

## Students Under 18: Advice for Parents and Agents

This is a summary of the general guidance for applicants, parents and agents. It is not intended as a final statement of the legal position. Queen Mary, University of London is currently consulting on the best practice for under 18 students. We strongly advise parents to visit Queen Mary (or to send a trusted contact on their behalf) to talk through the issues and visit the campus before making a final decision.

Queen Mary, University of London is not *in loco parentis* and parents and guardians have the primary responsibility for the welfare of their child. The following information may be useful:

In England and Wales, the law says that anyone under the age of 18 is a child. The child will be subject to the law of England and Wales and the regulations of Queen Mary, University of London.

Applicants, parents, agents and guardians should be aware that a university is an adult environment and it is not like a school. The IFP is taught on the main QM city-based campus which is open to the public. Students live, study and share facilities with adults of all ages. There is no additional supervision or support of IFP students out of class time other than that provided to all students. Many of our catering services also serve alcohol, although they will not knowingly serve under-18s.

Parents should appoint a responsible person to act as local guardian and give the College full contact details. The guardian should be able to give consent for medical treatment or excursions (including trips out of the UK) for example. We can provide further information about this.

Parents will need to act as guarantor for any contracts their child enters and will be liable for any debts including accommodation and tuition fees.

The child is covered by the Data Protections Act and we will not disclose information about their progress including examination results without written consent from the child.