



2 August 2022

Dear Stand Alone,

The University of Nottingham is dedicated to continually improving the provision of support for all of our students and ensuring that they are able to succeed in their ambitions, regardless of their individual circumstances. Our support of estranged students forms part of our larger commitment to widening participation and access to higher education.

We recognize the particular challenges faced by students who are estranged from their families, and the impact that these challenges have on these students' lives. We are very proud to make the Stand Alone Pledge and aim to raise awareness of the support available and improve the experience of estranged students studying at the University of Nottingham.

Through conversations and a focus group with estranged students, we identified the following priority areas and pledge to:

**Finance**

Introduce an additional £1,000 per year bursary payment per year to students assessed as estranged via Student Finance England.

**Accommodation**

Fund an external guarantor scheme (Your Guarantor) for estranged students.

**Welfare and wellbeing**

Increase resource in the wellbeing team to provide enhanced support to estranged students.

**Outreach and transition**

Identify estranged applicants via content of UCAS personal statement and references.  
Provide a dedicated pre-entry contact providing pastoral support to estranged students.  
Invite estranged students to attend our 'Kick Start' induction programme prior to starting university.

We understand that there may be further work required to support our estranged students and we will commit to reviewing our support, alongside Stand Alone.

Yours Faithfully,

Professor Sarah Speight  
Pro-Vice Chancellor for Education and Student Experience