



Leeds Beckett University's core purpose is to enable people to raise their aspirations and develop their abilities so they can realise their full potential and contribute fully to our society. We commit to *The Stand Alone Pledge* in order to help those students estranged from their families overcome the terrible difficulties they face in realising their true potential.

Outreach: Where pupils are estranged from their families, we help them make informed choices about their future, their choice of course, and their university application. We provide a mentor from our current student community to help them prepare for successful transition to university. We pledge to raise greater awareness among college tutors and advisers of the support we provide.

Finance: From September 2017 we pledge to offer estranged students dedicated bursaries and priority access to hardship funds for every year of their course. We will raise awareness among estranged students of opportunities for part time work and placements and continue our dedicated support for graduate employment planning which begins at level 5 and is available for up to 5 years after graduation.

Accommodation: We will ensure estranged students have guaranteed access to university accommodation for 365 days a year.

Mental Health: We will continue to signpost estranged students to the support available through our Wellbeing Service, our Disability Advice Service and to the range of social and cultural events which take place outside regular term time.

Within our *Services for Students*, a named member of staff will continue to be the single proactive point of contact for estranged students.

Our pledge and its future impact will be overseen by our Deputy Vice Chancellor (Corporate Communications).

We are proud to sign this Pledge and look forward to developing our relationship with *Stand Alone* to support estranged students throughout their higher education journey.

Professor Peter Slee

Vice Chancellor