

To whom it may concern

I am writing this letter to indicate the commitment of the University of Aberdeen to the Stand Alone Pledge.

The University has a commitment that reaches back to our foundation in 1495 to ensure we are open to all. We have always been keen to encourage students from the widest possible range of backgrounds to participate in University studies, and we appreciate that not all students have the same educational opportunities.

The University has a history of successfully supporting under represented and vulnerable groups, specifically students who have experience of care, student carers and estranged students.

The University recognises the additional barriers and pressures which are faced by applicants and students who are estranged from their families. As such the University offers a range of support mechanism for this group. We are determined to help break down the barriers that often prevent this group from gaining a place at the University and then successfully completing their studies.

Please find enclosed a brief outline of the support that is currently on offer to care experienced students and our aims for the next two years.

Our dedicated member of staff, who is taking a lead in developing support for estranged applicants and students at the University, is Mr Chris Sojka, Widening Participation Officer. (Please see below for contact details)

I am pleased to support the Stand Alone Pledge and look forward to working with your organisation in order to improve the experiences and outcomes of our students.



Professor George Boyne
Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Aberdeen