

Before you leave home

Join the Kings community before you arrive

As soon as you we have confirmed your place and you have paid your fees, we will send you your student ID number. This number will allow you to log in to **ClassMate**, our online learning companion. You can access this from the homepage of our website:

www.kingscolleges.com

Here you will be able to practise your English online in your own country before you arrive at College. There is lots of exciting learning content including audio and video materials.

You can also post your own profile and view the profiles of other students who will be studying with you. So you can interact with them in advance of coming to the UK and feel like part of the Kings community before you even arrive.

If you have not received your student ID number and log in details, please ask your local representative.

See page 10 for more information about **ClassMate**.

Visas and immigration issues

Depending on your nationality, you will require certain documents before you are able to enter the UK.

Students from the European Union

If you are a European citizen living within the EU, you will not need a visa to study in England.

Students from outside the European Union

If you live outside the European Union, you will almost certainly be classed as a visa national and will need to obtain a visa before you can study in the UK.

There are currently five categories of visa which are applicable for international students wanting to study in the UK:

1. Child General Visitor Visa

This is for students under the age of 18. It allows study in the UK for a maximum 6 months, at any language level and for any course. There is no minimum level of language level required (at the discretion of the Entry Clearance Officer). Kings will provide documentation confirming the course of study which will required in order to gain entry to the UK. 16-17 year olds will also need a signed letter of parental consent or details of guardianship.

2. Child General Student Visa

This is for students under the age of 18. It allows study in the UK for between 6 months and up to a maximum of 6 years. Kings is a licensed sponsor and rated Highly Trusted. This means Kings is able to provide a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) confirming the course of study, which will be required in order to gain entry to the UK. Students aged 16-17 will also need a signed letter of parental consent or details of guardianship. Students under 16 require a guardian in the UK.

3. Student Visitor Visa

This is for students aged 18 and over. It allows for study in the UK up to a maximum of 180 days. There is no minimum level of language. Students are not permitted to work during their stay, or to extend the visa. Kings will provide documentation confirming the course of study, which will be required in order to gain entry to the UK.

4. Extended Student Visitor Visa

This is for students aged 18 and over. It allows study of an English language course for a maximum of 11 months. There is no minimum language level requirement.

5. Adult General Student Visitor Visa

Kings will provide a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) confirming the course of study, which will required in order to gain entry to the UK. Students aged 16 - 17 will require a letter of parental consent in order to be considered adults.

For the most up-to-date information and guidance on visa and immigration issues, we suggest you visit:

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk

Working in the UK

Depending on your visa status and the type course you are studying, there are strict rules about working in the UK, while you are a student. If you plan to work during your time in the UK, please visit the United Kingdom Border Agency website for the most up to date information.

Remember that it is important to understand and follow the rules relating to working as a student.

Checklist before you leave

Ask yourself and answer these important questions before you leave for Britain.

- Is my passport valid?
- Have I got the visas I need?
- Do I need a single visa or multiple visas?
- If required, have I got a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies?
- If required, have I got a letter of parental consent or details of guardian?
- Have I arranged somewhere to stay?
- Do I have enough money for my time in Britain?
- Can I prove to the British authorities that I have enough money for my stay?
- Do I have addresses and telephone numbers for both my college and host family in Britain?
- Do I have the telephone number of my country's Embassy in Britain?
- Do I know how to get to the college when I arrive in Britain?
- Do I have enough money to get to the college or host family when I arrive?
- Have I told my host family and the college about my travel arrangements and arrival times?

If you have ticked every box, you are ready to travel!

