

**Office of the President &
Principal**

Royal Veterinary College
Hawkshead Lane
North Mymms
Hatfield
Hertfordshire
AL9 7TA

T +44 (0) 1707 666960
F +44 (0) 1707 666830
M +44 (0) 7739 319428
E principal@rvc.ac.uk
W www.rvc.ac.uk

9 March 2023

Dear Stand Alone,

Re: Royal Veterinary College Commitment to the Stand Alone Pledge for Estranged Students

On behalf of the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), I am delighted to confirm our commitment to supporting estranged students by signing up to the Stand Alone Pledge.

The RVC is committed to supporting underrepresented groups to apply, enter and succeed with us.

We recognise that students who are estranged from their families can face particular difficulties in navigating their way through their educational journey. We have developed tailored support for them, which are summarised under the four main Stand Alone categories of Finance, Accommodation, Mental Health and Outreach. Some of this work to date has included:

- Specific bursaries for estranged and care experienced students. These students are also priority groups for our general hardship funds.
- Accommodation being available 365 days of the year.
- Single named point of contact within our Advice Centre team, to ensure estranged students can easily access advice and support, including referrals to specialist mental health support if needed.
- A range of successful Widening Participation Programmes led by our Access and Widening Participation Team, detailed on our [‘RVC for all’](#) pages on our website.

We have established a working group to develop and oversee effective support for estranged students. There is more to be done but we are committed to this work and welcome the opportunity to work with Stand Alone, and our students, to improve the experience and outcomes for estranged students at the RVC.

Yours sincerely,



Stuart W.J. Reid
President & Principal