Hello!

We are the Global Campus Team and we are absolutely thrilled that you have chosen to study at York St John University. We are here to help you with any questions you may have before you arrive, while you study or after you have left YSJ.

Our Global Campus Team are friendly and welcoming, and our aim is to make sure that you have the best possible experience here. We host regular social events to bring you together with current and new international and home students and provide support to you in all areas. This booklet is designed to help you with all your pre-arrival questions but if you need to know anything else, or just want to say hello to our friendly team, send us an email at globalcampus@yorksj.ac.uk.

We look forward to seeing you in September.

Best wishes,
Amy, Lejla, Adam and Celia
Global Campus Team
Apply for your visa
You cannot apply for your visa until you have your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) form. Once you have received this, follow the instructions on the UKVI website to apply for your visa. We also have visa webpages on our website which may answer further questions and you can contact our friendly Visa and Compliance Team at visa@yorksj.ac.uk

Once your visa has been granted in your home country, you will receive an Entry Clearance Vignette sticker in your passport. This is valid for 90 days and you must travel to the UK within that 90-day period. Once you are in the UK, you will need to collect your BRP card from the university. This will be your visa for the duration of your course of study. Remember to check your passport is valid and does not expire within six months of your arrival.

Find your new home
It is essential that you arrange your accommodation in advance of arriving in the UK. The university has very limited accommodation available and none for students coming with dependents. You can arrive in the UK by following the instructions on the advice for commuting students webpage for more details.

We are unable to assist with contracts for private accommodation, so please read your contracts carefully and understand that, once signed, a contract is legally binding. Please note that we are limited in how we can support you with finding accommodation in the UK but you can find this page useful. It is essential that you fill out the form, as soon as possible, to provide us with your arrival and accommodation information (does not apply to anyone on the Study Abroad programme).

Go cashless
York St John is a cashless campus, so it is advisable to arrange a pre-paid cash card to bring with you. You should load it with as much money as you think you will need to get you through the first few weeks, whilst you are waiting to get your UK bank account set up. Alternatively, you can use your phone to pay if you have the appropriate method to do so in the UK.

There is a free UK bank account from Revolut, which doesn’t need proof of a UK address and is very straightforward to open. You can access free overseas transactions and a £100 premium membership here. Another option is Wise, the multi-currency card you can use on your phone.

Please note that these banks are simply suggestions and we are not recommending them over any of the other options available to you. You might want to set up an account with an established high street bank, once you are settled, as online accounts do not always come with the same protection and security as traditional banks. There is a free UK bank account from Revolut, which doesn’t need proof of a UK address and is very straightforward to open. You can access free overseas transactions and a £100 premium membership here. Another option is Wise, the multi-currency card you can use on your phone.

Get fully enrolled
It is a good idea to complete the enrolment process prior to arriving in the UK. You can do this by following the instructions on the enrolment webpage. It will make things much easier for you if you do this ahead of arriving at York St John.

Ask for disability support, if you need it
You might not feel you have a disability, or you may dislike the term, but if you experience any barriers to learning, we are here to help. You can register with the Disability Support and Inclusion Team before you arrive. Visit our disability support and inclusion webpage for more information and to make contact with the team.

Follow us
Connect to us on Instagram to keep up to date with important news, our social events and cultural events calendar and support information via @ysj_global.

Visit our current student blog page to learn more about university life.

Join our future students on our Global Campus Connect app. Register here and then search for “YSJGlobalCampusConnect” in your mobile app store. You might find students travelling on the same plane as you. Once you have enrolled, you will gain access to further areas of the app (this may take up to two weeks to change).

Get acquainted with your campus
Take a virtual tour of the campus, to get to know our site before you arrive. You’ll also find a map at the back of this booklet.

Check out what you can get involved in
Now is also the time to start getting excited about what lies ahead! Visit York St John Students’ Union website and check out all the sports clubs and societies you can join when you get here. You can also find out who your student representatives are. The Students’ Union is a democratic organisation that functions to empower, represent and entertain the students of York St John University.

Before you travel
You are going to be likely you are going to be to get a room. If you are using a private accommodation provider, please take a look at the helpful list. You can also search for private accommodation in York via any online search engine, using keywords including “rooms/houses for rent in York” or “student accommodation in York”. We do recommend that, if possible, you use a dedicated student accommodation provider, as the cost will include all bills and excellent services, as well as an instant network of student friends. You will be able to find providers in the list above. If you are asking cheaper accommodation, or family accommodation, please always consider the cost of bills and commuting, so as this can push the price up significantly. If you are staying far away from campus, you are able to book one of our limited commuter rooms for up to three nights at a time. Please refer to the advice for commuting students webpage for more details.

