



University  
of Glasgow

## Named Points of Contact – Forced Migrant Students

Dr Paula Blair and Dr Martin Irwin

Widening Participation Team

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## How does the role work?

- We are situated within the Widening Participation team.
- Other members of the team support other groups, including care-experienced and estranged students, and student carers.
- We have two members of staff for each group, to help provide support for holiday cover etc.
- The range of support provided can vary widely.
- We work with individuals from the pre-application stage, all the way through their degree.





## Pre-Application Support

- We work with individuals who are interested in coming to study at university.
- We receive queries in a number of ways – directly by email, from individuals who have heard of us through current students that we support, by attending events in the community etc.
- Often, people aren't sure of the routes available for degree study.
- There is frequently the need for students to undertake some form of access course to enable them to apply for university.
- We work with people to find out what degree they are interested in, and what access route is available (if required).
- This is often a useful stage to discuss funding.





## Student Funding

- Funding can be a real issue for students who are in the asylum process, as they have no recourse to public funds. This includes SAAS funding.
- We would direct students to information on available funding sources, including our own Humanitarian Scholarships.
- Another possible source of tuition fee support is through the Carnegie Trust. Students cannot apply for this until they have met the conditions of their offer. We would help support them through the application process.
- Students who have refugee status are able to access SAAS funding. We would help support them with any queries they have about this.



## On-Course Support

- We liaise with students once they start their studies with us. This continues throughout their degree.
- This can take a variety of formats, including helping with all aspects of pastoral support.
- We have supported students through issues with accommodation, finances, study support etc.
- One key feature is speaking with other departments within the University to ensure the student is well supported.
- This might involve discussions with advisers of studies, helping students to access additional funding etc.





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## Questions?

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