



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**



**WELCOME
TO QUEEN'S**

Start your journey as a Queen's student

WELCOME

On behalf of the university, and as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement), it is my pleasure to welcome you to Queen's University. We are delighted that you have chosen to pursue your academic and personal goals with us, and we look forward to supporting you on your student journey.

We are committed to providing you with a world-class education that prepares you for success in your chosen field, and we are equally committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment for all our students. Our goal is to help you develop the skills and knowledge you need to become global citizens, able to navigate the complexities of our interconnected world with confidence and compassion.

We have created this Welcome Guide to support with everything you need to know before you leave your home country to settle into life at Queen's.

We offer a wide range of programmes and services to support your academic, personal and cultural growth. Our teams are here to assist you with everything from the immigration and visa process, to support in finding accommodation and getting involved in campus activities. We also offer in-session English-language support and a variety of events and activities throughout the year.

Once again, welcome to Queen's. We look forward to welcoming you to our campus.



Professor Margaret Topping
Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Global Engagement)



BEFORE
YOU ARRIVE



KEY CAMPUS INFORMATION

We ensure our students are internationally connected, benefitting from both a multicultural experience on campus and a range of global opportunities with our network of partners. The sports and library facilities we offer has been highly rated by students and our new central campus Student Centre, 'One Elmwood', including a new Students' Union, with over 200 clubs and societies.



IMMIGRATION SUPPORT SERVICE

Before you arrive and while you are studying with us, specialist immigration advice is available from Immigration Support Service team at qub.ac.uk/sites/iss/



ACCOMMODATION

Our international students are guaranteed a place in our accommodation for their first year (subject to deadline), which means you can be confident you'll be living somewhere safe, comfortable and affordable.

Studying at Queen's is a fantastic experience. We can offer you the all-important space to live and enjoy student life to the full.

AFFORDABLE ACCOMMODATION

Queen's currently has over 4,000 places in our student accommodation, which means you can take advantage of the most affordable, purpose-built student accommodation in the city while undertaking a world-class education and making friends for life.



YOUR OPTIONS, AT A GLANCE

- Single or mixed gender accommodation
- Limited accommodation for couples and families
- Ensuite or shared bathrooms
- Studio, one to six-bedroom apartments
- Standard and ensuite room options – with limited small standard rooms available.
- Lifestyle options of no alcohol, single gender, quiet living

ACCOMMODATION FEES

(based on 2023-24 prices)

Cost per week







Standard bedroom with shared facilities:
prices from £85

Ensuite single room:
prices from £140

Exclusive one-bedroom apartment:
prices from £205



ELMS BT1 AND BT2

-  City centre, close to city retail areas, cafes and restaurants.
-  Single ensuite bedrooms in three- to six-bed apartments and studios.
-  15 minutes walk to campus
-  Less than five minutes from city centre
-  From £150pw
-  Gym onsite at Elms BT1

QUEEN'S HOUSES


-  76 Malone Road, College Gardens, Mount Charles
-  In the heart of Belfast's most ethnically-diverse and culturally-rich areas.
-  Standard single, standard double and ensuite rooms.
-  5-10 minutes walk to campus
-  10-20 minutes walk to city centre
-  From £85pw
-  Best for independent living


WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- All-inclusive fees.
- Free off-peak Queen's Sport membership access for all Queen's Accommodation students.
- Student common lounge with games tables and a free tea and coffee lounge.
- Rooms available for private, group study or society meetings.
- Reception open seven days per week.
- 24/7 Safety Team.
- Residential Life team provide pastoral support, organise trips and social events.
- Contents insurance included free of charge.
- Full maintenance support seven days a week.
- Complimentary cleaning of communal areas.
- Parcel post system: you get an email notification when your parcel arrives.
- Letter post is sorted to your apartment post box
- Laundry (small charge) with useful app showing availability and time left in your wash/dry cycle.
- Super-fast wired internet and 250Mb Wi-Fi.


GRANT HOUSE

 Standard rooms


 10 minutes walk to campus


 30 minute walk to city centre


 From £110pw

 Ideal location for medical / dentistry students


GUTHRIE HOUSE

 Standard rooms

 10 minutes walk to campus

 30 minute walk to city centre


 From £110pw


 Ideal location for medical / dentistry students


NO HIDDEN CHARGES


Our all-inclusive residential fees include all utility bills (electricity, heating and hot water), contents insurance, maintenance repairs, TV licence for public areas, weekly clean of communal areas and high-speed broadband with high-speed Wi-Fi throughout all accommodation. For your convenience we also have a variety of payment plans to help you decide which best suits your situation.


ELMS BT9


 Standard and majority (70%) ensuite rooms


 Residential (modern, comfortable and secure)

 50 three-storeyed purpose-built blocks; 10-11 bedrooms per floor with shared common room and kitchen


 Lifestyle options of quiet living, no alcohol and single gender


 15 minutes walk to campus


 25 minutes walk to city centre


 From £110pw


WILLOW WALK


 Studios, one- to four-bed apartments and two-bed premium apartments (family apartments available)


 Enclosed development, on the perimeter of Elms BT9

 Purpose-built, ideal for international and postgraduate students

 15 minutes walk to campus

 25 minutes walk to city centre

 From £145pw

 Safe and welcoming





STUDENTS WITH FAMILIES

We strongly advise that you do not bring your family to Northern Ireland until you have found accommodation for them. There is currently a very high demand for suitable family accommodation in Northern Ireland and Belfast in particular.

This demand has caused significant delays in international students securing appropriate term-time housing for their families and an increase in monthly rental rates.

qub.ac.uk/accommodation/new-students/couples-families/

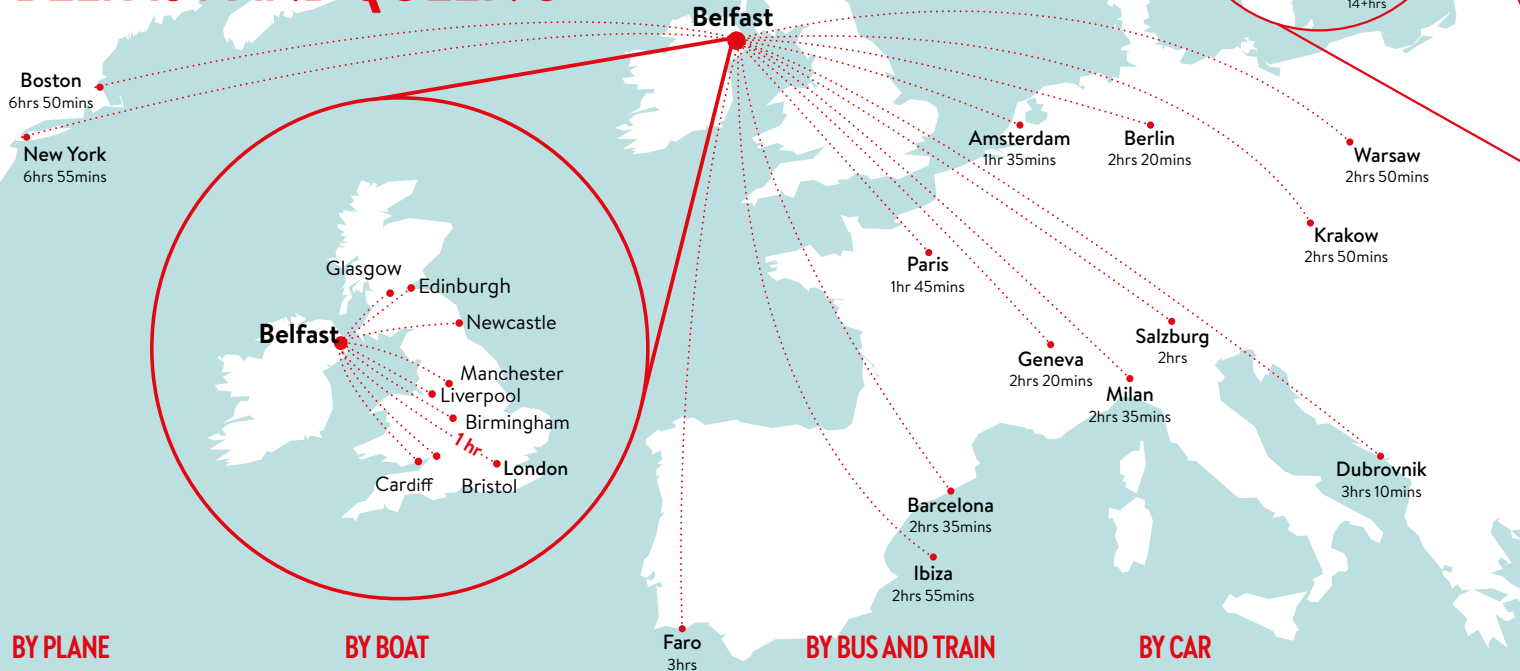


LIVING COSTS

When you study at Queen's, your money goes further. We have the lowest cost of living for students in the UK and affordable accommodation packages mean you can enjoy a better quality of life than in other cities. On a student budget there are lots of free activities, from events and festivals, to city tours, exhibitions and karaoke nights.



GETTING TO BELFAST AND QUEEN'S



BY PLANE

Belfast has two airports, George Best Belfast City Airport, and Belfast International. Flights from Belfast to the rest of the UK take less than an hour, and are reasonably priced*.

BY BOAT

The two main Belfast routes are from Liverpool and Cairnryan. An alternative route runs from Holyhead to Dublin, with excellent motorway connections between there and Belfast.

BY BUS AND TRAIN

Queen's is a five minute walk from Botanic Train Station. A connection to Dublin is just one stop away, via Belfast Central Station. Coach and bus services arrive at Great Victoria Street, which is also connected by rail.

BY CAR

Queen's is located in south central Belfast and as such is close to both Northern Ireland's main motorways, connecting it easily with the rest of Ireland.

*Based on average flight times from 6 major UK cities

PACKING CHECKLIST

DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

- Passport
- Driving License
- CAS statement
- Accommodation confirmation
- Passport-sized photos
(always good to have a few)
- Currency (safer to carry debit/credit cards than cash, but always good to have some cash on hand)
- Academic documents
(e.g. previous results, IELTS)
- Photocopies of documents
(to keep them as backup)

Now that you've got the important bits sorted, here's a packing checklist in case you are cramming everything in your luggage bags.

WHAT TO PACK

- Warm clothes (don't worry if you don't have winter clothes, you will find plenty of shops in Belfast)
- Gadgets (a portable charger is always helpful)
- Universal Adaptor
- Things that remind you of home
 - Family photos
 - Favourite books
- Any prescribed medication for a number of weeks until you have signed up with a GP

DON'T BOTHER WITH

- X Cutlery (it takes up too much space that you can use for something useful instead)
- X Restricted entry products based on UK government regulations
gov.uk/guidance/personal-food-plant-and-animal-product-imports
- X Blankets and Duvets
(student accommodations can provide these)
- X Notebooks and Stationery
- X Toiletries (they weigh a lot and you don't want to exceed the baggage weight limit. You can purchase all you need in Belfast.)

WEATHER ESSENTIALS

Northern Irish weather is more unpredictable than an exam question on exam day, so here are a few things you should plan on carrying with you:



Rain coat



Umbrella



Extra pair of socks



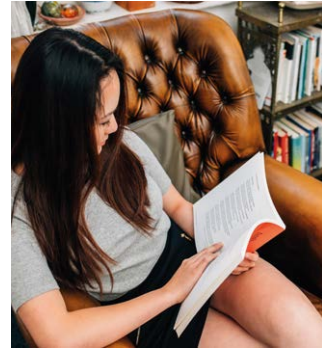
Waterproof backpack

The climate in Belfast is temperate and mild. Temperatures rarely drop below 0°C or rise higher than 24°C with light to medium rain showers.

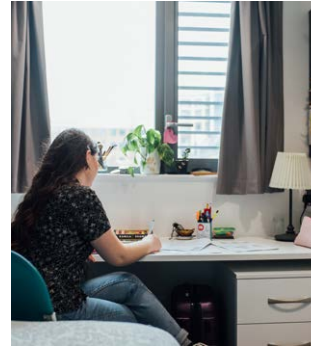


We decided it would be a good idea to get some real advice from students who have had similar experiences to yours.

IF YOU COULD ADVISE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ON ONE THING THEY COULD BRING FROM HOME, WHAT WOULD IT BE?



- CONFIDENCE
- PICTURES OF FAMILY
- FAVOURITE BOOK
- ANYTHING THAT REMINDS THEM OF HOME



WHEN
YOU ARRIVE



REGISTER WITH THE UNIVERSITY

All students are required to complete online registration at the start of each academic year via the **Qsis Registration Portal**. If you are a **new student** to the University or starting a new course, you will receive a 'Welcome Email' with full instructions from late August onwards. If you are a **returning student**, you will receive an email when the Registration Portal is live. If you have any queries, please email reghelp@qub.ac.uk, or call the Student Helpline on +44 (028) 9097 3223

[qub.ac.uk/directorates/
AcademicStudentAffairs/
StudentServicesSystems/Qsis/](http://qub.ac.uk/directorates/AcademicStudentAffairs/StudentServicesSystems/Qsis/)

AIRPORT MEET AND GREET

To make your arrival as swift as possible, the University has set pick-up days to welcome you and get you settled in. Student Guides will greet you at the airport and point you in the right direction. Onwards travel is by bus/taxi which is a short journey to our student accommodation, located close to Queen's campus.

[qub.ac.uk/sites/my-queens/
arriving-in-belfast/](http://qub.ac.uk/sites/my-queens/arriving-in-belfast/)





STUDENT INFORMATION POINT

We have a dedicated team on the Student Information Point who can help you with any queries you may have. You can contact them via:

studentconnect@qub.ac.uk

Having your Student Services based in One Elmwood means you can access everything from one convenient place. Get advice on careers with our dedicated

employability team; access a comprehensive range of free, flexible, and responsive support services from our Student Wellbeing Team, support from the Learning Development Service and the Widening Participation Unit; get financial support, access to disability services and visa and immigration help from the Immigration Support Service.

INFORMATION SERVICES

IT Services is responsible for the University's main computing facilities; this means they will play a big part in your University experience. Visit their website for everything you need to know to get started with IT in Queen's, including what to do next once you have registered, how to obtain your IT username and password, connecting to the Wi-Fi, and getting support for IT:

[qub.ac.uk/directorates/
InformationServices/Student/](http://qub.ac.uk/directorates/InformationServices/Student/)

Once you have received your student ID card, you will also have access to the Library.



DISABILITY AND WELLBEING

DISABILITY SERVICES

We understand that students may be experiencing disability in various forms such as mobility, physical or mental health related illnesses. It is essential that everyone feels comfortable and safe as part of the community at Queen's University. If you require any information about disability services available at Queen's and in Belfast, feel free to contact the University.

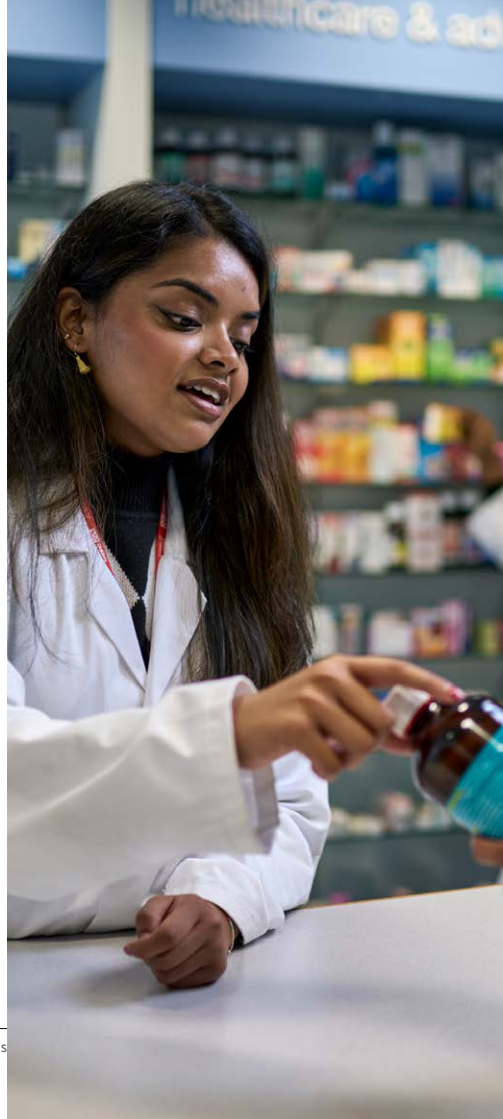
The University has a dedicated team and you can contact them here:

qub.ac.uk/directorates/sgc/disability/studentinformation/register/

STUDENT WELLBEING

You can contact our Student Wellbeing team at any time throughout the academic year. All our support services are free of charge and open to all Queen's students at all levels.

qub.ac.uk/directorates/sgc/wellbeing/



EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE

In case of a medical emergency, there are several outlets you can choose from depending on the how severe the emergency is.

- Call the police**
- Call an ambulance**
- There are on call doctors you can call for advice or a home visit if needed**

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Immediate emergency
999

Non-emergency police
101

Royal Victoria Hospital emergency
028 9063 2250

GP Out of Hours Service
028 9079 6220

Elms Village Residential Life Team
028 9097 4718



1
The Lanyon Building



4
The Graduate School



2
Riddell Hall



11
The McClay Library



16
One Elmwood

FACULTY OFFICES

Art, Humanities and Social Sciences
Engineering and Physical Sciences
Medicine, Health and Life Sciences

- X1** The Institute of Electronics, Communications and Information Technology (Titanic Quarter, not shown)
- X2** The Institute of Health Sciences
- X3**

SCHOOL OFFICES

Arts, English and Languages
Biological Sciences
Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
Electronics, Electrical Engineering Computer Sciences
History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics
Law
Mathematics and Physics
Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
Medicine, Dentistry and Biomedical Sciences
Natural and Built Environment
Nursing and Midwifery
Pharmacy
Psychology
Queen's Management School
Social Sciences, Education and Social Work

LOCATION

- Academic and Student Affairs
- Administration Building
- Ashby Building
- Canada Room/Council Chamber
- Careers, Employability and Skills
- Centre for Cancer Research and Cell Biology (CCRCB)
- Chrono Centre
- Clinical Research Facility
- Computer Science
- Counselling Service
- David Bates Building
- David Keir Building
- Development and Alumni Relations
- Disability Services
- Drama and Film Centre at Queen's
- Dunluce Health Centre
- Elms BT9
- Elms BT1 and Elms BT2 (not shown)
- Elmwood Building
- Elmwood Hall
- Estates
- Finance
- Graduate School
- Great Hall
- Harty Room
- Health Sciences Building
- Human Resources
- Information Services

Institute of Professional Legal Studies (IPLS)
International Office
INTO Queen's
Jobshop
Lanyon Building
Main Site Tower

- Marketing, Recruitment, Communications and Internationalisation
- McClay Research Centre
- Medical Biology Centre (MBC)
- Naughton Gallery at Queen's 1
- New Physics Building
- Northern Ireland Technology Centre (NITC)
- Occupational Health and Safety Services
- Old Physics Building
- Peter Elmwood
- Peter Froggatt Centre (PFC)
- Pharmacy Building
- Physical Education Centre (PEC)
- Queen's Film Theatre (QFT)
- Registrar and Chief Operating Officer
- Research and Enterprise
- Riddell Hall
- Sonic Arts Research Centre (SARC)
- South Dining Hall
- Speakeasy Bar
- Student Centre at One Elmwood
- Student Plus
- The McClay Library
- University Health Centre
- Vice-Chancellor's Office
- Welcome Centre
- Whitla Hall
- Whitla Medical Building
- Wellcome-Wolfson Institute for Experimental Medicine

GLOBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES

The Senator George J Mitchell Institute for Global Peace, Security and Justice
The William J Clinton Leadership Institute
The Institute for Global Food Security

- G
- T
- U

PAY YOUR FEES

The full listing of tuition fees is available here:

[qub.ac.uk/International/
International-students/
International-tuition-fees/](https://qub.ac.uk/International/International-students/International-tuition-fees/)

Exceptions to the standard fees are listed separately.

Check your entitlement to funding and scholarships with our Funding and Scholarships Finder.

[https://www.qub.ac.uk/Study/
funding-scholarships/](https://www.qub.ac.uk/Study/funding-scholarships/)

BANK ACCOUNT

Carrying lots of cash everywhere is not recommended. Here are some banks where students open a bank account.

HSBC [hsbc.co.uk](https://www.hsbc.co.uk)
Ulster Bank [ulsterbank.co.uk](https://www.ulsterbank.co.uk)
Santander [santander.co.uk](https://www.santander.co.uk)

You may also need a bank letter confirming your student status. Details on how to obtain a bank letter are available from the Student Information Point, One Elmwood Student Centre.

Pro tip: You will need your passport information, so don't forget to take your passport along when you are getting yourself registered.

qub.ac.uk/sites/my-queens/bank-account/



SIM CARD

We understand that having access to the internet is a necessity, so here is how you can get your SIM card set up. There are two ways to get you connected:

Contracts: These are year-long contracts based on your preferences and you will need a bank account to set up a direct debit.

Pay as you go: This allows you to buy minutes and internet whenever you want. You have more flexibility in choosing your contract and changing it as you like.

Some supplier names to get you started:

EE	shop.ee.co.uk
O2	o2.co.uk
Giffgaff	giffgaff.com
Three	three.co.uk

HOW TO REGISTER WITH A GP



It's very common for students to forget about health registration but it is an essential part of your time here at Queen's. It is important that you register with the University Health Centre at Queen's.

For registration, you will need your passport and proof of address. Health Care is free of charge, so if you have any health issues, you are more than welcome to call in, book an appointment and see a doctor.

STEPS TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT:

1. Open the official University Health Centre website.
2. Go to appointments and call on 028 9066 4634 (you can call in and book an appointment as well).
3. Explain your reason for calling and the staff will be able to help you the best they can.

universityhealthcentreatqueens.co.uk

HOW TO GET AROUND BELFAST



The best thing about the city is that everything is close by, giving you the safety and peace of mind you need. It is easy and affordable to get around Belfast by bus, taxi, train and bicycle.

[tiktok.com/@qubelfast/
video/7138430450057497861](https://www.tiktok.com/@qubelfast/video/7138430450057497861)





BUS

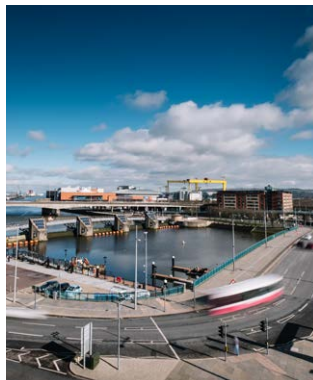
Translink metro bus services have a convenient network operating across the city at all times. If you are living in Queen's accommodation, you will mostly find yourself using '8A, 8B and 8C' as these travel back and forth to the city centre and main campus. You can buy single or day tickets as you step onto the bus. The bus drivers are friendly, so don't hesitate to ask if you are confused about where you are going.

Pro tip: For Translink train and bus timetables, download their app:

translink.co.uk/usingtranslink/ourapps

TRAINS

Botanic Train Station is about 5 minutes' walk from the University, so if you're in the mood for exploring the scenic Northern Ireland coast or taking a day trip to Portrush (a coastal town with a beach), trains are an accessible and inexpensive way of getting around Belfast and Northern Ireland.



TAXIS

Taxis are comparatively more expensive than buses, but save you time if you are in a hurry or if it's late at night, as they operate 24/7. Students mostly use 'FonaCab' and 'Value Cabs'.

Pro tip: You can book and track your ride on the app. So download the app, it also gives you a better idea of maps and your pickup locations.



Value Cabs 028 9080 9080



Fona Cab 028 9033 3333

CYCLING

Cycling keeps you moving and healthy and doesn't cost a thing! Belfast is equipped with cycling lanes, making it safe and convenient for you to travel. You can buy second-hand bikes online or even a brand new one to keep you on the move. Belfast bikes are also a handy way to get moving around the city by renting a bike for a day from over 41 docking stations across the city.

For more information on Belfast Bikes

belfastbikes.co.uk/en/belfast/

WHEN
YOU SETTLE



BUDGET BUYS

As a student you definitely want to save money and make the most of your time here. There are several shops that sell cheaper products:



Household products, makeup essentials, grooming items.



Poundland sells many household, food and grooming items for £1.



B&M Bargains is great for cheap household products.



Compared to Tesco and Asda, Lidl is cheaper. Perfect if you want to save on your weekly grocery shop!



Gumtree is an online outlet where you can buy second hand items for a lot cheaper than buying brand new items. You do have to be careful about who you are buying from and don't forget to check the item thoroughly before you buy it.

GROCERY STORES

If you are missing homemade food or fancy a change in cuisine, Belfast caters for all tastes and budgets. Here is a list of grocery stores close to Queen's campus, where you can find a range of products and also places that will deliver food straight to your accommodation, should you need it. Or why not save yourself money with a fakeaway!

bbc.co.uk/food/collections/fakeaway_recipes

ubereats.com/gb/location/belfast

Asia Supermarket

Korean, Chinese, South Asian
40 Ormeau Embankment,
Belfast BT6 8FZ

St George's Market

Organic, Irish
12-20 East Bridge Street,
Belfast BT1 3NQ
(On the weekends)

Makkah Market

Halal and Arabic
41 Bradbury Place,
Belfast BT7 1RR

Spice World

South Asian, local produce
35 Donegall Pass,
Belfast BT7 1DQ

Istanbul Market

Turkish and Halal
1 Botanic Avenue,
Belfast BT7 1JG

PRE-SEMESTER WELCOME PROGRAMME

This programme is designed to introduce international students to Belfast and adjust to life in Queen's. This course runs at the start of each academic semester and details can be found here:

qub.ac.uk/sites/my-queens/pre-semester-engagement/

TERM DATES

qub.ac.uk/about/Semester-dates/

Students are encouraged to participate in as many events as possible to help them settle in and meet new friends while finding out useful information for their time at Queen's.

USEFUL CONTACTS

qub.ac.uk/sites/Students/



@QUBelfast



Queen's University Belfast

#LoveQUB



THE STUDENT'S UNION

THE HEART OF CAMPUS

Welcome to the Students' Union! We are here to help you get the most out of your time at Queen's. We provide you with vital support, opportunities to socialise and different activities to help you make friends and develop your skillset alongside your studies.

The new state of the art Students' Union is a vibrant social hub with a revamped gig venue - Mandela Hall, the Union Bar, the Union Shop, Outdoor terraces, multiple hang out spaces and tech friendly study spaces right where you want them.

In the SU you also will find:

- **Student Officers** – the team is here to help you, represent you, organise campaigns to make the changes you want and lead the Union on your behalf
- **SU Advice** – provides students with free, independent, confidential, and non-judgemental advice

- **SU Enterprise** – Whatever your degree pathway, SU Enterprise help you develop creative thinking, generate ideas, and improve your entrepreneurial skills
- **SU Voice** – Stand up for what you believe in with SU Voice!
- **SU Volunteer** – Why not join the 5,000 students who are involved in volunteering at Queen's every year?
- **SU Lounge** – hang out, play pool and make yourself a cuppa on us.
- **SU Clubs & Societies**
- **SU Sexual Health Clinic**
- **Union Bar & Terrace**
- **Union Shop**
- **Mandela Hall**
- **SU Rooftop Garden**



QUEEN'S
STUDENTS'
UNION



SU CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

There are so many reasons to get involved in Clubs and Societies whilst at Queen's but many students find it's a great way to make friends and meet like-minded people. Many courses have related societies, but they do much more than discuss what happened in your latest lecture - they give you a little bit more from life at

Queen's: more fun; more time to be part of something; more time to find out about you. Academic societies can also help enhance your studies and your career opportunities in the process.

