



**International student support in the UK:  
50 years of UKCISA &  
current projects and research**

**Julie Allen**

**Director of Policy and Services**

# Who are UKCISA?

- We **support international students** and the **professionals** working for them at the schools, colleges, students' unions and universities that form our membership
- We provide **advice, support, information and training** on all aspects of the international student experience
- We have **specialist knowledge** and expertise on the rules and regulations for international students, including visas and fees
- We are 50 years old in 2018

UK Council  
for International  
Student Affairs

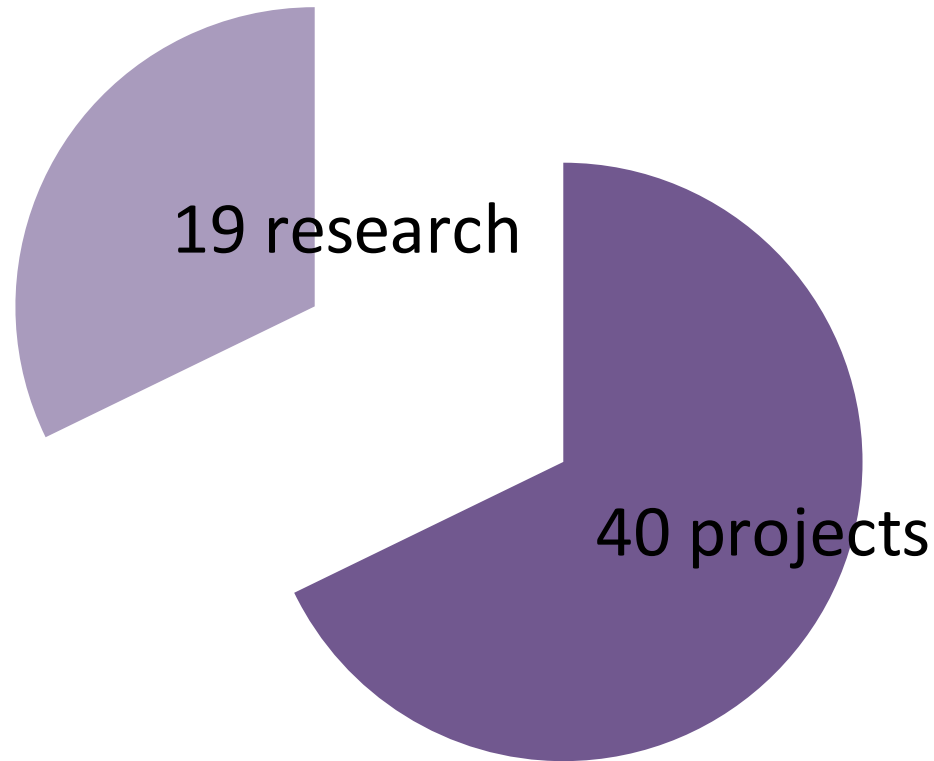
**UKCISA** 50 1968  
2018

**#ChangingLivesForGood**





# UKCISA Grants scheme for projects and research 2015-2019



# Why this scheme?

## **Aim of pilot projects:**

- to try out practical activities to support the international student experience in the UK.
- create examples that can be adapted by others in the education sector.

## **Aim of research :**

- to investigate an important area related to the international student experience to inform practice.

# Projects and research topics

- Student recruitment
- Transition to the UK
- Student experience
- Teaching and learning
- Student employability





The Open University  
*(in collaboration with Dundee  
University)*

Research project

Social support through transitions: a student-led and cross-institutional investigation of international postgraduate student experiences

‘I’d like them to know I’m not only a student. I am a human being. I have perspectives about life. I have issues about life. I have different views about life, about everything here. About the system, the culture, the relations, about everything. This is what I am. Only a small part is a student.’





## Sheffield Hallam University

### Pilot project

Toolkit for running a successful sexual health campaign for international students in higher and further education

Raising awareness about sexual health.



## Lincoln University Students' Union Research project

Are students' union activities, events & opportunities (including academic) accessible and do international students engage in these? Why/why not?



