

# CARE EXPERIENCED STUDENTS NEWSLETTER



## Named contact

A reminder that the named contact for care experienced students is:

Sinead O'Kane: [s.okane@qub.ac.uk](mailto:s.okane@qub.ac.uk)

## WELCOME TO THE CARE EXPERIENCED NEWSLETTER

We hope to issue this newsletter every 1-2 months with updates on specific and general support and opportunities for our Care Experienced community.

## Care Day 2024 - Get a voucher for a survey!

Care Day 2024 will be celebrated on Friday 16th February 2024. You can find out about regional celebrations and events at [voypic.org.uk](http://voypic.org.uk). I will also be on campus that day and will be situated in Junction (Main Site Tower) at the following times: 9.30am - 10.30am & 12.30pm - 1.30pm. I'd love to see you for a chat and a coffee on me! I'll seat myself at one of the tables and have a sign so you can spot me. We really value the voice of our care experienced community, so would love some feedback. You can get a £10 Tesco OR Amazon voucher if you complete the following [survey](#).

## Bursary Payment Dates

DfE Bursary - if you have given consent to share data with the Department for the Economy, then you will receive your second payment in mid-February 2024. If you haven't given your consent for this bursary but would like to receive it, you can contact me ([s.okane@qub.ac.uk](mailto:s.okane@qub.ac.uk)) before 31st January 2024. Queries after this will not be able to access this fund. Payment amount and payment date will be circulated to recipients closer to the time.

QUB Care Experienced Bursary - the second payment (£500) of the Queen's Care Experienced Bursary will be paid mid-March. If you have not applied but feel that you could be eligible for this, please contact me ([s.okane@qub.ac.uk](mailto:s.okane@qub.ac.uk)) at any time. There is no deadline date to access this fund. You can out more about eligibility [here](#). Notification of payment date will be circulated to recipients closer to the time.

**If your bank details have changed, please email me urgently before the end of January 2024.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday 16th February - Care Day 2024 - Meet Sinead in Junction 9.30am - 10.30am and 12.30pm - 1.30pm for a coffee and chat.
- Free sexual health clinic - 15th, 22nd and 29th January - SU - Find out more [here](#)
- SU Advice Drop In - Wednesdays from 11.30am - 2pm - Third floor of One Elmwood
- 25th January - Coffee and Conversation - Meet up in SU with other students for some conversation and mindful art activities - Other dates and details can be found [here](#)
- 27th February - Zen Den and Sensory Space - have some down time surrounded by sensory items to help with emotional wellbeing. More dates and details [here](#)
- Careers Events - there are a range of great careers events coming up, including managing your time, problem solving and making decisions, USA summer camps, European Study Exchange, communicating assertively, amongst many others. Find out more [here](#)

## SUQCESS

SUQCESS (Supporting Queen's Care Experienced Students) has been kindly funded by a private donor to provide support for care experienced students to help with their studies. This support may come in the form of vouchers for books, support with groceries, support with accessing a placement, etc. Applications are open all year round and can be found at: [go.qub.ac.uk/qubcares](http://go.qub.ac.uk/qubcares)

Remember that [well-being](#) host drop-in sessions Mon-Fri from 11am - 3pm on the first floor of One Elmwood. You can also call: 07387 546 123

If you would prefer to opt out of receiving the Care Experienced newsletter, please complete [this short form](#)

## Clinton USA Programme

A reminder that the Clinton USA Career Insights Programme closes on 22nd January at 12noon. You can apply through MyFuture.

This programme offers 15 UG students a place on the USA Career Development Programme and they are keen for care experienced students to apply! If you are UG in 1st, 2nd or penultimate year then do have a look and consider applying!

Find out more [here](#).

## The National Network for the Education of Care Leavers (NNECL)

NNECL was established to promote and support care experienced students in education. They are committed to seeing transformation to ensure care experienced students achieve their full educational potential. They are always keen for [student voice](#) and you can sign up to contribute to this transformation by giving feedback of your experience/what you would like to see changed. You can also find out about [opportunities and activities](#) for care experienced students. It's a great way to get to know other students from across the UK, and to help make a difference!

**Congratulations to our Winter graduates and those finishing in February- we're so proud of you!**

