

INTO POLICY STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS

Last updated: June 2026

Introduction

Note: This document sets out INTO's approach to admitting, teaching and supporting students under the age of 18, studying in the UK on a Student visa. Specific policies and processes govern our approach to students in the UK on Child Student visas, studying on specific programmes at Kings colleges.

INTO is committed to equal opportunities in its admissions, and all INTO Centres may admit students who are under the age of 18 years. Students are expected to have the necessary skills to study and live independently alongside people from a wide variety of ages and backgrounds.

Admission to an INTO Centre is offered on the understanding that the students will be able to adapt to living away from home and deal with the practicalities that this involves. Students are also expected to have the necessary skills to study and live independently alongside people from a wide variety of ages and backgrounds.

However, INTO acknowledges that, under the laws of England and Wales, and Northern Ireland, anyone under the age of 18 is legally a child and recognises that students under 18 years therefore have different needs in relation to their support and wellbeing. Staff in student support services and accommodation at the relevant INTO Centre(s) work together to ensure the wellbeing of students under the age of 18 is maintained accordingly.

For clarification purposes, the age that a child becomes an adult in Scotland is different to that within England, Wales and Northern Ireland – in Scotland, anyone over the age of 16 is deemed legally an adult. However, for the purposes of safeguarding its students and ensuring their wellbeing, INTO Centres will treat students who are under the age of 18 and who are studying in Scotland as if they were still legally a child.

IMPORTANT: specific operational procedures for students under the age of 18 may differ according to each INTO Centre. This is the case where colleges operate as Independent Schools and include Child Student scholars under the age of 16. The relevant INTO Centre's own operational policy in relation to students under the age of 18 is available on request. Kings - specific policies relating to Child Students and other relevant areas can be found [here](#)

Parental Responsibility

INTO Centres are not able to take on the usual rights, responsibilities and authority that parents have in relation to their child, and will not act *in loco parentis* for students who are under 18. The parents or guardians of any student under the age of 18 retain the usual rights, responsibilities and authority in relation to their child. INTO will therefore require the parent/guardian to sign and return the INTO Parent Consent Form before their child can enrol onto an INTO programme.

When a student reaches the age of 18, they assume full legal responsibility and the conditions associated with the INTO Parent Consent Form no longer apply.