

## ROBERT GORDON UNIVERSITY'S COMMITMENT TO THE STAND ALONE PLEDGE

Robert Gordon University (RGU) is proud to sign up to the Stand Alone Pledge to demonstrate our support to estranged students as part of our continuous commitment to create a working, learning and social atmosphere which is inclusive, harmonious and respectful of diversity.

RGU is committed to supporting estranged students throughout the student journey by providing tailored access and outreach opportunities and delivering personalised support to enhance retention and outcomes of estranged students.

RGU is committed to enabling individuals to achieve their ambitions throughout life whatever their circumstances. All estranged students at RGU are able to benefit from the support provided by ACCESS RGU, which provides tailored outreach and support for estranged students to inspire, support and enable them to be confident about entering and engaging successfully in higher education.



We recognise that these students may have needs specific to their circumstances and enhanced support mechanisms have been established for estranged students, including:

- One to one pre-entry support throughout the application and admissions process;
- Inclusion in the university's contextualised admissions process and eligibility to apply to the Access RGU programme.
- A named contact to provide support and advice and to act as an advocate throughout the student journey.
- Financial support to attend the university's programme of open days, applicants' days and selection visits as well as financial support pre- and post- entry including eligibility to apply for scholarships.
- Entitlement to an enrolment support pack, including financial support for travel and study materials;
- Access to a discretionary fund for one-off and unforeseen issues.
- Guaranteed 365-day accommodation in university managed halls of residence with no requirement for a guarantor;
- A discount on university halls of residence in the first year;
- A range of support offered through the university's counselling service including appointments offered as long as is beneficial, drop in sessions and access to an online self-help resource offering cognitive behavioural therapy programmes.
- Student-led peer support groups, to encourage discussion around wellbeing and mental health.
- Provision of information on external low cost or free counselling support where additional support would be beneficial.

The university is proud to commit to the Stand Alone Pledge and to fully support our estranged applicants and students through this important initiative. We look forward to working with estranged applicants and students and with Stand Alone to further understand their needs and to improve our provision across outreach, finance, accommodation and mental health to support our students to reach their full potential.

Yours sincerely



Principal and Vice-Chancellor

