# Guidance in selecting a guardian

Parents will not all want the same service from a guardian, so it is important for parents/carers to decide what they want and to ask the key questions to find out if it is provided. The following is a list of suggested questions and it is for parents/carers to decide which elements of any service are more/less important for them.

- Does the service include:
  - transfers and travel
  - holiday accommodation arrangements
  - authorising medical treatment or high risk activities
  - verifying friends' homes if students request to visit
  - visits to the school, attendance at parent meetings, liaising with staff
  - assistance to attend religious meetings
  - cultural activities or visits
  - assistance with visiting the next step school or university

- Does the guardian report back to the parents at regular periods?

- If not opting for support from Nottingham Trent University, will the guardian organise transfers? If the guardian, will all drivers be appropriately checked? What procedures will guardians follow to ensure safety?

- Who is to be contacted in an emergency – the parent or the guardian?

- What training does the guardian have? Do they understand child protection, confidentiality, restraint, equality, bullying and harassment issues, and do they have the skills to sort out problems that arise?

- Does the guardian have insurance? What does it cover, how much is it for, and is this sufficient?

- What is the cost of the service? How much notice does the guardian require if the parents wish to withdraw from the agreement?


Although Nottingham Trent University are unable to recommend any one particular guardianship service, we do recommend that any contracted guardians are approved by The Association for the Education and Guardianship of International Students (AEGIS).  AEGIS undertake inspection and accreditation of guardianship organisations in the UK in accordance with a strict Code of Practice and current child care legislation.

More details can be found on the [AEGIS Web site](#)