



University of Plymouth

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Dr Ms Mueller,

### **Stand Alone Pledge**

The University of Plymouth is committed to attracting, admitting, supporting and encouraging students with the most potential to succeed, regardless of their background or situation. The University understands the obstacles that many students face in not only accessing but also remaining in and graduating from higher education. Additional needs for financial, academic or pastoral support should not prevent a student from realising their potential which is why we have already adopted the following support mechanisms for estranged students;

- Estranged students are already a priority group when considering financial support.
- The University already provides advice and guidance on how to apply for support from finance to housing and other associated benefits.
- Through one-to-one meetings we inform academic staff of the needs of estranged students, depending on their individual situations and needs.
- The University offers both e-Counselling and a 24/7/365 support line for all students which is free to use. There are also counselling drop in sessions on both our Plymouth and Truro campuses.
- We offer 365 access to non-funded University accommodation and for each year of study if required.
- We hope to offer an estranged student bursary from September 2018 on top of other pathways to financial support.

We are currently reviewing all publications and web platforms to ensure that we have provided sufficient information and signposts to get estranged students what they need to progress and thrive. We are also in the process of setting up peer support groups and sessions

to raise awareness in the staff community about the needs of estranged students and our commitment to the Stand Alone Pledge.

The University of Plymouth wholeheartedly supports the Stand Alone Pledge and commits to provide the necessary tools and support for estranged students at every stage of their student journey.

Yours sincerely



Professor Judith Petts, CBE  
**Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive**