Student Support Quick Guide: A student would like some support with homesickness

What should you look out for?

Edinburgh Napier attracts students from around the world. International students are attracted to study in the UK for a variety of reasons and academic colleagues are encouraged to help them mix with home students in class. Settling in a new country and making new friends can be a challenge for some.

Students from the UK and Republic of Ireland similarly can struggle living away from home for the first time. Look out for any students who seem to be struggling to integrate, have few friends, are withdrawn, struggling with work, or experiencing culture-shock. The University and Edinburgh Napier Students' Association (ENSA) have a range of activities in place to help students make friends and feel at home.

What should you do?

University students have access to a programme of trips and social events held throughout the year.

Edinburgh Napier Students' Association (ENSA) hosts a range of events throughout the year, has a large number of societies (some of which focus specifically on international themes), and has student representatives available to offer information and signposting to <u>ENSA (napierstudents.com)</u>.

Refer the student to ENSA Societies <u>ENSA Societies (napierstudents.com)</u> and <u>ENSA Sports Clubs (napierstudents.com)</u> for more information.

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The <u>Multi-Faith Chaplaincy service</u> is for Edinburgh Napier students and colleagues from all faiths and from none, and provides a listening service designed to offer support and a sense of community. The service can be contacted by emailing <u>chaplaincy@napier.ac.uk</u>

Edinburgh Napier also work in close partnership with <u>Friends International</u> – a non-proselytising Christian-based charity that works to build community amongst international students from all faith backgrounds.

You may also wish to suggest that a student meets with a Keep on Track Adviser. This can be useful for signposting to other sources of support at the university. A student can access support from Keep on Track by attending one of their weekly drop-ins or making an appointment. See more information about Keep on Track (napier.ac.uk)

What happens next?

Ultimately it is the decision of every individual student whether they take up any of the opportunities available at Edinburgh Napier. The main thing you can do is encourage them to take part and enjoy the fullest possible experience of university life.

