KAPLAN
INTERNATIONAL PATHWAYS



Supporting Student Success in the UK

The importance of guardianship and accommodation for under-18 students

Information for families

Supporting your child's success in the UK

We understand that sending your child to study abroad is a big decision. You want to be completely sure that they are safe, supported and set up for success. At Kaplan, we share this need and take important steps to meet it.

In the UK, all under-18s are considered children by law. When they study with us, we have an enhanced duty to safeguard and promote their wellbeing. **This includes ensuring that they have a suitable guardian and place to live before they arrive**.

What we must ensure before your child comes to the UK

To fulfil our responsibilities, we must make sure your child has a trusted, UK-based guardian and appropriate accommodation.

Your child's guardian will:

- stay in touch with you and your child's college to ensure their success
- support your child if they are unwell or need help outside college hours
- help with important decisions about your child's wellbeing, attendance and study plans
- be your and our main contact in case of serious or urgent concerns, such as medical emergencies.

Guardians must be aged 21 or older and resident in the UK for the duration of your child's course, or until they turn 18.

Your child must stay:

- **in college-approved accommodation** booked through Kaplan Living, **or**
- **with a responsible adult over 21** in the area of their college (until their 18th birthday or the end of their course).

Why Kaplan Living is a great option:

- **Flexible contract options**, including one-term and one-month contracts for students who turn 18 during their course, as well as full-course contracts
- **Dedicated wellbeing support** from teams experienced in supporting younger students
- **A stable living environment** that helps students settle quickly and focus on their studies — students in college accommodation achieve better results (Kaplan student outcomes data, 2025 graduate cohort)

Why guardianship is essential

Having a trusted guardian and a stable, secure home environment will be fundamental to the success of your child while they study in the UK. **Ensuring that suitable arrangements are made is compulsory.**

What makes a good guardian

We recommend guardians who:

- are mature, caring and trustworthy; a role model
- speak English well and communicate clearly
- live near your child's college (no more than two hours away)
- are available 24/7 and already known to your child.

What happens if appropriate arrangements are not made

We cannot issue a CAS until suitable guardianship and accommodation arrangements are confirmed.
Plans must be shared on the Underage Consent Form before travel is finalised.

How Kaplan can help

If you cannot find a suitable guardian, **Kaplan can arrange professional guardianship** through an AEGIS-accredited provider.

If required, **we can offer your child a one-term or one-month contract at Kaplan Living**. Contact us for details.