



HEADSTART 2021





GETTING A **HEADSTART** ON YOUR

UCW STUDENT JOURNEY



PURPOSE ● ● ● **CONNECTEDNESS** ● ● ● **CAPABILITY** ● ● ● **RESOURCEFULNESS** ● ● ● **ACADEMIC CULTURE**



April



WELCOME

Begin with an essential introduction to the **purpose** of joining the Headstart transition to HE journey. Find out about and discuss the logistics of HE life at UCW from applications, finance and accommodation, to academic expectations and additional support. Discover how you will be supported in your progression to degree level study over the next few months on our Headstart programme.

MEET AND DISCOVER

Start to make those important **connections** with the lecturers and classmates within the UCW community. Engage in activities that enable you to get ahead with your subject. Current students will be ready to answer your queries and about the types of HE learning experiences your course offers..



May



June



GET ORGANISED

Discover what **resources** and learning activities are in place to support your studies with a range of bite-sized study skills workshops and self-directed study. Experience and familiarise yourself with our learning environments as you engage in live demos and discussions alongside practice activities in preparation for September.

September



PLAN YOUR JOURNEY

Pause and reflect on your **capabilities** to help you decide what skills you may want to brush up on prior to and throughout your journey towards your graduate employment goal. Learn what support and training is available to you alongside your course and get ahead with a range of activities that allow you to try out new tools or set yourself some goals.



July

START THE ADVENTURE

Welcome to the next stage of your journey with us. You are now ready to join the **academic culture** of UCW through a range of induction activities. UCW staff will guide and support you as you settle into this first stage of HE life and become a valued member of our community.

For any enquiries regarding the Headstart journey, please contact heart@ucw.ac.uk

Introduction to HEART

HE Student Services

heart@ucw.ac.uk

Specialist Support

- Quicksan
- Initial needs assessment
- Support to get a diagnosis
- Support to apply for Disabled Students Allowance/access support as an apprentice
- Interim study skills support

Specialist Support

- Specialist support for students in receipt of DSA
- Specialist support for apprentices
- One to one study skills support for students with a specific learning difference or autism
- One to one specialist mentoring for students with mental health conditions or autism
- Assistive technology training
- Exam access arrangements
- Reasonable adjustments for students with a disability

Specialist Support Team Contact Details

support@ucw.ac.uk or sarah.parnell@ucw.ac.uk
heart@ucw.ac.uk

DSA information: <https://www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas>



Who we are and what we do

Your Academic Development team is here to help you grow graduate skills and support your learning journey at UCW.

We deliver the following services:

- **Embedded programme of essential academic skills**
- **1-2-1 academic support**
- **StudyHub events**
- **Self-paced independent skills development**

Email us at: HELibraryPlus@ucw.ac.uk



Academic Development Offer in Headstart

The Academic Development team will be with you in June and July!

June:

- **Opportunities for skills assessments and reflections**

July: 6th 7th and 8th

- **Workshops covering a range of academic skills:**
 - Reading Skills
 - Referencing
 - Academic Writing
 - Reflection
 - Critical thinking
 - Presentations
- **Wellbeing workshops and 'getting to know you' events**



Who we are and what we do

The ELS Team offer support with all things English language:

- Academic English and general language skills
- 1-1 support sessions
- Workshops that cover a range of academic English topics
- Webinar and events dedicated to challenges and opportunities of being second language speakers



Our aim is also to develop a varied international community running social events, coffee meetings and have some fun.

The English Language Support Offer in HeadStart

The ELS Team will work with you in both June and July!

June:

- Discussing the importance of language proficiency as an employability skill;
- English language assessment;

July:

- Offering workshops on a range of topics;
- Promoting resources for self-paced learning;
- Community & social events.



Who we are and what we do

LibraryPlus is your go-to space for help and support with your independent studying here at UCW.

The LibraryPlus Team is here to offer:

- Access to a wide range of academic resources, wellbeing & fiction books;
- 1:1 support sessions on several topics;
- Workshops;
- Quiet study spaces;
- Access to technology;
- Online support with Office 365, e-Resources, etc;
- Themed weeks & events.



LibraryPlus Offer in Headstart

We would be running some interactive sessions online via Teams and Face to Face.

During the first session we will introduce you to LibraryPlus SharePoint where you can:

- Book 1:1 support session
- Book technology
- Access our library resources

During the second session we will go more into detail about our Online Resources including:

- eBooks
 - eJournals
 - Online magazines
- And much more



Learning Tech Offer in Headstart

We will be running some interactive sessions online via Teams and face-to-face.

During the first session we will cover:

- **Microsoft Office Certification (MOS)**
 - What it is and its benefits
 - Word – Extended writing
 - PowerPoint – Presentations
 - Improve your CV
 - Our offer: achieve this extra qualification for free!

During the second session we will cover:

- **Your Digital Learning Environment at UCW**
 - Familiarising yourself with the Teams collaborative learning environment
 - More useful tools for learning from Office 365.





