

Dear Susan Mueller,

We are committed to ensuring the success of our students who are estranged from their families and pledge our commitment to Stand Alone. The University has a strong history of Widening Participation & promoting fair access and student success.

The University of Leicester recognises that students who are estranged from their families can face complex, multiple barriers to reaching their full potential in Higher Education and that students studying without the support or approval of a family network are often resilient and determined to succeed, but that the lack of material, practical and emotional support can have a significant impact on their studies. We already have in place a range of support measures for estranged students, including Designated Contacts in both the Student Welfare Service and the Widening Participation team. We provide year-round access to university accommodation and include estranged students as one of the priority groups for discretionary funding from the Hardship fund and Vacation Award fund. We also pro-actively target and engage estranged students as part of our On Track career development scheme for students from the widening participation cohort.

We are keen to learn more from best practice within the sector and welcome any advice or guidance you can offer.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Julie Coleman
Head of the College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities

