



University of
BRISTOL

International Pathways Guide

2020–22

Welcome

Study at the University of Bristol, one of the UK's leading Russell Group universities, and follow your path to success. You'll enjoy first-class facilities, outstanding teaching and an exciting location. With Kaplan Pathways, you can apply to the University-delivered International Foundation Programme, and progress to a Bristol degree.



04 – 09 The University

← Explore your opportunities at the University of Bristol, what makes it such a great institution, and the excellent facilities you'll find on campus.
kaplanpathways.com/university-of-bristol

10 – 15 The destination

→ Find out what it's like to be an international student living in Bristol, and what kind of accommodation will be available to you.

kaplanpathways.com/bristol-life



16 – 23 International Foundation Programme

↓ Learn about how you can gain access to a University of Bristol degree, and how you'll receive full preparation for university.

kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways



22 – 32 Next steps

→ Find information on how to apply and explore the digital course information booklet.
kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways-apply



Bristol:

where you belong

The University of Bristol is a prestigious Russell Group institution where research breaks new ground and students like you can thrive. It's a truly special place that can open the door to your future.

Learn to think differently

At the University of Bristol, you'll be encouraged to become an independent thinker. Innovative curricula and research-led teaching will help you develop the skills you need to thrive after you graduate, in work and in life. As a Russell Group university, Bristol degrees are directly influenced by the research taking place on campus, so you'll benefit from frontline knowledge. In addition, the University has many international research collaborations, and practical experience is integrated into the curricula, so you'll have lots of exciting opportunities available to you. You may even have the chance to work on real-world projects within the business, government and community sectors.

As a Bristol student, you'll be part of a supportive academic community, with advisers that are based in Schools and your programme-allocated residence to support you. You'll have the chance to join a wide range of clubs and societies, and meet other students from around the world. The city of Bristol itself is also a very friendly and welcoming place to be a student, so you'll feel at home right away!

Bristol Futures

Bristol Futures is an initiative designed to enhance your studies at the University. It gives you opportunities to use your subject learning in different situations outside the classroom. For example, you could get involved in professional or community engagement, volunteering and student mentoring, or do a work placement. You could also take an interdisciplinary online course in Innovation and Enterprise, Global Citizenship or Sustainable Futures and learn more about the University's values. All of these experiences can help you grow as a person and become a well-rounded graduate.

Crystal 21
from Costa Rica

Ian
from Kenya



5 reasons to choose the University of Bristol



Ranked 9th
in the UK
QS World University
Rankings 2020



World top 50
university
QS World University
Rankings 2020



Based in Bristol
the #1 place to
live in the UK
Sunday Times 2017



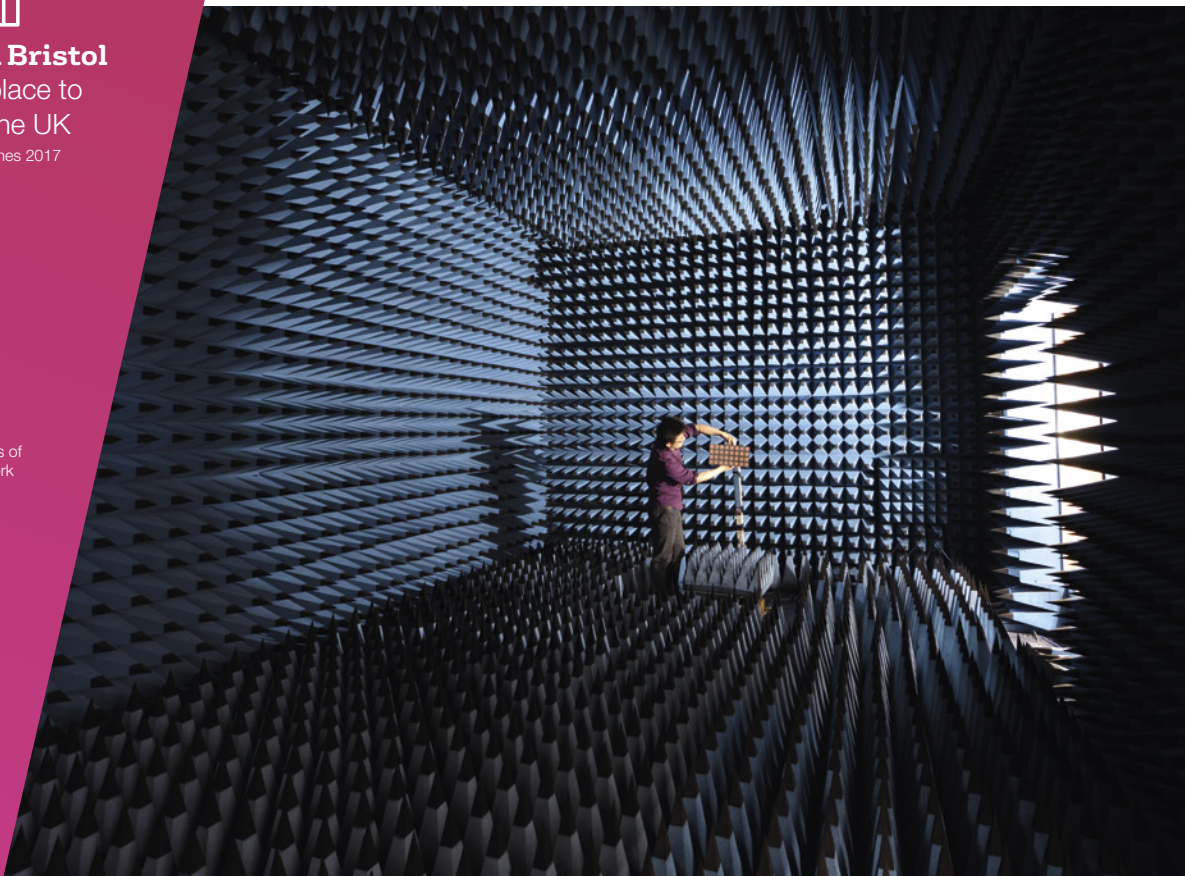
Top 5
in the UK
for research
Times Higher Education analysis of
Research Excellence Framework



2nd
most-targeted
UK university
by leading employers
High Fliers Research 2019



↖ Relax in Bristol's green spaces
↗ Benefit from fantastic facilities
← Wills Memorial Building
↓ Enjoy a diverse campus



Your life on campus

With world-class facilities, a campus redevelopment project informed by students, and an upcoming new enterprise centre, there has never been a better time to join the University of Bristol. Here, you can learn about the University's innovative campus and what it can offer you.

Investing in your future

The majority of teaching takes place on the University's main campus in Clifton, around Tyndall Avenue. With nine libraries offering study spaces, specialist subject librarians, and a multitude of research and learning resources, you'll have everything you need to support your studies. The University has been undergoing major redevelopment, with input from Bristol students, to transform the centre of the campus into a dynamic hub. The development includes a refurbished sports centre with the latest equipment, more gym space, and an additional studio, as well as a new Arts and Social Sciences Library and a Student Information Service.

The Faculty of Engineering has invested more than £19 million in facilities to support practical learning, including a 500m² teaching lab, a propulsion lab, a satellite lab and ground station, and a creative workshop, Hackspace. The Life Sciences building features a five-storey laboratory wing, a state-of-the-art greenhouse, and one of the largest teaching labs in the UK.

In 2019, work began on the new Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus. It's part of an urban regeneration project, and it will be a £300 million campus with a focus on teaching and research in digital technologies. It's located right next to the train station and will transform the area into an inclusive, innovative space where local residents and students can come together and learn from each other.

Life outside your studies

You can get involved with as many clubs and societies as you like at the University of Bristol. There are around 400 societies and sports clubs to choose from, with everything from football and running, to board games and cheese-tasting.



← Students' Union

Located in the Richmond Building, the Students' Union offers you over 200 study spaces, lots of activity rooms, and The Balloon Café and Bar (pictured).



← Fantastic libraries

With nine specialist libraries, you'll have all the resources you need to support your studies.

Discover Bristol

a dynamic and welcoming city

The University of Bristol is located in the heart of the city, where creative energy and diverse outlooks combine to form a lively community that is proud to be different.

Always moving forward

What drives Bristol is its determination to be better tomorrow than it is today. The city has a long tradition of innovation, from engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel to the suffragettes, and it continues to push boundaries to this day. With many pioneering technology and research companies based around the city, Bristol is home to lots of creative individuals who think outside the box. This dynamic spirit and buzzing energy is what keeps the city moving forward.

Bristol's forward-looking culture means that it embraces diversity. People from all over the world have made Bristol their home, and you can hear nearly 100 different languages drifting through the city. With temples, mosques, synagogues, churches, and meditation centres, as well as specialist grocery stores and restaurants for almost every cuisine, you'll feel part of a multicultural society. You'll feel welcome and you'll feel at home in Bristol.



Celebrating the unconventional

Bristol is a welcoming city that dares to be different. It's a capital of urban art, and even hosts Europe's largest street art festival, Upfest, every summer. A street you walk down every day could turn into an open-air gallery overnight with the addition of an inspirational new piece of art. It's this kind of vibrant, artistic environment that inspired one of the city's most famous artists: Banksy.

You'll discover many independent retailers across Bristol. The city is proud to support its small businesses, and you can find everything from specialist bakers and boutiques to unique bars and cafés. Stroll along Gloucester Road, one of the longest stretches of independent shops in the UK, and find your favourites! Come to Bristol and be part of this dynamic and welcoming city.

← Discover world-class collections at Bristol Museum and Art Gallery
→ Admire the city's vibrant street art
→ Relax near Cabot Tower on Brandon Hill

Bristol is home to over 450 parks and green spaces, proportionally more than any other UK city.



Things to do in Bristol

With so much to do in Bristol, it's almost impossible to be bored. It's an exciting city to live in, and its vibrant atmosphere will inspire you to get out there and experience it all!

Walk along the suspension bridge

↗ The Clifton Suspension Bridge is one of Bristol's most famous landmarks. There are great views across the beautiful Avon Gorge, so it's well worth taking a walk along this impressive feat of engineering.

Visit museums and galleries

↗ As a cultural hotspot, it's no surprise that there are lots of museums and art galleries to enjoy. From the city's social history at M Shed to contemporary art at the Arnolfini Gallery, there is so much to discover.

Experience a festival

↗ Bristol is well known for its festivals, and there are so many throughout the year — enjoy everything from music and film festivals to the world-famous International Balloon Fiesta, which hosts over 130 hot air balloons from around the world.

Relax by the harbour

↗ The harbourside in Bristol is a beautiful place to spend time. You can go to the Sunday markets, relax at the waterside restaurants and bars, or even try out some watersports like paddleboarding and canoeing.