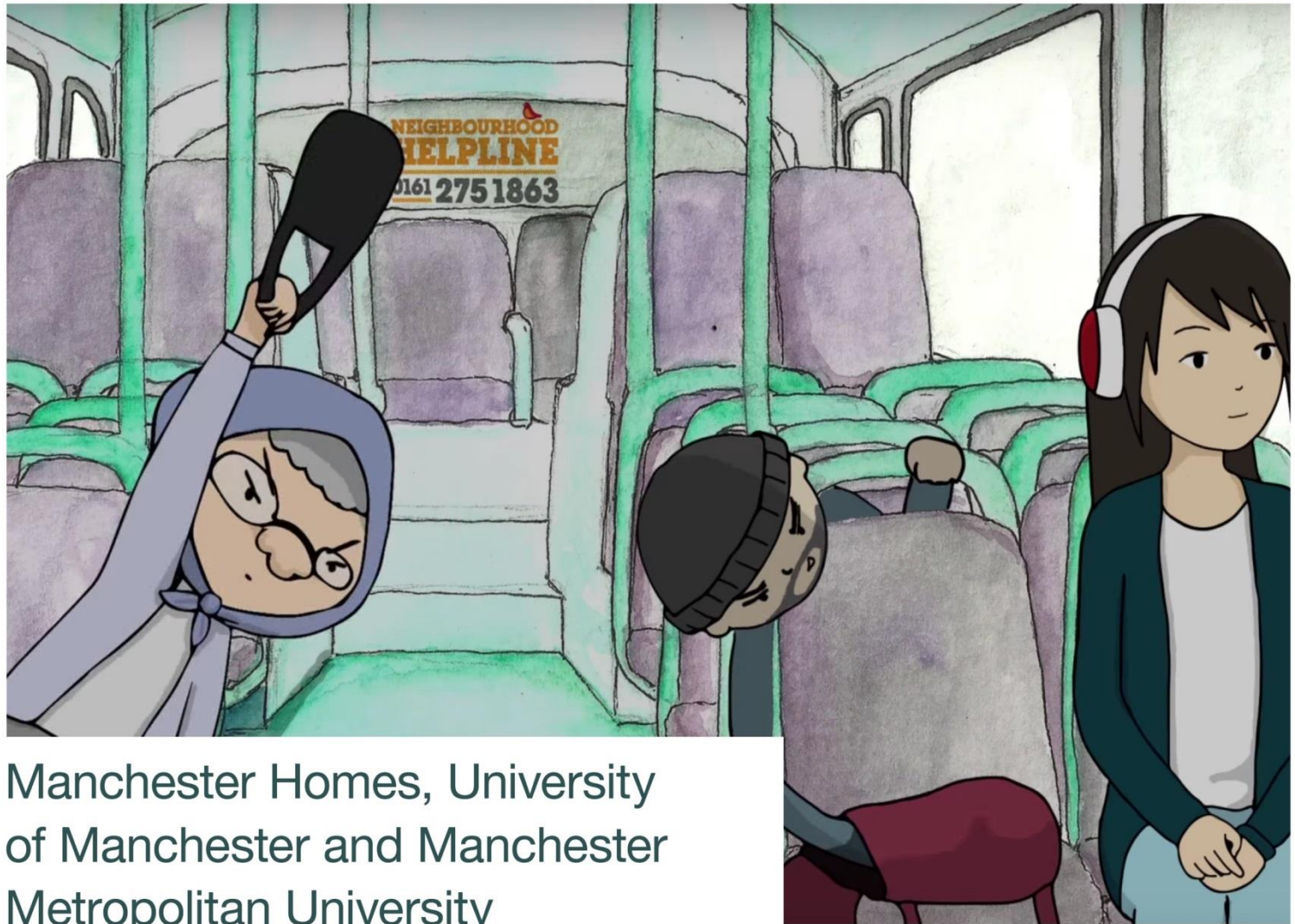
Dundee University

## Pilot project

[International student web video information](#)

Creating a series of short accessible videos on a website for international students to aid transition to life in UK





## Manchester Homes, University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University

### [Manchester international student safety campaign](#)

Year-long programme to develop a student safety guide, video and events on student safety.



## Canterbury Christ Church University Pilot project

### Career Start Canterbury

Preparing international students for the global workplace through sustainable 'job ready' activities, civic service and professional networking.



## Royal Northern College of Music Pilot project

Engagement with learning for international students in a conservatoire

Develop a course to introduce students to the RNCM conservatoire framework of study



University of Stirling Students'  
Union  
Research project

The impact of Brexit on the international student experience at  
Stirling



## University of Sussex Research project

An ethnographic examination with research of the experience of international students living in the private rented sector to guide further practice



Read full reports online

[www.ukcisa.org.uk/grants-schemes](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/grants-schemes)

**What's happening here?**



# Contact

**Julie Allen**

**Director of Policy and Services**

**UKCISA**

**[www.ukcisa.org.uk](http://www.ukcisa.org.uk)**

**[dps@ukcisa.org.uk](mailto:dps@ukcisa.org.uk)**

