

25 June 2019

To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to confirm Bournemouth University's support for the Stand Alone pledge. The university is committed to supporting those who may be marginalised or underrepresented to enter and flourish in Higher Education.

We understand that estranged students will be studying without the support of family and therefore may have additional vulnerabilities which could become a barrier to achieving their potential.

In support of these students the university has committed to offering a support package which currently includes the following:

**Finance**

- Maintenance bursary (means tested)
- Access to BU financial support fund
- Access to Finance Advisors
- Access to campus jobs through MyCareerHub

**Accommodation**

- Opportunity to apply for a Unite Foundation accommodation scholarship
- 52 week accommodation guaranteed for the first year

**Mental Health and Wellbeing**

- Allocated point of contact for pastoral support

**Outreach and transition**

- Transitional guidance and support to prepare for university
- Nominated point of contact to support with application to university
- Inclusion in care leavers participation events

We are also in the process of developing the following additional support which we plan to have in place by the end of the 2019/20 academic year

- Buddy scheme with other estranged students (peer support)
- Dedicated webpage for estranged students signposting to local support
- Wellbeing welcome pack
- Guaranteed accommodation availability for the full duration of the course (by 2020/21)

We look forward to working with Stand Alone and continuing to work with partners and students in order to raise awareness amongst our community of the current support available and to further develop our support for estranged students in the future.

Yours faithfully,



Professor John Vinney  
Vice-Chancellor