

# A Parent, Guardian & Carer Guide to NMITE



#### Introduction

As a parent, guardian, carer, or any other significant adult in a young person's life that is supporting them in their consideration of an application to study at NMITE or any other Higher Education Institution provider you will play an important role in helping them to make the right choices about their education and future career choices.

By completing NMITE's MEng Degree your young person will also learn valuable and transferable employability skills along the way. These skills include communication; teamwork; organisation and time management and all go towards putting them in an excellent position within a challenging job market.

They will gain vital life management skills. For both you and your young person, living away from home (possibly for the first time) may seem a bit scary at first, but step by step through their NMITE journey you will notice their resilience and self-confidence grow. They will leave NMITE as independent and highly employable young engineers.

Although studying for a degree requires lots of hard work, students will have the opportunity to experience a range of social events and activities, becoming part of NMITE and the wider community, and making lifelong friends along the way.

We hope this information will prove useful in enabling you to offer advice and support to your young person as they embark on the next step in their education.

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## Why NMITE

Selecting an engineering programme is really difficult. It's hard to distinguish between courses. How do you know what a programme is going to teach? How does your young person know if it's right for them? How do they know a programme will help them achieve their ambitions?

NMITE are offering a totally new model of engineering education, designed specifically to deliver a very high quality, globally-aware engineering programme - and one which opens the profession to new and different kinds of thinkers and practitioners with the potential to achieve great things.

To learn more why not book to join one of our Meet Us On-line Events?

#### **Meet Us On-line**

Visit our <u>Meet Us On-line</u> page for details of our events including how to book, and what to expect. Its important that you get the information you need so if your questions haven't been answered within this guide ensure you write them down to get the answers you need on the day.

There are a few things you can do to support your young person beforehand and to get the most out of the event:

- Remind them to book the event and to think about questions they might want to ask
- Take notes of anything important in case your young person forgets
- Stay objective you can give your opinion but remember that your young person's thoughts are more important than yours in this case

Most importantly, be supportive and positive. The role of the parent during the meet us on-line event is to be passive but helpful when needed. We look forward to welcoming you and your young person on the start of their NMITE journey

#### **Application and Selection**

You can see full information on the NMITE Application and Selection process on our Admissions page.

#### **Understanding Funding and Finance**

For details and links to external resources and application processes for funding and loans please see our <u>Fees and Financial Support</u> pages on the website.

Tuition Fee Loan – eligible students can borrow the full coast of their tuition fee in the form of a loan (subject to any previous degree or higher-level study) and should not have to pay for tuition fees up front.

Maintenance Loan – this loan is available to help with living and study costs. The amount available is dependent on the circumstances of the individual students and their household income. It will vary based on the parental household income and whether the student lives at home for the duration of their studies.

Students will only start repaying tuition and maintenance loans after they have graduated and are earning over £25,000 per annum.



If you have parental responsibility for your young person you will need to support their finance application in order that the correct amount is awarded. You will need to confirm your income once your young person has made their application to the Student Loans Company (insert hyperlink)

#### **Acceptance of Offer**

If your young person has been offered a place to study at NMITE, it is important that they accept this offer within the timescale indicated on the offer letter. If for any reason your young person wishes to defer their start date, they should contact <a href="mailto:admissions@nmite.ac.uk">admissions@nmite.ac.uk</a> as soon as possible.

Once they register to start the application process offer, your young person will have access to MyNMITE either via the website or they can download the App on their phone; this contains a wealth of useful information about life at NMITE, as well as the Student Handbook and access to NMITE student related policies and procedures, it has sections on :

- Being Safe
- Being Healthy
- My Money Matters
- · My Health and Wellbeing
- Our Herefordshire

## Preparing for life and study at NMITE

We have put together some of the key things that your young person will need to do in order to prepare for life at NMITE. This will help you to ensure that they're as prepared as possible to embark on this exciting new chapter in their lives, particularly the increased independence that being a student will nurture.

#### **Applying for Accommodation**

Once we receive confirmation of acceptance of our offer to study; your young person will be contacted by the Student Support Team to discuss any individual requirements. All of our accommodation buildings are within walking distance of the main campus buildings and city centre. Accommodation details for the academic year 2021/22 will be available on our website in March 2021.

Students are responsible for keeping their own personal rooms and shower rooms clean and tidy; they must also treat shared areas with respect and keep them in an acceptable condition.

Wireless internet services are available, free of charge, across all NMITE accommodation.

#### **Getting Insured**

Many insurers offer special policies for students and if they are bringing expensive electrical equipment, phones, or other tech equipment, it's worth them insuring their possessions for peace of mind in case the worst happens.



#### TV Licensing

Generally if your young person intends to watch or record TV, either as they are being shown live or by using streaming services (Inc. iPlayer); on any device including TV, desktop computer, laptop, mobile phone, tablet, games console, digital box, or DVD/VHS recorder they will need a TV license of their own.

For further details of this visit: Student TV Licensing

#### Signing up for a Student Back Account

Your young person will need a bank or building society account for their student funding to be paid into. The majority of major high street banks all offering student accounts, so it's a good idea to shop around for incentives such as interest-free overdrafts and freebies. There are guides to help your young person compare the options available, including advice from <a href="Money Saving Expert">Money Saving Expert</a>, <a href="Save the Student">Save the Student</a>, and Which.

#### **Learning How to Budget**

Starting at NMITE may be the first time your young person has had to take control of their finances so it's a good idea to spend some time talking them through the basics of how to budget for student life.

There is lots of information and advice, as well as a budgeting tool available to download and use on MyNMITE, including our Top Tips for Spending Less which offers useful information about saving money, using discount cards, savvy shopping etc. NMITE has also secured student discount in a number of local independent shops and cafes in Hereford.

#### **Basic Cooking Skills**

All of the accommodation is on a self-catered basis so your young person will at least need to have a grasp of the basics and be able to have a few meals they are confident preparing - so now is the time to pass on some culinary tips and family favourite recipes. Sharing meals is an important social activity.

Encourage them to visit the Being Healthy section of MyNMITE pages for lots of useful information about eating healthily with some quick and easy recipes included! Hereford has a wide range of cafes and restaurants catering for the majority of taste and dietary requirements.

#### What to Bring?

Encourage your young person to travel light. They may be moving into a room with limited storage space. One large suitcase of clothes, a couple of 'boxes' of other stuff and a bin-liner of bedding is about the right level. Crates and suitcases with wheels are ideal for when your young person arrives at the campus. We recommend avoiding packing large heavy boxes that are difficult to carry.

Don't splash out on expensive stuff. You'll find perfectly decent duvet covers, kettles and stationery at the likes of Ikea, Argos, and the big supermarkets.

Before you go out and buy anything, make sure you've checked what NMITE provide in the way of the smaller appliances. No need to turn up with a lot of stuff that's already been laid on.



Take a look at our Items to Bring Checklist

#### **Making a Positive Move**

At NMITE we are confident that your young person will soon settle in and flourish as part of our friendly community.

For some it may take a little more time than others, a mixture of excitement and nerves as they prepare to move into a new home, make new friends and start their course. As a parent/carer, you may also experience a variety of emotions, particularly if they are moving away from home for the first time. It's natural that you will want to keep in touch but it's important to find the right balance of contact and involvement that works for you both.

A few positive words of reassurance – both before they start and when you're catching up once they're here – can make a huge difference.

During Induction Week and beyond there will be lots taking place around the campus and local area to keep your young person busy during their evenings and weekends so do encourage them to get involved. MyNMITE has a section called Our Herefordshire it has lots of information and links to local clubs and societies, sporting, and cultural activities as well as the best student friendly cafes and social hang outs. There is also information about volunteering opportunities all of which are great ways to meet new people.

Comprehensive support services are also available, ensuring your young person can receive help or guidance with almost any aspect of their student experience whenever they need it.

# **Student Support Services**

The Student Support Team support and advise students from end to end of their experience and journey with NMITE; this means that we meet students during the selection process, support their induction, and throughout their time with us we offer a single point of contact and confidential face to face or telephone-based appointments. Based at our Blackfriars campus, this service provides practical information and advice to students on any issues that may be impacting on their student experience and wellbeing; we will support your young person to make informed choices so that they may focus on their studies and enjoy their student experience. And, as their time draws to a close, we support transition along their chosen pathway.

