



February 2017

To Whom It May Concern

We at St Mary's University, Twickenham are committed to supporting estranged students throughout their years of study, and sign up to the Stand Alone Pledge.

We recognise the struggle facing many estranged students in Higher Education, and so will commit to ensuring that St Mary's University, Twickenham supports them as best we can.

At the moment we support estranged students in the following ways:

- Having a designated member of staff act as point of contact for all estranged students, who will be able to advise on funding, accommodation and wellbeing matters, as well as liaising with academic staff if needed.
- Working towards creating the right environment and conditions for estranged students to stay resilient and thrive during their studies.
- Prioritising estranged students for bursaries and discretionary hardship funding.
- Offering advice on Student Finance matters to estranged students, including applying for Independence.
- Promoting societies to help those in similar situations to estranged students to socialise with each other.

By committing to this pledge, we also aim to develop the following as part of our support:

- Assisting estranged students in finding accommodation if not in university halls.
- Offering Money Management sessions for all estranged students.
- Offering specialist internships and job opportunities through our careers department, as well as prioritising estranged students for mentoring programs.

Our commitment is to include as many examples of good practice as possible when supporting our estranged students, and so will enhance this with support from Stand Alone.


Professor John Charmley
Pro Vice-Chancellor, Academic Strategy