Go on a walking tour

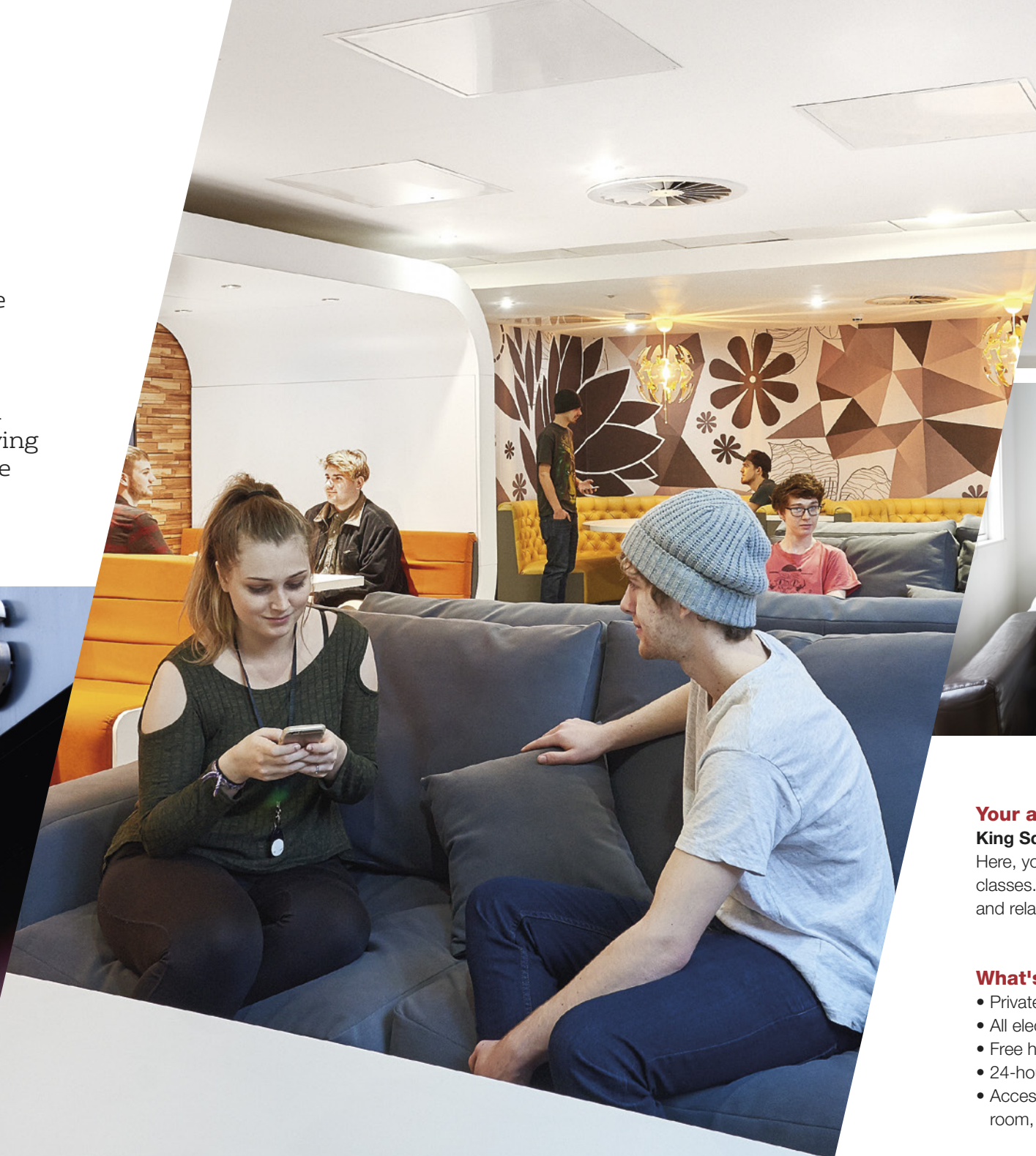
↗ There are lots of walking tours on offer in Bristol. You can go on a guided street art, history, culture, or food walking tour, so there's something for everyone. You'll get to see some of the city's best sights at the same time!

Living in Bristol

During your time in Bristol, you'll want to live somewhere that's comfortable, secure and convenient. We offer modern, city centre accommodation with everything you need to feel at home. It's easy to book too! You can reserve your room at the same time as applying for the International Foundation Programme through Kaplan.



- ↑ Benefit from a city centre location
- Meet up with friends in the common areas
- ↗ Enjoy your own space with a private kitchen and study area
- Relax in your private studio



Your accommodation

King Square Studios

Here, you'll be based in the heart of the city centre, within easy reach of your classes. Staying in a studio means that you'll have your own space to study and relax in, while also having access to fantastic shared social spaces.

What's included?

- Private bedroom, bathroom and kitchen
- All electricity, gas and water bills
- Free high-speed WiFi and wired internet
- 24-hour on-site security
- Access to a gym, in-house laundry facilities (usage charges apply), cinema room, and common rooms with games and satellite TV

Accommodation during your degree

As an undergraduate student, you can stay in one of the University's many halls of residence, or in private accommodation.

International Foundation Programme

Take a pathway course

As an international student, you might need, or benefit from, a pathway course that prepares you for degree study. Sometimes a pathway course is necessary due to differences in national education systems, or to help you improve your academic or language qualifications to the level needed.

You can take the International Foundation Programme, which is a type of pathway course, at the University of Bristol. Expert University staff will guide you in improving your English, academic skills and subject knowledge. When you pass your course at the required level, and with good attendance, you'll be guaranteed entry to your degree! During your pathway course, you'll have access to the University's excellent facilities and resources, effectively making you a full University of Bristol student before you even start your degree.

To date, students from over 50 countries around the world have studied the International Foundation Programme.



Richmond Building, the home of the International Foundation Programme



Sophie ↗
from USA

↖ Kareem
from Saudi Arabia



↖ Karam
from Egypt

What can I study?

