Applicants who will be under 18 at the start of their course

The University admits students on the basis of individual merit and does not discriminate on grounds of age; **however, the University does not have a licence to sponsor international students under the age of 16 and is therefore unable to admit students who require a Tier 4 visa who are below the age of 16**. If an applicant will not have reached the age of 18 by the time they are due to start their programme of study at the University, as part of our duty of care to protect such students, we will contact their parent(s) or legal guardian(s) to seek their consent for the applicant to start the programme. In contacting the applicant's parents, the University will outline a number of matters of which they need to be aware before signing the form. The University must be satisfied that appropriate accommodation arrangements are in place for students under 18. Students who are aged 16 at the time of entry are required to stay in registered Homestay accommodation and are not permitted to live in University Halls of Residence.

In the case of international students, or those whose parents/legal guardians are not based in the UK, we will require the nomination of a person resident in the UK who will take responsibility for the applicant until they reach the age of 18; this may be an individual known to the family or a guardianship service. The University will contact the nominated guardian to confirm that the individual is able to meet the requirements of the role. All applicants who are will be under 18 when they commence the academic programme must apply before **31st May** of the year in which they expect to be admitted.