

LIVING AWAY AT UNIVERSITY

LESSON OBJECTIVES:

- To explore student ideas about student life.
- To explore some common worries about moving away.

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- PowerPoint slides

WHEN IS THIS RESOURCE TO BE USED?

These activities can be used anytime to suit your students.

We find that form/tutor time is a good opportunity to share advice with students. These resources are designed to fill 20 minutes, and can be used as one-off activities, or as part of a series of activities.

STARTER:

Discuss with a partner/whole class discussion – Give students an opportunity to explore their own ideas about what it means to be a university student. What are they likely to come across everyday? What skills – both academic and social – will they need to succeed? Share ideas as a class.

Slide 4: We asked our students at Reading to finish the sentence "Being a student means..." Read through their ideas.

SUGGESTED TIMES:

5 mins

MAIN:

Slide 5: Pair discussion – What are the advantages of moving away? Group student ideas under these three main headings: Independence, life experience and responsibility. It can be scary to move away from the familiarity of home. But there's a lot to gain too. Let students talk in pairs about what they might learn from living away.

Slide 6: Common worries – read through some common worries/concerns students have about moving away from home. If you have a longer session, you may like to give students the opportunity to think of their own solutions to these common concerns.

Slide 7, 8, 9 and 10: Finding solutions – Read through some responses to the worries and concerns. Students may have more ideas than the ones mentioned.

5 mins

5 mins

5 mins

PLENARY:

You may like to ask students if they have any worries or concerns about the process. A post-it note drop box would work well here for any concerns that students wish to remain anonymous. You can revisit these concerns in a future sessions, or direct students to find out more online.

2 mins

EXTENSION:

At the University of Reading we offer a lot of virtual activity to help students feel well prepared about their choices: www.reading.ac.uk/outreach. Student can explore the opportunities online to develop their ideas for their own futures. It can also be helpful to speak to a student about how they have settled in. Find a Reading Uni student to chat with on www.reading.ac.uk/chat