for this city to be such a significant part of us. Together, we have always worked in tandem. We're confident you'll enjoy visiting Nottingham every bit as much as your son or daughter enjoys studying here.

ntu.ac.uk/nottingham

Cost of living in Nottingham

How much your child spends will depend on their own lifestyle priorities, but the table below is a rough guide to what their monthly outgoings might look like as an NTU student (National Student Money Survey 2022).

Living cost	Average monthly spend
Food shopping	£116
Socialising	£59
Takeaways	£49
Household bills	£64
Transport	£54
Clothes	£35
Course materials	£17
Mobile phone bill	£18
Health, wellbeing and self-care	£20
Events	£25
Gifts and charity	£15



Nottingham Council building and Old Market Square

Notts facts



Since 2010, Nottingham has received twelve consecutive Purple Flag awards — reiterating the city’s reputation for safety, accessibility, and the diversity of its entertainment.



The public transport network here is exceptional. Student discounts are available on our buses and trams, which run into the early hours and provide door-to-door connections between our campuses.



Located immediately off the M1, Nottingham is within a two-hour drive of 75% of England’s other towns and cities.



Alongside Prague, Edinburgh, Melbourne and Milan, Nottingham is a UNESCO World City of Literature.



As one of the UK’s core cities, Nottingham is home to the region’s premiere SMEs and start-ups — providing work experience opportunities on our courses.

Supporting your child's UCAS application

We recommend helping your son or daughter keep track of their key dates and what they need to provide — for us, and for UCAS.

They can apply for up to five different courses in their application. This could be the same course at five different universities, five different courses at the same university, or any other permutation.

Once they've received offers, they'll need to choose a 'firm' one — which is their first choice preference — and an 'insurance' place, just in case they don't meet the stated conditions of their first choice.



Save the date

We're holding undergraduate open days on:

- **Saturday 14 October 2023**
- **Saturday 4 November 2023**
- **Saturday 2 December 2023**
- **Saturday 20 January 2024**

Book now: ntu.ac.uk/opendays

2023/24

Ways to meet us

Our open days are the perfect way for your child to experience what makes life and learning at NTU so special. Visit ntu.ac.uk/opendays to find dates and information on all the University's upcoming events.

You can also visit virtualtour.ntu.ac.uk

for a guided online tour of our campuses, facilities, and accommodation.

Completed applications for courses starting in 2024 can be submitted to UCAS from **Tuesday 5 September 2023**.



2024

UCAS application deadline

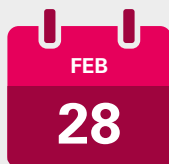


The UCAS application deadline is **Wednesday 31 January 2024 by 6 pm.**

As a parent, guardian or carer, this is where your proofreading and editing skills can come in particularly handy before it's submitted.

If your child misses the deadline, they might still be able to apply. NTU welcomes applications after the January cut-off, though we can only make offers if places remain available.

UCAS Extra



UCAS Extra opens. This is the next step of the application cycle for students who have no offers from their five choices, or who have declined the offers they've received.

Visit ntu.ac.uk/extra for more information.

If it's the first time they've applied to university after the January deadline, your son or daughter will need to apply through UCAS and provide a personal statement and reference.



Look out for more opportunities to visit our campuses on ntu.ac.uk/opendays. NTU student accommodation opens for booking in the Spring. Visit

ntu.ac.uk/accommodation to see our range of residences.



Accepting offers



In early June your child will need to confirm their firm and insurance-choice institutions on UCAS.

Start looking at their funding – visit ntu.ac.uk/funding for guidance on tuition fees and living costs.



Any new applications submitted to UCAS after this date will automatically be considered through Clearing.

Clearing



Clearing opens. This process helps students who haven't yet secured their university place, find and apply for courses. Visit ntu.ac.uk/clearing to find out more.



A-level results day



A-level results are published in mid-August. Students can log in to ucas.com to see the outcome of their application(s) — if they've been accepted by their firm choice,

then their place is confirmed.

If your child changes their mind about where or what they want to study — or if they haven't met the conditions of their firm and insurance choices — they can get in touch with our Clearing team at ntu.ac.uk/clearing.