You can study the International Foundation Programme at the University of Bristol, which will enable you to enrol on an undergraduate degree. You can choose from several different routes, including Arts and Humanities; Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; and Social Sciences and Law.

International Foundation Programme

For entry to the 1st year of a bachelor's degree

For students who have finished high school and meet both the academic and IELTS requirements.

Minimum English language entry requirements: UKVI IELTS 5.5 (at least 5.0 in writing and 4.5 in all other skills)

International Foundation Programme Plus

If you have a higher level of English (minimum UKVI IELTS 7.0 overall), this programme will give you the opportunity to focus on further developing your academic language and literacy. When you speak to an adviser, they can discuss with you whether you're eligible for this course.



Undergraduate
degree
Year 1

Undergraduate
degree
Year 2

Undergraduate
degree
Year 3



Graduate

with a University of Bristol degree

Course details

Use the course [information booklet](#) online to explore the full range of courses and degrees available.

You can also gain entry to the University via Kaplan International College London. Find out more: [kaplanpathways.com/london](https://www.kaplanpathways.com/london)

Learn your way

Experienced University of Bristol staff will empower you to make the most of your time on the International Foundation Programme. You can gain the skills you need to progress to your degree feeling confident and excited.

University-developed curriculum

When you study on the International Foundation Programme, you'll be a full University of Bristol student, so you'll feel like part of the University before you even start your degree. Your course has been designed to prepare you for your Bristol undergraduate degree, and it will help you gain the skills and understanding that you'll need for further study, and for your future career. Through subject-based activities, you'll develop your critical thinking, problem-solving, and teamwork skills, while improving your academic English.

With your success in mind

As well as learning from experienced teachers, you'll receive regular one-to-one guidance from your academic tutor. This high ratio of staff to students will give you the right support to further develop your academic English and subject knowledge. You'll experience a mix of tutorials, lectures and guided peer-assisted study sessions, preparing you for university. You'll also have the opportunity to attend guest lectures from leading UK academics.

'My main goal is to ensure that students leave us feeling ready for their university degree. I teach them the skills they need to become independent learners who can think critically.'

Nathalie, International Foundation Programme Tutor (pictured)



↳ Nathalie
International Foundation
Programme Tutor



Katherine ↗
International Foundation
Programme English for
Academic Purposes Coordinator

Student support

Studying abroad is a big step and it might take you out of your comfort zone. But don't worry — you'll receive all the support you need to help you make the most of your time in the UK, and have a fulfilling study abroad experience.

Academic support

Academic support will always be available to you during the International Foundation Programme, helping you to stay on track. You will have a personal academic tutor, and will attend frequent academic tutorials to support your professional development. You can also access independent academic support through the Students' Union's Just Ask Advice Service, where you can speak to advisers who will be there to help you with any concerns you have related to your studies or your time at university.

Talk to someone

Positive wellbeing and success is an integral part of the International Foundation Programme. Advisers are based in the University's academic Schools and in your programme-allocated residence, so if you ever need help with anything, you'll have someone to talk to. Wellbeing Access is your route to accessing a range of support to suit your needs. These include the Student Wellbeing Service, Student Health Service and Student Counselling Service.

Welcome events

If you've booked your accommodation through Kaplan, we can meet you at the airport when you arrive in the UK and take you to your new home, so that you don't need to worry about finding your own way there. Before you start your classes, you can take part in the University of Bristol's Welcome Week. It's a chance for you to get involved in lots of fun and exciting events, meet new people, make friends and be introduced to student life in Bristol. Many of these events are free, and other events will continue to be organised after Welcome Week has finished. We strongly recommend that you take part in the fun — it will help you have the best possible start to your International Foundation Programme.

Go online

If you want to read more about the University of Bristol, there's lots to discover online. Below you can find a brief guide to where to go for more useful information.

The University of Bristol

About the University:
kaplanpathways.com/university-of-bristol

Degree options at the University of Bristol:
kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways/degrees

University of Bristol's website:
bristol.ac.uk

International Foundation Programme

About the International Foundation Programme:
kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways

Student accommodation:
kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways-accommodation

Student services:
kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways/support

Costs of studying abroad:
kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways/fees

Information for studying abroad

Student visa:
www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa

Student insurance:
kaplanpathways.com/insurance

College guardians for under-18s:
www.collegeguardians.co.uk

Information for parents:
kaplanpathways.com/parents

Further questions?

