

August 2026

Hello,

Welcome to Arts University Plymouth!

Congratulations!

Your place at Arts University Plymouth is now confirmed. You can officially start looking forward to **beginning your Foundation Diploma in Art and Design and the next stage of your creative journey this September!**

This letter contains some key information to keep you in the loop ready for your start with us in September. The new term starts with Induction Week on **Monday 7 September**, we're looking forward to welcoming you to **Palace Studios on Buckwell Street, PL1 2DA** and will be in touch throughout the summer with further updates.

You'll be joining an award-winning arts university

As part of Arts University Plymouth, you'll also be joining an award-winning creative community. We were recently named **Arts University of the Year 2027** in the Daily Mail University Guide 2027. This award adds to our growing list of accolades as we are also ranked **6th in the UK for student satisfaction** in the Complete University Guide 2027 and were named **Winner for South West England** for both **Facilities** and **Student Support** in the Whatuni Student Choice Awards 2026.

This letter contains important information about your first two weeks, key dates and what to expect as you prepare to start your course

If you have any questions over the summer or if you need additional information before you enrol with us this September, please contact us by emailing **hello@aup.ac.uk**, calling **01752 203434** or messaging us via text or **WhatsApp +44 (0)7722 744184**.

Sincerely,



Maddy Blyth
Foundation Diploma Course Leader
mblyth@aup.ac.uk

USEFUL INFORMATION

WELCOME SITE

The Welcome Site at aup.ac.uk/welcome/foundation-diploma is your main source of up-to-date information about starting at Arts University Plymouth. Visit it now (scan QR code to right) to find your course's registration date and time and Welcome Week timetable. We recommend bookmarking the Welcome Site and checking it regularly before you arrive.



INDUCTION

Induction Week begins on **Monday 7 September 2026**. Please arrive at **9am** at **Palace Studios, Buckwell Street, Plymouth PL1 2DA**.

During your induction period we will be exploring a range of different approaches to art and design. We'll be kicking off your studies with a week exploring how practicing artists develop ideas and collect visual experiments. In the second week we'll be getting you inducted to the practical studios at our Tavistock Place campus (including ceramics, glass and the darkrooms) as part of our studio carousels.

ENROLMENT

Your next step before you arrive is to complete the online enrolment by **Friday 28 August**. Please follow the instructions below or watch our YouTube guide <https://bit.ly/EnrolmentGuide2026>. These instructions will also be sent to you by email.

STEP 1:

1. **Open an incognito window or private window** in your browser and then go to **webmail.aup.ac.uk** If prompted Click to **"Continue to site"** button.
2. **Enter your username** - First initial of your first name, first initial of your surname and your student reference number followed by **@aup.ac.uk** i.e. TV10716508@aup.ac.uk
3. **Enter your password** – Using capital letters for the first initial of your first name, first initial of your surname, a full stop and your date of birth.i.e. TV.01012001 If you are a returning student with us, use your existing password. Click the **"Sign In"** Button
4. **Authentication** - Once approved you will next be asked to set up your 2-factor authentication – you will need to have installed the Microsoft Authenticator on your mobile device.

STEP 2:

1. You will receive an email in your university email account with instructions on accessing and completing your online enrolment. When you login in your account you will need to use the same user name as step 3 above but **OMIT** the **@aup.ac.uk** i.e. TV10716508
2. Click the link in the email and complete your enrolment. You will need a profile photo for your student card and National Insurance number at the ready.

3. Remember to click '**Submit**' once you have completed all of the sections!

If you have any problems with logging in to your account, please contact our IT Help Desk on **+44 (0)1752 203 449** or email ithelpdesk@aup.ac.uk.

We would strongly encourage you to share this with your parents/guardian/carer as it's important to complete the enrolment form with all the correct information and it can be helpful to have someone check it with you.

Please make sure all email addresses and telephone numbers are correct and that your emergency contacts are parents/guardians.

STUDENT FINANCE AND BURSARY INFORMATION

If an applicant or student has a net annual household income of £30,000 or less, or any exceptional circumstances, then they may be eligible for one or more of our Pre-Degree bursaries. We offer bursaries to support travel expenses, free meals, residential relocation, or vulnerable students.

The Bursary Scheme for 2026/27 is open and applicants can find full details regarding fees, finance and funding, including bursary guidance and eligibility criteria, on our website here:

aup.ac.uk/study/pre-degree/fees-financing-and-funding.

STUDENT SUPPORT

At Pre-Degree, we have our Student Support Team, whom you can access at any time during your course. This could be for support with your academic studies, safeguarding, or wellbeing signposting. We also have a team of Specialist Support staff who work within courses in Pre-Degree.

If you have not already completed our Support Questionnaire, please do so here:

bit.ly/PDSupportNeedsQuestionnaire

It is really important to let us know about any support needs you may require for your studies before starting with us. Please contact student support if you have any questions - **predegree_studentsupport@aup.ac.uk**

TERM DATES 2026/27

Term 1

- **Term starts on Monday 7 September 2026**
- Your first week will run for four days, from **Monday 7 to Thursday 10 September**. During this week, you will attend classes from **9:30am to 4:00pm** each day.
- In the second week **Monday 14 to Friday 18 September** you will be inducted to the practical studios at our Tavistock Place from **9.30am to 4.30pm**. After induction, the schedule will follow the regular 3 day weekly timetable outlined in the section below.
- **October Half Term - Monday 26 to Friday 30 October 2026 inclusive**
- **Term 1 ends -on Friday 18 December 2026**

Term 2

- **Term starts - Tuesday 5 January 2027.**
- **February Half Term - Monday 15 to Friday 19 February 2027 inclusive**
- **Term 2 ends - Thursday 25 March 2027**

Term 3

- Term starts - Monday 12 April 2027
- Foundation Diploma studies do not include a May Half Term week, however, classes will not be held on the Bank Holiday Mondays (Monday 3 and Monday 31 May 2026)
- Term 3 ends - Friday 9 July 2027 (TBC)

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

We will start the year off with a two week induction period where you will be in the studios for 5 full days, after which you will drop down to our full time three day a week timetable. Your weeks will look like this:

Induction Week (Beginning Monday 7 September)			
Monday 9:30am - 4pm	Tuesday 9:30am - 4pm	Wednesday 9:30am - 4pm	Thursday 9:30am - 4pm
Studio Carousels Week, introducing you to the studios at our Tavistock Place campus (Beginning Monday 14 September)			
Monday 9:30am - 4:30pm	Tuesday 9:30am - 4:30pm	Wednesday 9:30am - 4:30pm	Thursday 9:30am - 4:30pm
Standard timetable (From week beginning Monday 21 September) <i>*this may be subject to change*</i>			
		Wednesday 10am - 4pm	Thursday 9:30am - 4pm
			Friday 9:30am - 4pm

LONDON TRIP

This year we'll be planning an overnight trip to London at the start of your final major project (late February). The cost of the trip will be approximately £200 and we encourage all students to attend. We will be taking deposits for this trip towards the end of term 1, so please factor this into any budgeting over the second half of 2026. The total cost of the trip can be paid in installments.

STUDIO TIME

To support the costs of practical inductions, local group trips and the end of year exhibition, we ask our students to pay a studio fee of £75. This studio fee does not include photocopying or individual project materials (outside of what is provided within the studio). This is payable to the reception desk at our Tavistock Place campus by 30 September 2026. If you have concerns, please get in touch with me via my email address listed below.

What you'll need to start the year

- Sketchbook (A4 - A3 depending on your personal preference)
- A lined journal (A5 - A4 depending on your personal preference)
- A basic pencil case of kit (Pencils, black pens (felt tip), ruler, scissors, eraser, sharpener, a couple of small paint brushes, masking tape)

- An A2 portfolio case (Something sturdy is preferred!)

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Blyth', with a stylized, cursive script.

Maddy Blyth
Foundation Diploma Course Leader
mblyth@aup.ac.uk