

Released Students

Useful information and contact details for Open University (OU) students due to be, or recently, released from prison.



Contact Us

Students in Secure Environments
(SiSE)
Student Recruitment
The Open University
PO Box 197
Milton Keynes
MK7 6BJ

Email: sr-sise@open.ac.uk
Telephone: 0300 303 6789
(Mon to Fri 9am – 5pm)

www.open.ac.uk/secure-environments/released

Getting Ready for Release

To ensure a smooth transition to study on the outside, please:

- Make sure you have all your books and study materials
- Note down your Personal Identifier (PI) number, which will help the OU identify you quickly
- Take this leaflet with you so you have our contact details

Once Released

Please contact us as soon as possible. The OU will need to ascertain which facilities you will be able to access and for this we will need to complete our Risk Assessment process.

The details we need to carry out your Risk assessment are:

- Name of your probation officer, their telephone number and email address
- Probation Service you come under

Once we have received your contact details, and confirmation of your release, you will be contacted by a member of the SiSE team to provide you with login and tutor details. The team will also discuss any study needs you may have.

Risk Assessment

Although we are a Higher Education provider, we do have students under the age of 18 who regularly participate in tutorials and online forums.

Students who are either on the sex offenders' register, are subject to a sexual harm prevention order, whose licence conditions restrict contact with those under 16 or 18 years or are classed as high risk to any group of people will not receive full online access. They will continue to select their modules from the SiSE prospectus. All the qualifications and modules within this prospectus can be studied successfully, with all learning outcomes met, with little or no online access.

Until the Risk Assessment has been completed the University is unable to provide you with full access to OU facilities and services. These include StudentHome, an OU email address, group tutorials and forums. However, you will be able to access your Study

The online restrictions are there to safeguard our young and vulnerable students as well as to ensure students do not inadvertently breach their licence conditions and get recalled to prison.

Home page and module website(s). You can contact your allocated tutor(s) to discuss academic queries, extensions and arrange 1-2-1 support sessions, if required. You will also be able to submit iCMAs online and TMAs by email.

Future Reservations/Registrations

If you are looking to start the registration process for your next module you will need to contact the SiSE Student Recruitment team to complete your registration. This applies whether you have gone through the Risk Assessment process – and restrictions remain – or if you are currently going through the process. The team email address and phone number are on the previous page.

Assignment Submission

You can complete iCMAs on the module website. TMAs, emTMAs and EMAs can be submitted by email.

See this webpage for full details: <https://www5.open.ac.uk/secure-environments/assessments>

If you are unable to submit your assignments electronically, please post them to the address on the previous page.

Exams

If you are due to sit an exam within the first month of release it is vital that you contact the University. Early contact will allow us to make appropriate, or alternative, exam arrangements.

Careers and Employability Service

We know returning to the community can be a challenging time, including looking for work or deciding what you want your life to look like now. So, we wanted you to know you can talk to our careers and employability consultants.

We can arrange a 45-minute telephone appointment with you, or, if you prefer, we can have a conversation by email – it's your choice. Just get in touch if you'd like a consultation

<https://help.open.ac.uk/careers-consultation> or call 01908 858884

We can support you by helping with looking for work e.g., writing CVs, as well as deciding if, when, what and how to tell an employer about your conviction. If you have internet access a good starting point is our website <https://help.open.ac.uk/browse/careers>

Our *Support for People with Convictions* leaflet which has contact details of organisations who can help, including finding work, can be found on <https://www.open.ac.uk/secure-environments/released>

OpenLearn

You can access free taster materials, even earning digital badges, on the OpenLearn website.

www.open.edu/openlearn/

The site offers free resources on hundreds of subjects including study and work skills. You can also access taster materials for modules/qualifications offered by the University.

- Health, Sports & Psychology
- Education & Development
- History & The Arts
- Languages
- Money & Business
- Nature & Education
- Science, Maths & Technology
- Society, Politics & Law
- Digital & Computing