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):
kpln.org/student-faq

Get in touch:
kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways-contact

Meet us in your country or region:
kaplanpathways.com/kaplan-in-my-country

Join in online

@KaplanPathways



Meet Ian

Ian from Kenya is on his path to a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering.

'Before coming to study here, I had never been to the UK. I wanted to find a study destination that was similar to my home city of Kisumu, Kenya, and Bristol seemed perfect. It's not big like a capital city, so you're never too far from the city centre and it's easy to walk everywhere. I love to wander around Bristol and admire the old architecture — every building has a story to tell, and exploring the city gives me a sense of comfort and peace.

I chose the University of Bristol because I believe that you need to study somewhere that not only builds you academically, but also challenges you to be a better person. What good is education if you can't be someone who is compassionate and practises empathy towards their fellow human beings?

On the International Foundation Programme, I'm encouraged to be independent, to learn how to reason logically, and to reach conclusions on my own. It's this kind of critical thinking that prepares you for university, and for life.

After I graduate with my degree, I want to go back home and implement what I've learnt so that I can give back to the society that has given so much to me. I want to use my education in Engineering to tackle issues like flooding and drought that affect my country so deeply.

My personal mantra is a quote from Gandhi: "In a gentle way, you can shake the world". I believe that everyone should stand up and be counted — if you have the chance to study abroad, then you should always remember that you are living someone's dream. It's important to make the most of what you have, and to never be too hard on yourself.

This is my path so far.'

✦ Ian
from Kenya

My personal mantra is a quote from Gandhi: "In a gentle way, you can shake the world". I believe that everyone should stand up and be counted.

Application process

Applying to the University of Bristol with Kaplan is quick and easy. Just choose your course using the digital course [information booklet](#), follow the steps below, and we'll help you with the rest.

1

Submit your application

We'll guide you through the entire application process, including what documents you'll need to send with or after your application. Just get in touch, or find out more via this link: kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways-apply

2

Receive an offer letter

Once your complete application has been reviewed, you'll receive either an unconditional or conditional offer, or we can explore other options with you. We'll send you a decision within one working day.

3

Accept your offer

You'll do this by paying your deposit to study, or sending us your financial guarantee if you're a sponsored student. We can also confirm your accommodation at this point, so you'll have a safe place to live during your studies.

4

Obtain your student visa

To study a pathway course in the UK, you'll typically need to obtain a student visa. We'll advise you on this important step, and you'll receive the supporting documents you'll need for your visa application.

5

Book your flight and begin your studies

The most important step: arrive in the UK and begin your life-changing adventure as an international student at Bristol!

Choose your path

If you are interested in studying at the University of Bristol and would like to know more, then you can either get in touch, or use the [course information booklet](#) to find the right path for you.

Course information

You can use the [course information booklet](#) online to find out more about the courses that lead to the University of Bristol, as well as the University of Bristol degrees available to you. In the booklet, you'll find tuition fees, entry requirements, module summaries and more, to help you start your path with Kaplan.

Contact us

kaplanpathways.com/bristol-pathways-contact



Where is Bristol?



Who's on the cover?

Raneem is on her path
to the University of Bristol.

Find out more

kaplanpathways.com/university-of-bristol

Join in online

@KaplanPathways     

Photography: Mark Webster, Dan Rowley and Bhagesh Sachania

Kaplan International Pathways works in partnership with the University of Bristol to provide application counselling and admissions support to international students. Kaplan International Pathways is a trading name of Kaplan International Colleges UK Limited, company no. 05268303. Registered in England. Registered address: 2nd Floor, Warwick Building, Kensington Village, Avonmore Road, London, W14 8HQ.

This prospectus has been drafted in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publishing, but some changes (for example to university rankings, accommodation and course options, course delivery, etc.) are likely to occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of the course. It is therefore very important to check the website or contact us for any updates before you apply. Once you have applied, any change which has an impact on the terms and conditions of your offer or a significant part of your programme will be communicated to you.

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