Interested in becoming a Peer Guide?

PeerGuide
students guiding students

ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The role of a Peer Guide

- To formalise the ad-hoc peer support that naturally develops within student communities
- To enhance guidance and support by offering new students the existing student perspective
- To guide, refer and encourage, not counsel, judge or teach
- Be a positive & inspirational ambassador of RHUL
- Bridge the gap
- Matched with 6-12 new students to form a Peer Guide group (same dept or faculty)

What the College expects from Peer Guides?

- Respect for the team, its members, the College & all property
- Follow UK law & RHUL rules and regulations
- Inform us of any issues or problems you are having when you begin so we can try to deal with them
- Be committed, reliable, enthusiastic and appropriate
- Show fairness and understanding
- Behave appropriately and lead by example
- Act responsibly at all times
- Encourage new students to make most of the student experience
- Present College in a positive and constructive way

Students who:
- Attend
- Aren't being disciplined
- Aren't repeating

What you can expect?

Training

1 compulsory College training session
Departmental training (not all depts.)
Regular updates and information
Peer Guide Handbook
Training pack

Support

Student Life Team:
International Building 008 weekdays
peerguide@royalholloway.ac.uk

Regular updates
Termly meetings
Contact with other Peer Guides
Facebook
Twitter
Your departmental contact

- Workload
  - We expect you to make a big effort in the first few weeks of term – meeting all your students and helping them settle in to university life.
  - Helping out at Welcome Week
  - Applicant Visit Days and other events
  - Contact tends to dwindle throughout the academic year as new students find their feet, however, do endeavour to make sure your group know that you are available if they need anything
  - 3>2>1 contact (3 times first term, once in last)
  - Group/email
  - Logging your contact- compulsory
  - Register
  - Picking up on issues, dropping off radar

What can students expect from Peer Guides?

- Information
- Welcome
- Inclusion
- Equality
- Support
- Guidance
- Professionalism
- Reliability
- Discretion
- Understanding
- Non-judgemental
- Acceptance
- Friendly
- Advice
- Reassurance
- Natural justice

What can Peer Guides expect from the students?

Respect

Compromise

Patience

Understanding

Honesty

Courtesy

Willingness to engage

Reliability

What new students say

"My PG was very friendly and willing to chat about issues such as housing which in the second year is invaluable"

"What I found particularly useful was that my PG was doing a similar course so I could ask them questions about the course, not just about Uni. When it came to picking course modules for 2nd year it was great to be able to contact someone who had first hand experience."

"I found it difficult starting university, I especially felt that there was nobody to get in touch with for small queries so I thought this was a good idea."

"PG's are awesome, they are down to earth and very approachable."

What Peer Guides say

"My group felt nervous about contacting their personal tutors in worry of bothering them so they felt reassured that I might be able to help them with questions about the course and provide advice on referencing"

"A student contacted me via email to ask to meet up as she was unsure how to use the library and where certain places were. We went around campus together and I explained how things worked and I think this really put her at ease."

"I reassured the students that looking for housing seems more difficult than it is. I also encouraged them not to rush into house groups for their second year before they got to know their potential housemates better."

"I think the scheme is especially good for helping international students adjust to their new surroundings."

RHUL Passport Award - Boost Your Employability

The Royal Holloway Passport Award enables students to collect points for a range of co-curricular activities on offer at the College

- **Develop the transferable skills valued by employers**
- **Gain recognition for the difference you make in College and local communities**
- **You can earn up to 15 points per year towards gaining a passport through the Peer Guidance Scheme**

2015-16

Training Course (Half Day)	Completing the Year, and Submitting Log Sheets
5	10

Royal Holloway Passport
Start your journey here...

The Peer Guidance Scheme Timeline 2015

Feb - August

Register interest

Complete sign-up

Book onto training

June - September

Training

Communication

September

- **Find out who is in your group**
- **Welcome Week**
- **Departmental welcome socials**
- **Meeting your new group**

PeerGuide

students *guiding* students

Any questions please let us know peerguide@royalholloway.ac.uk