Student Finance

The two main costs of HE are:



Tuition fees

- Charged by the university each year to cover the costs of things like lecturers & facilities
- SFE offer a Tuition Fee Loan of up to £9,250 per year (UCW charge £8250)
- This loan is paid directly to the university
- The amount of tuition fee loan you can get is not dependent on household income



Living costs

- E.g. rent, food, travel, course trips/books
- SFE offer a Maintenance Loan to help with these costs
- The amount of maintenance loan you get is based on two factors:
 - where you will live during your studies
 - household income
- The maintenance loan is paid directly to the student at the start of each term

Extra Funding

Bursaries

- Linked to personal circumstances (e.g. household income under £25,000, young carer)
- Can be used as a tuition fees/accommodation waiver or paid directly to the student
- UCW Bursary is £2000

Scholarships

- Linked to high academic results or previously studying at Weston College
- Progression Scholarship - £300
- Excellence Scholarship - £350
- Federation of Schools Scholarship - £300
- Part Time Scholarship - £1,500

Grants from SFE

- Grants are available if you have a child or adult who's financially dependent on you
- Parental Learning Allowance/Childcare Grant/Adult Dependent Grant

Repaying Student Loans

In order to start paying back the tuition fee & maintenance loans, you must meet a set of criteria:

- Full time students will be eligible for repayments from the April after graduating or leaving their course.
- There is a repayment threshold, this means if you don't earn over this amount per year you won't make repayments. Currently set at **£26,575** (2020/21).
- When graduates earn over the threshold, they repay 9% of their income over the threshold (see example on next slide). If a graduate's income falls below the threshold, their repayments will stop.
- Any outstanding loan balance will be cancelled 30 years after entering repayment process.
- Repayments are automatically made through the HMRC taxation system.
- Interest is charged on the loans (e.g. 2020/21= 5.4%).

Repayment Examples

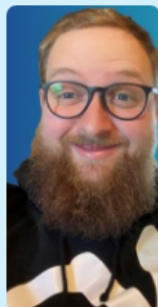
- A graduate begins a job with a £30,000 salary per annum.
- £3,425 of the graduate's salary is over the set threshold (£30,000- £26,575)
- The graduate pays 9% of the gap between the threshold & salary= £308.25
- This is split into monthly payments= £25.69 approx.

Income each year before tax	Monthly repayment (Approx.)
£26,575	£0
£28,000	£10.69
£30,000	£25.69
£35,000	£64.19
£40,000	£100.69



finance@ucw.ac.uk

Book an appointment with Joey!



Meet our student finance and support officer, Joey Hancock

Hello, my name is Joey and my job at UCW is to support and advise our applicants and students with anything to do with money. I offer 1:1 bookings and have a number of resources on the Applicants' Hub to help you understand University funding.

To make a booking [click here](#)

Telephone: 01934 411 411

email: finance@weston.ac.uk

Chat to me on UNIBuddy [here](#)

Applicant Hub

Applicants Hub

Congratulations on your offer to study at University Centre Weston!

We would like to welcome you to our Applicants' Hub, our new platform introduced to support applicants in the time between being given an offer and enrolling with us.

The hub will be updated regularly with new information and resources to support you over the coming months.

Use the tabs below to access more.

Join the conversation...

Tweets by UCWeston

Pre-Contract Information

Student Finance

Support Services

Study Skills

2021-22 Entry

↓ Tuition Fees Policies

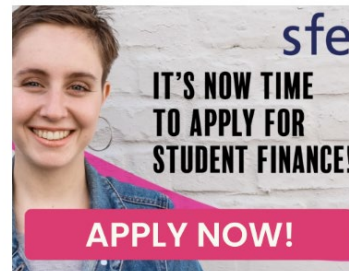
↓ Admissions Policies

↓ Terms & Conditions

Congratulations on receiving an offer to study a degree programme at University Centre Weston.

Please take the time to read the following policies and other important documents which will apply to you for the duration of your study with us.

Student Finance



Download
UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF STUDENT FINANCE OF BENEFITS

Download
UCW STUDENT FINANCE GUIDE



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Support Services



We are focussed on supporting our students to achieve their ambitions and committed to engaging with them to continually enhance the UCW experience.

Our Higher Education Academic Registry Team (HEART) is UCW's student services team.

The members of HEART provide friendly and expert advice on a range of matters, including applications, accommodation and council tax, student finance and scholarships and bursaries, personal and mitigating circumstances and anything else which may be impacting upon our student welfare or academic achievement.

↓ Supporting Your Success Information Booklet



You can contact our HEART team via:

Email: heart@www.ucw.ac.uk
Phone: 01934 411 403

www.ucw.ac.uk/applicants-hub

www.ucw.ac.uk

Any Questions?



Dates for your diary.....

Headstart 2

Meet the Tutors – 10th May

Headstart 3

Skills Gap and Careers Development – 8th June

Headstart 4

Academic Skills Development – 6th – 9th July



heart@ucw.ac.uk