Welcome to NTU



We officially meet our new students with a series of in-person events, activities, and introductions over our Welcome period, which is designed to help them settle comfortably into university life.

Supporting your child on results day

Clear heads make good choices.

We'd advise you to be positive, but practical. Ahead of the big day, encourage your child to have a backup plan in place – whatever their expectations.

Ensure they learn about the Clearing process, too. Preparation is key – and understanding how Clearing works could give them a head-start at a busy time. Visit ntu.ac.uk/clearing for more information.

Make sure they've got everything ready and to hand – from their offers, to those key telephone numbers. It's not the day to be hunting around for UCAS log-in details!

Also, try to make sure that they're not on holiday: if any communications are required, universities will need to speak with your child directly.

But most of all, respect and support their decisions. Every choice has its merits. A gap year or far-flung university might not be your preferred option, but they're adults – let them make up their own minds, independently and with confidence.

Nerves are natural on results day. You can't control the results they will receive, but you can manage the mood. Help your son or daughter to stay calm and composed – as a parent or carer, it's your most important job in the whole process.

ntu.ac.uk/parents



Preparing for university

One of the things we're most frequently asked by parents, carers, and guardians is how to prepare their children for university life — and how to provide the right kind of support from that point onwards.

Confidence really is key. Encourage your child to say 'yes' to the opportunities that will inevitably come their way, because ultimately, uni is about more than just studying for a great qualification. It's about lasting friendships, lifelong memories, and the things your son or daughter will learn about themselves beyond their comfort zone. They'll need your enthusiasm and trust to do that.

Our tips on preparing for university

That's the bigger picture — but what about the first days and weeks, at the very start of the journey? We'd recommend the following:

- Travel light, and don't overdo the packing. Focus on the essentials, like clothes, bedding, toiletries, and IT equipment. They'll never have enough coat hangers, and a few family photos can also prove invaluable in the early days.
- Try to agree a weekly budget ahead of time. Your child is going to be responsible for their own finances, so make sure they arrive with a sense of what's affordable, and what isn't. Independent financial management is a tricky — but crucial — life lesson.
- Eating out is a great way to explore Nottingham, but it can get expensive. Try to factor a few treat meals into their budget, but make sure they also arrive armed with some basic (and cheap) recipes. A little kitchen confidence can go a long way, and it's a great icebreaker.
- Nothing's more exciting than the first weeks of uni. Nottingham is a safe and friendly city, with a population of over 60,000 students. But reiterate the importance of respect for our local communities, which sit shoulder to shoulder with our student residences.
- Most importantly, ensure they're open and honest about their feelings. Any early nerves are entirely normal — there's no 'right' way of starting uni, and no model to follow. Encourage a proper dialogue, and engage with our award-winning support services whenever necessary.





Useful telephone numbers

- Enquiries: **+44 (0)115 848 2999**
- Main switchboard: **+44 (0)115 941 8418**
- Student Accommodation Services: **+44 (0)115 848 2894**
- Student Support Services: **+44 (0)115 848 6060**
- Students' Union: **+44 (0)115 848 6200**
- Employability team: **+44 (0)115 848 8638**
- International Development Office: **+44 (0)115 848 8175**
- Centre for Student Success and Engagement: **+44 (0)115 848 6089**



Addresses

- **City Campus**, 50 Shakespeare Street, Nottingham, NG1 4FQ
- **Clifton Campus**, Clifton Lane Nottingham, NG11 8NS
- **Brackenhurst Campus**, Brackenhurst Lane, Southwell, NG25 0QF
- **Mansfield Hub**, Derby Road, Mansfield, NG18 5BH

Confetti Institute of Creative Technologies

- **Confetti Nottingham**, 6–10 Convent Street, Nottingham, NG1 3LL
- **Confetti London**, 41 Commercial Road, London, E1 1LA



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Nottingham Trent University



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Any questions?
ntu.ac.uk/askntu



Book your place at an undergraduate open day on:

Saturday 14 October 2023

Saturday 4 November 2023

Saturday 2 December 2023

Saturday 20 January 2024

Book now:



ntu.ac.uk/opendays

This information can be made available in alternative formats.

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