If you are travelling by public transport, please always consider the cost of bills and commuting, as this can push the price up significantly. If you are staying far away from campus, you are able to book one of our limited commuter rooms for up to three nights at a time. Please refer to the advice for commuting students webpage for more details.
Travelling to York St John

- eGates are now in use at UK airports. Please [watch this video](#) and make sure you understand whether you are able to use the eGates. If you have an emergency at the UK border, you can call our Visa and Compliance Team on +44 (0) 7773 043 159.
- Once you arrive on campus, you will be able to find us in our pop-up international hub from 10am to 4pm, every weekday, in Holgate. This is where you can collect your welcome pack and ask us any questions.
- We understand that international travel can be unpredictable at times, can easily be delayed, or you may have to arrive outside of working hours. If you arrive in York and for any reason find yourself in a confusing or unsafe position, please make your way to the campus and visit Campus Security. The Security Lodge is open 24 hours a day, every day of the year. Call +44 (0) 1904 876 444 or you can call or text +44 (0) 7885 201 182.
- When it comes to packing, it is up to you how much or little you bring with you. York has all the shops you could need, so you can buy anything within the city centre. If you have particular clothes you wear in your home country, it is always nice if you can bring at least one outfit with you, to wear at some of our international events and celebrations. If you are staying in York St John student accommodation, you will have a survival package, with essential cooking and sleeping items included, waiting for you in your room. If you are not staying in York St John student accommodation, you can pre-order a more complete survival package [here](#) - use the promo code YORKS10 to receive 10% off your kit.

We've compiled a very simple list of packing tips that you may find helpful:

### Checked-in bags
- Find out what you can and cannot bring into the UK by watching this [UK Custom film](#).
- Try to pack only what you will really need.
- Check your airline’s baggage and weight allowance in advance.
- It’s worth packing a few adapters for your electronic devices. In the UK, the main voltage is 240v and the frequency is 50Hz.
- Label all your checked bags with the University address, so in case they get lost or delayed, they can be easily forwarded on to us:
  - **Your name**
  - York St John University (Porter’s Lodge)
  - Lord Mayor’s Walk
  - York
  - YO31 7EX
  - United Kingdom
- If you take regular medicine, we advise you to bring as much as you are allowed into the country, as it may be difficult to get new medicine immediately. We also recommend that you bring copies of your medical records, to assist you when registering with a health practice in the UK.

### Hand luggage
- Always carry valuable items and documents in your carry-on bag.
- Remember your passport and tickets, as well as medical records (if necessary). It’s worth taking photos on your phone and printing off copies, in case you misplace the originals. Keep a copy yourself and give one to a parent or carer.
- Keep evidence of acceptance by York St John University (unconditional offer letter or similar acceptance letter) at hand.
- Make sure you have some British Pounds Sterling in cash that you can use upon arrival. Try to get your money broken down as small as possible (£5 notes, £1 coins, and a few 50p, 20p, 10p coins).
- It’s good to have a few spare passport-sized photographs with you, as you may need these for different registration forms after you arrive.
- It is worth packing your toothbrush and one change of clothes in your hand luggage, just in case your checked bags get delayed or lost! But remember to check with the airline you’re flying with, what you can and cannot take in your hand and checked-in luggage.
Your first few days

There is a lot to do in your first few days in the UK so we’ve put together a quick checklist of the essential things you need to do.

Call home! Your friends and family will want to know you have arrived safely.

Visit our Welcome Desk
Once you arrive on campus, you will be able to find us in the Global Campus building. We are open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. You can also find us on Falcondale Ward.

Collect your Welcome pack. Before you leave home, make sure you have your passport, visa, BRP card (if applicable), and any letter you requested, all properly prepared. On arrival you will need to check in with the Student Records Team at Studentrecords@yorksj.ac.uk

Find your academic timetable
You should check out your timetable early on, so you know where you need to be and when.

Find your online enrolment
To get full access to the university services and your course, ideally, you should do this before you arrive. The final date for enrolment is two weeks after the start of your programme. You can enrol online here.

Get your financial ready
If you have tuition fees to pay, you should pay these immediately. Details can be found here or you can visit our Finance Office, on the first floor of Ripon Wing, to speak to someone. Take a little time to think about managing your finances. We offer a series of webinars, financial education courses and resources. You can create a free account, using the access code "YSJ-Int", if you have any problems with signing up, please contact the Student Funding Advice Team on fundingadvice@yorksj.ac.uk.

Open a bank account
If you are coming on a degree programme, you will probably want to open a UK bank account for your time in England. You’ll find out more about this in your International Student Guidebook but you’ll need to register on MyYSJ.

Register with the NHS
You will need to register with the NHS in case you are ill in the UK. You can find out more in our International Student Guidebook you will get on arrival. However, it is important to register as soon as possible, which you can do through our NHS Student Centre.

Explore your new home!
You’ll find out what the most gorgeous UK city it could be that is consistently being voted one of the top cities by UK students and tourists alike. Take the opportunity to explore the university and meet your new friends. Make sure you join the Global Campus Team for all the tours and events during your first few days, but also visit the local areas.

Find more about Moodle
You want to keep your assignments and resources in the same place. Here are some things you may need to do:

Get insurance
You need to have travel insurance with you when you arrive. If you are living in university accommodation, some insurance is included, so you should check what you have covered. The university uses a company called Emerald, and you can buy further insurance or insurance for your private travel directly from them.