Not sure what to go for? Check out our A-Z list:

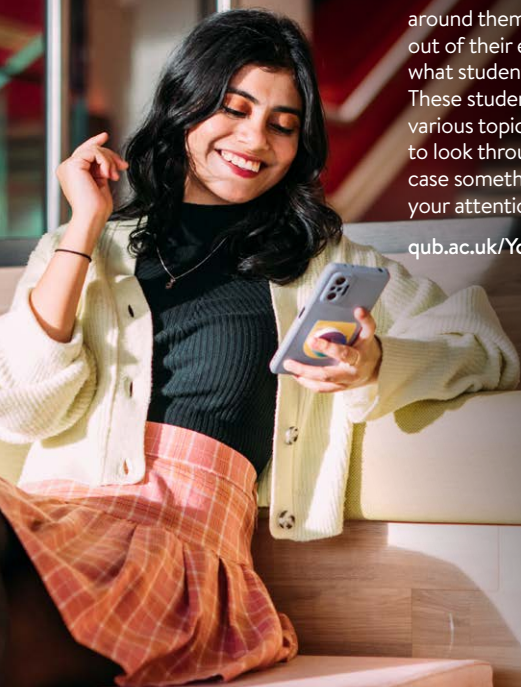
q-su.org/ClubsSocieties/



STUDENT BLOGS

Queen's University encourages students to interact with those around them and get the best out of their experience, which is what student bloggers do best. These students write about various topics, so don't forget to look through these blogs in case something may catch your attention!

qub.ac.uk/Yourstudentguide/



ENGLISH LANGUAGE SUPPORT

Students for whom English is not their first language are able to participate in a range of free English language programmes for academic purposes. You can find out further information here:

qub.ac.uk/International/International-students/Applying/English-language-requirements/in-session-english/

STUDENT CARD PERKS

Once you've got your student card, you can use it around campus for things like:

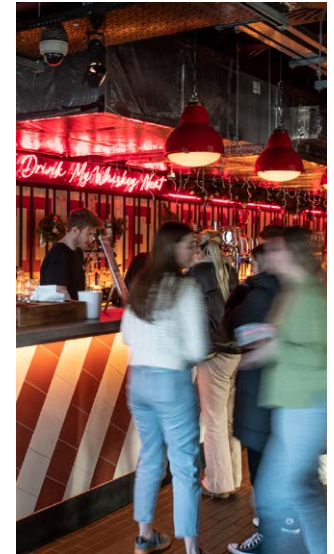
- Access to the library. You can use it for printing in the library
- Access to Queen's Physical Education Centre (PEC)
- You can use it to purchase from on-campus shops and cafés



PART-TIME WORKING

Queen's is dedicated to enhancing student employability by providing our students with real work experience on campus. We have a range of opportunities with flexible working hours, to suit and complement the student learning experience. QWork (q-work.co.uk).

There are also job-hunting websites for jobs outside of the university: Nijobs.co.uk and nijobfinder.co.uk



HOW TO TOP UP YOUR STUDENT CARD?

You can top up your student card online via Queen's Online or you can pop into the library, find one of the copy rooms and use the top up machines there.



THE SLANG GUIDE

You may find yourself hearing frequently used words, without knowing what they mean! So, here is a list to help you make sense of it all!

“WHAT’S THE CRAIC?”

What’s happening? What’s up?

“CHIPS”

Fries

“CRISPS”

Potato chips

“EEJIT”

Silly person

“HOOVER”

Vacuum cleaner

“QUID”

1 pound

“FIVER”

5 pounds

“TENNER”

10 pounds

“BANTER”

Playful chat

“DEAD ON”

Okay

“GRAND”

Great

“DANDER”

Walk

“WEE”

Little

“WEE-BUNS”

Easy

Watch for more:

qub.ac.uk/student-blog/vlogs/VIDEOGuidetoNorthernIrishSlang-1.html





For further information:

Queen's University Belfast
University Road, Belfast,
BT7 1NN Northern Ireland

T: +44 (0) 28 9024 5133
(during business hours)

T: +44 (0) 28 9097 5099
(outside business hours)

qub.ac.uk



**QUEEN'S
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