

Pre-arrival information for International Students



www.nottinghillcollege.co.uk

Notting Hill College



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We strongly advise that you visit the [UK Visas and Immigration \(UKVI\)](#) website for the most up-to-date visa rules before you make a visa application.

To check whether you need a visa to study in the UK, please visit the [UKVI](#) website and complete the online questionnaire.

If you are from outside the EEA/EU and you plan to stay in the UK to study you need to check your visa status & eligibility. To find out whether you are eligible for a Tier 4 email support@nottinghillcollege.co.uk



Questions about Notting Hill College

Information on the College can be found on our website www.nottinghillcollege.co.uk.

- Why did you choose to study at Notting Hill College?
- How did you find out about it?
- Have you considered other institutions? Which? Why have you chosen NHC?
- Do you know anyone who has already studied there?
- Where is the college or institution?
- What facilities are you expecting at the college or university?

Credibility interviews

The Home Office has introduced credibility interviews as part of the Tier 4 visa application process. Some students may be interviewed when submitting their application.

Please prepare for these interviews in advance, so that you're confident answering questions about your plans to study in the UK. To help you with this, we've prepared a list of possible questions you **may** be asked during the interview and we recommend you practice answering questions of this type.

Questions about the UK

- Why do you want to study in the UK?
- What are the benefits of studying in the UK compared to your home country or USA/Canada/Australia etc.?

Questions about your course

Find detailed information on your course in our websites

- What course are you studying and how long is it?
- What qualifications will you receive?
- How is your chosen course assessed?
- Why did you choose this course and how does it relate to your previous study?
- Can you explain the gaps in your study/professional history?
- What is the relevance of the course to your future career path?



Questions about living as a student in the UK

Find out about life in Manchester in your pre-arrival guide and on our website.

- How are you funding your studies?
- If you have taken out a bank loan to finance your studies, how do you intend to repay it?
- Where do you intend to live while you are in the UK?
- Have you already arranged accommodation?
- If you have dependants travelling with you, what will they be doing while you are studying?
 - Have you organised schooling for your children?
- Do you intend to work in the UK during your studies?
 - If so, do you know how many hours you would be permitted to work under Tier 4?

Questions about your future



- What do you intend to do after finishing your course?
- If you intend to return home to seek employment, which companies, schools or organisation do you hope to apply to?
- Are you planning to stay in the UK on completion to study for a higher award?
- Are you thinking of transferring to another institution on completing this course?

You can read the UKVI's list of [frequently asked questions about credibility interviews for Tier 4 applicants \(43KB\)](#).

TOEFL restrictions enforced by UKVI

TOEFL was removed from the list of Secure English Language Tests (SELT) approved by UK Visa & Immigration following the decision of ETS, who accredit the test, not to extend their license agreement with UKVI. We currently are awaiting guidance on how this will affect applicants who have already taken or are intending to take TOEFL and will provide advice to our applicants when we have received this.

New time limits for studying in the UK

You are not allowed to exceed the maximum time limit spent in the UK on a Tier 4 visa. It is your responsibility to plan your studies in the UK according to these rules. If you're not sure whether your chosen course will take you over this limit check the [UKCISA](#) website.



Financial institutions accepted/ not accepted by UKVI

UKVI has produced a list of financial institutions which will not be accepted for verifying students' maintenance when students apply for a Tier 4 General student visa to come to the UK.

An applicant will receive no points for maintenance if they submit documents showing that the funds are held in a financial institution on the list of non-acceptable banks.

To assist applicants, UKVI have also provided lists of financial institutions in each country from which financial statements are accepted.

For more information please [visit the UKVI website](#).

If you will be studying on a short course of up to six months, you must take out insurance to cover your medical expenses because you will not be eligible for free NHS medical treatment.

Further information

Email us at support@nottinghillcollege.co.uk
For comprehensive UK visa information please visit

- [UK Council for International Student Affairs \(UKCISA\)](#)
- [UK Visas and Immigration \(UKVI\)](#)

Notting Hill College is not responsible for the content of external websites

Insurance

We strongly recommend that you take out insurance for your own financial and personal security. Many companies offer insurance policies specially designed for overseas students studying in the UK, which cover

- emergency medical expenses
- repatriation
- cancellation or curtailment charges
- baggage
- personal money, passport and documents
- course fees
- personal liability
- legal expenses



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