Get your academic timetable
You should check out your timetable early on, so you know where you need to be and when.

Once you arrive on campus, any questions. Alternatively, welcome pack and ask us globalcampus@yorksj.ac.uk

Your friends and family will want to know you have arrived safely.

If you haven’t already, join our Global Campus Community on our Connect app, find out how to join in the Connect app guide on page 5.

Endsleigh and you can buy private insurance for your private travel here.

You should sign into MyYSJ, with your university login details, which you can access your timetable, register on Moodle and see important updates from across the university. You can access your MyYSJ dashboard on a desktop computer/laptop or download the MyYSJ App on your Apple or Android device.

Join the Global Campus Community
We have regular socials and events, as well as a number of trips around the UK that you can join. The Global Campus Community is designed to bring you together with new friends and support you throughout your time at York St John. Visit our Global Campus Community webpage to find out how to join on page 6.

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Managing your own way to campus

Whichever airport you are arriving into, be it Manchester or London, there will be a train station within walking distance. We recommend you take the train to York, as this will be the easiest option, direct from the airport. However, cheaper coaches are also available to book, at either National Express or Megabus.

To buy your train ticket, you can either ask the information desk at the train station for help or buy your tickets directly from a ticket machine. Trains run frequently throughout the day and night. Depending on what time you are travelling, you may be able to buy an off-peak ticket, which is cheaper.

You can also buy a train ticket in advance, online at National Rail or Trainline and collect it from the ticket machine when you arrive at the train station or opt for an e-ticket that will be sent to your email address to show on your phone. We do not recommend buying a ticket that is only valid for a specific train time, as if you miss that train, your ticket will not be valid.

Keep your ticket with you on the train, as you will be asked to show it to the ticket inspector. The average train journey takes about 1.5 hours from Manchester and 3 hours from London. There are direct trains from Manchester Airport to York. You will probably need to travel into central London, if flying into Heathrow or Gatwick, to connect to a train to York. Please consider how much luggage you bring with you, to make your journey easy.

When arriving at York Train Station, go to the taxi rank located directly outside the station. If you are in university accommodation, you need to come to campus to get your keys. The journey from York Station to York St John will take 5-10 minutes and will cost about £10. Please give the taxi driver this address:

York St John University
Lord Mayor’s Walk
YO31 7EX

Upon arrival, you can ask the taxi to wait for you and leave your luggage with them (your luggage should be absolutely fine but if you leave it with them, you do so at your own risk). Head to our Welcome Desk in Holgate (see map on the back page), to collect your welcome pack and keys. You can then return to the taxi and ask them to drop you off at your accommodation. This will probably cost around another £10 plus waiting time. If you are in private accommodation, you can go there directly from the train station.

Some taxi drivers in York only accept cash as payment, so make sure you have enough money with you. Please ensure you have small notes as they may not be able to accept anything over a £20 note.

If you arrive outside of our Welcome Desk hours, please make your way to Campus Security to collect your keys (see map on the back page). If you need to call security, then can be contacted on +44 (1)904 876 444 or +44 (0)7885 201 182. Once you have your key, you can return to the taxi and ask them to drop you off at your accommodation.

Further advice

Take a look at the “Info & Advice” section of the UKCISA website, it’s got plenty of relevant and useful information for you.

Great British Mag is a digital magazine dedicated to helping overseas students adjust to life and study in the UK. Browse Great British Mag articles for tips on how to make the most of your time in the UK and have a look at their survival service package.

Life and study in the UK could be different from what you are used to. This free course from Future Learn will help you prepare, by teaching you about UK culture and higher education expectations.
Should you hear the fire alarm, please make your way to a fire assembly point on the front lawns.

Non-emergencies  01904 876 777
Emergencies  01904 876 444

24hr Security:
Main Reception: 01904 624 624

Entrance to buildings
Pedestrian entrance
Vehicle entrance
Catering outlet
24hr security
Fire assembly point

(1.3 Miles)
University
Haxby Road

F.T.
St Anthony’s House (S.A.)
G.H.
Gateway House (G.H.)

York Railway Station
York City Centre

11
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

Room Key

Accommodation Office
Catering outlet
Vehicle entrance
Entrance to buildings
We operate a smoke free campus
Toilets are located in all main buildings

Corporation Street
Great George Street
Garden Street

Haxby Road
University Sports Park

Campus Map

Key

1 Reception
2 Fire assembly point
3 24hr security
4 Taxi pick-up and drop off point
5 Blue badge parking
6 Catering outlet
7 Vehicle entrance
8 Pedestrian entrance
9 Entrance to buildings
10 We operate a smoke free campus
11 Toilets are located in all main buildings

Est. 1841
YORK ST JOHN UNIVERSITY

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24hr Security:
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Room Key

D.G. 103 - D.G. 103

D.G. - Building
1 - Floor
03 - Room No.

Main Reception: 01904 624 624

24hr Security:
Emergencies  01904 876 444
Non-emergencies  01904 876 777

Should you hear the fire alarm, please make your way to a fire assembly point on the front lawns.
Local in character
Global in outlook