Via the Student Support Team, we provide information and signposting for:

Accommodation

Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

Disability services

Health services

Safe lifestyle

Healthy Lifestyle

# THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 1

#### Money Matters

#### Mental Health Services

For <u>any</u> aspect of their journey, as a parent, guardian, or carer you may be the first person they speak to if they have a problem; encourage your young person to come to speak to us so we can offer direct support and signpost to the most appropriate services.

If you have anything you wish to discuss at any stage of your young persons journey with NMITE please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:studentsupport@nmite.ac.uk">studentsupport@nmite.ac.uk</a>

Please note: without their written consent we will not be able to share information about your young person with you.

# List of Items to Bring...

This is not intended to be an exhaustive list, students with have their own personal priorities; it is handy to use as a checklist though. Happy packing!

#### Personal Items

- Clothing for:
  - Everyday casual
  - Evening/going out
  - Winter coat/hat/scarf and gloves
  - Waterproof
  - Nightwear/dressing gown and slippers
  - Sports wear
- Mobile phone/charger/headphones
- Personal documentation, such as I.D, insurance certificate, passport, NHS medical card, information from Student Finance, bank card, NUS card, travel discount cards
- Wallet/purse
- Everyday bag/rucksack to carry lunch, drinks, and other items for lectures
- Stationary
- Small sewing kit
- Torch
- Re-usable water bottle cheaper than buying bottled!
- Re-usable tea/coffee cup (preferably lidded) cheaper than your daily coffee!

#### Personal Care and Health

- Prescription glasses
- Contact lenses plus cleaning fluid etc
- Copy of prescription + 1 month supply of medication
- Spare pair of glasses
- Brace/retainer and accessories
- Everyday moisturiser
- Skincare wash
- Lip balm
- Shower gel, shampoo, soap,
- Shaving cream, razors etc
- Toothbrush / toothpaste
- Hairbrush, comb etc
- Sanitary products



- Contraceptives
- Make-up and make-up remover
- A small personal first aid kit Inc. painkillers, antiseptic cream, cold/flu remedy (for the unavoidable fresher's flu!), throat lozenges, plasters, nail scissors.

#### Bedroom space

- Duvet
- Bed linen x 2 sets
- Pillows
- Mattress protector
- Blanket or fleece throw
- Towels bath and hand
- Clothes hangers
- Photos
- Items to personalise their room

# Shared Space - kitchen & laundry

- Crockery/cutlery not too much, just one or two;
- Glasses
- Small casserole dish
- Small frying pan
- Medium saucepan (with lid)
- Small saucepan (with lid)
- Flat baking tray (for oven chips!)
- Tin opener
- Bottle opener
- Vegetable peeler
- Cheese grater
- Wooden spoons or spatulas
- Masher
- Microwavable bowl
- Mixing bowl
- Measuring jug
- Colander
- Whisk
- Chopping knives
- Chopping boards (may be a good idea to get a different one for meat, and for vegetables/bread to avoid cross-contamination)
- Kitchen scissors
- Plastic storage boxes for those leftovers and lunches
- Sandwich bags
- Cling film or reusable stretchy bowl lids
- Wash up liquid/brush and cloth
- Tea towels
- Washing powder
- Laundry basket or bag



- Salt and pepper
- Herbs and spices
- Sugar or sweeteners
- Ketchup
- Mayonnaise and/or salad cream
- Hot drinks (tea, coffee, hot chocolate)
- Cooking oil/spray
- Spreads honey, jam, Marmite, peanut butter
- Pasta sauce
- Tins stock up on soup, tinned fruit/veg, custard, rice pudding, canned meats, beans, peas and so on
- Cereal
- Fruit squash
- Dried foods e.g, noodles, rice, pasta, cous-cous

#### **Further Information**

We hope you have found this guide useful, if you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact the Student Support Team at <a href="mailto:studentsupport@nmite.ac.uk">studentsupport@nmite.ac.uk</a>