

Supporting our Care Experienced Students

Al Blackshaw, Widening Access Manager

Debbie Duncan, Senior Widening Access Support Officer

The University of Strathclyde



WHERE WE ARE

In the heart of the city, our campus is a short walk from two mainline railway stations, bus station and the subway to help you get around the city and to visit the rest of the UK.





Strathclyde Basic Info

- 3rd largest university in Scotland
- Heart of Glasgow city centre
- Most deprivation concentrated within west of Scotland
- Socially progressive institution
- 4 faculties

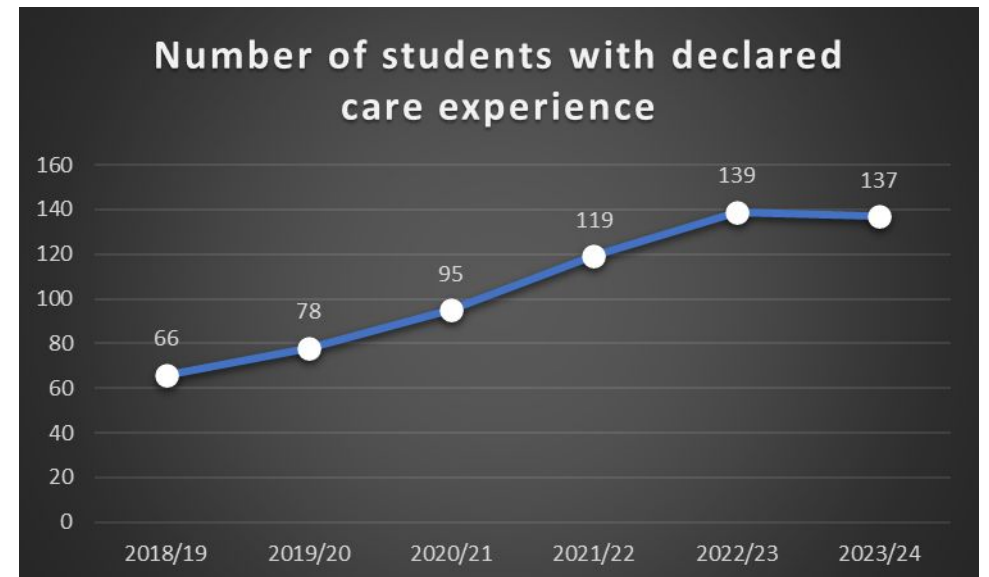


Local Authority	SIMD Quintile				
	1	2	3	4	5
Aberdeen City	2.08%	4.66%	3.15%	2.94%	7.45%
Aberdeenshire	0.65%	2.15%	5.59%	8.89%	7.09%
Angus	0.86%	2.15%	3.44%	3.23%	1.43%
Argyll and Bute	0.93%	1.51%	3.51%	2.22%	0.79%
City of Edinburgh	5.09%	5.88%	6.09%	6.88%	18.84%
Clackmannanshire	1.29%	1.36%	0.86%	0.72%	0.93%
Dumfries and Galloway	1.36%	3.51%	5.45%	2.87%	1.22%
Dundee City	5.02%	2.72%	1.43%	2.22%	2.08%
East Ayrshire	3.66%	2.94%	1.94%	1.94%	1.22%
East Dunbartonshire	0.36%	1.65%	0.57%	2.01%	4.73%
East Lothian	0.57%	2.87%	2.08%	2.08%	1.86%
East Renfrewshire	0.50%	0.93%	0.79%	1.51%	5.01%
Falkirk	2.51%	3.58%	3.87%	2.51%	2.87%
Fife	6.95%	7.17%	6.95%	7.38%	6.95%
Glasgow City	24.30%	9.53%	7.03%	6.52%	6.09%
Highland	2.15%	3.87%	7.96%	6.74%	1.65%
Inverclyde	3.66%	1.15%	1.00%	1.15%	1.22%
Midlothian	0.72%	3.01%	1.94%	1.36%	1.22%
Moray	0.29%	1.51%	2.87%	3.30%	1.07%
Na h-Eileanan Siar	0.00%	0.43%	2.15%	0.00%	0.00%
North Ayrshire	5.30%	2.58%	2.01%	2.08%	1.36%
North Lanarkshire	10.97%	8.67%	4.23%	4.66%	3.51%
Orkney Islands	0.00%	0.43%	0.36%	1.22%	0.07%
Perth and Kinross	0.79%	2.01%	2.72%	4.66%	3.15%
Renfrewshire	4.01%	3.37%	2.80%	2.58%	3.37%
Scottish Borders	0.65%	1.65%	3.80%	3.30%	0.86%
Shetland Islands	0.00%	0.14%	0.79%	1.22%	0.00%
South Ayrshire	2.01%	2.51%	2.37%	1.65%	2.44%
South Lanarkshire	6.31%	7.67%	6.16%	5.52%	5.23%
Stirling	1.08%	1.22%	1.29%	2.72%	2.36%
West Dunbartonshire	3.44%	2.22%	1.43%	1.08%	0.50%
West Lothian	2.51%	4.95%	3.37%	2.87%	3.44%
Grand Total	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%



Strathclyde Student Population

- c. 23'000 students (2023/24)
- c. 14'500 UG; c. 7000 PGT; c. 1500 PGR



Care Experience Definition

“We use the term Care Experienced to include anyone who has been or is currently in care or from a looked-after background at any stage of their life, no matter how short. This care may have been provided in one of many different settings such as in residential care, foster care, kinship care or looked after at home with a supervision requirement.”

The Scottish Funding Council, 2019

Widening Access at Strathclyde: Learner Journey Approach

Getting Ready

Anything which happens prior to making an application to the University.

Getting In

The application and admissions cycle.

Staying In

Support geared towards retention.

Getting On

'Value-added' elements of HE.

In groups, take 5 minutes to discuss what support you think is relevant at each of these stages

Getting Ready

- Recruitment Events
 - Information available for Care Experience applicants interested in applying
 - Open Days, school visits
- Named Contact details for your institution available online
 - eg Propel Website
- Opportunity to declare Care Experience on all entry routes
 - Formal Articulation direct applications
 - University Access Course





Getting In

- March 2016: Publication of Blueprint for Fairness
- MERs became a requirement
- Had been using contextual admissions before
- ‘Guaranteed Offer’
- Opportunity to meet with Named Officer (pre-offer and offer stage)

[Home](#) > [Courses](#) > [Undergraduate](#) > [Physics](#)

BSc Hons Physics

[Why this course?](#)
[Course content](#)
[Entry requirements](#)
[Fees & funding](#)
[Careers](#)

Entry requirements

Required subjects are shown in brackets.

Highers

Standard entry requirements*:

AABB/ ABBBB

(Physics B, Mathematics B)

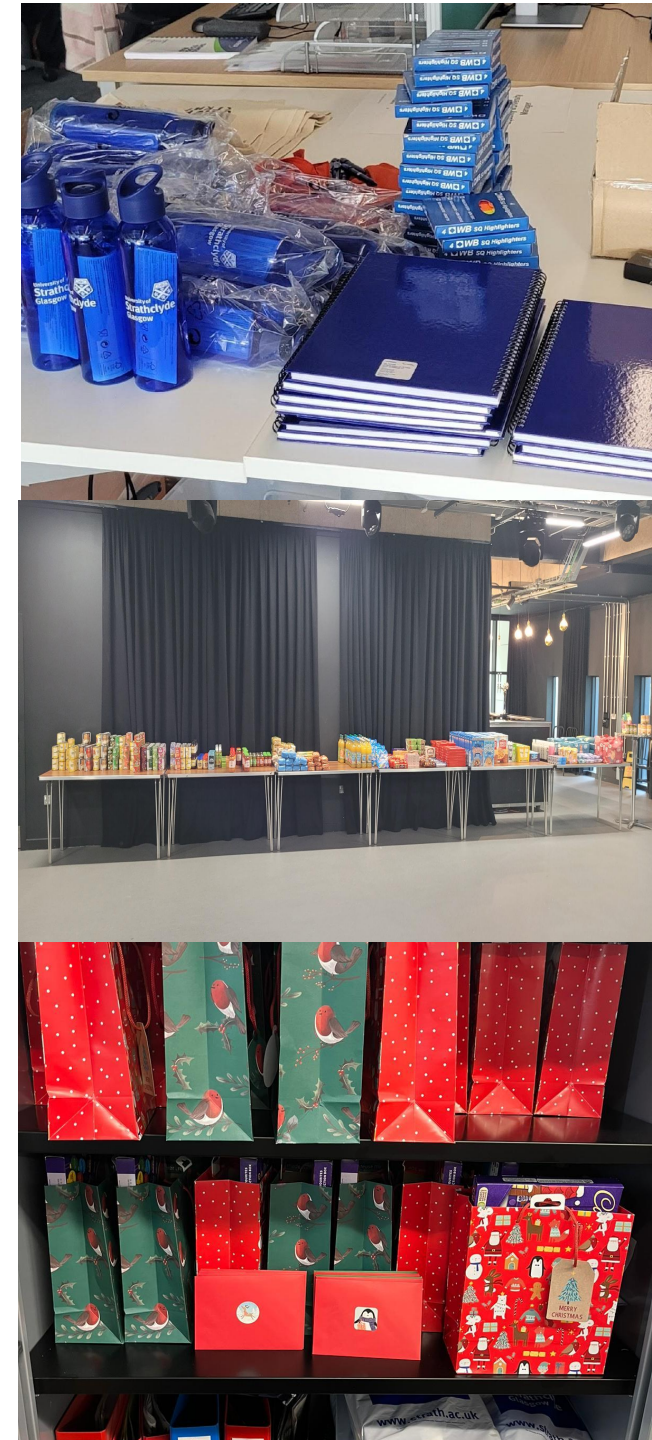
Minimum entry requirements**:

BBBB

(Physics B, Mathematics B)

Staying In

- Partnerships with Unite Foundation – 3 Years accommodation scholarships
- 365 days accommodation in Halls – deposit waiver/starter pack
- Partnership with the Robertson Trust – Scholarships £3,400 living at home/£4,000 living away
- The McGlashan Trust PG Scholarships
- Priority for Discretionary Funding
- Transition Event for new Care Experienced applicants
- Digital Inclusion – Laptop/Wi-Fi Grant
- Starter pack for new students



Getting On

Mentoring Programme

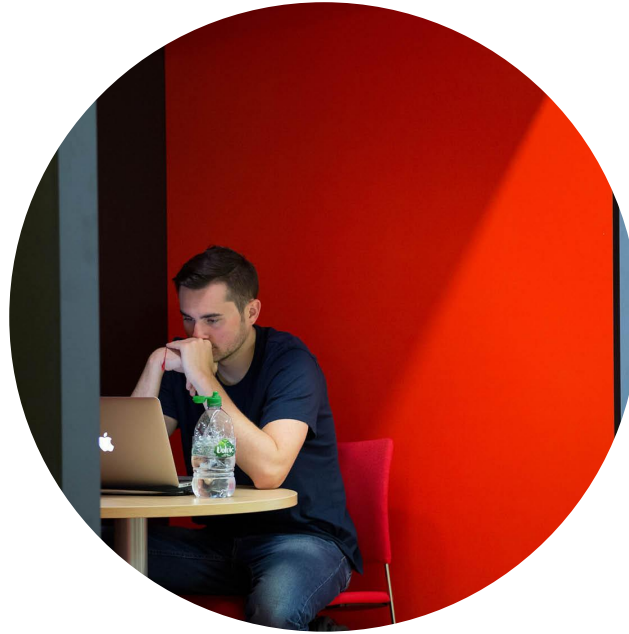
- Running since 2015
- One-to-one mentoring
- Originally supporting care experienced students
- Student asylum seekers included since 2016
- Instrumental to many students' progression and retention
 - A knowledgeable and friendly staff member as your 'go-to' person
 - Informal and friendly
 - Fortnightly meetings or as agreed between mentor and mentee (in-person and Zoom).
 - Meetings around University campus (cafés/office/library)
- Currently 130 Care Experienced/Asylum Seekers Mentoring Programme

Getting On

- Priority for residential and educational trips
- Guaranteed interview for paid student ambassador role
- Strathclyde Care Experience Society
- Strathclyde Cares Meetings
- Christmas Gifts/Christmas Dinner/Pantry
- Help with graduation costs
- Working with external organisations
e.g. Articulate, Who Cares? Scotland



Questions?



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