

First Generation

A year of impact
2023/24

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart for supporting my education.”

Adam, 1st year LLB (Hons)

“Enrolling for university initially filled me with a sense of nervous anticipation. The pre-enrolment First Generation Programme sessions provided invaluable guidance, alleviating my fears about navigating university life and even enabling me to advise my older sister in her journey. Armed with Manchester Met’s and the First Generation Scholarship Programme’s assistance and advice, I have felt well-prepared to enjoy university to the fullest and broaden my worldview when considering further studies abroad after completing my degree.”

AJ, 1st year BA (Hons)
Future Media Production



“The support I have received is helping pave the way to my dream career as a physician associate. I have gained so much confidence at university thanks to the First Generation Scholarship Programme. I would not be where I am today without your generosity and support.”

Caley, 2nd year BSc (Hons) Human
Biosciences



Thank you



From its inception, Manchester Metropolitan University has been guided by a commitment to academic excellence, inclusivity, and service to society.

We trace our roots back to 1824, and, two centuries on from our founding, Manchester Met is one of the most applied to universities in the UK. It is also one of the most diverse and inclusive. We believe the pursuit of excellence does not have to be at the expense of access.

The First Generation Scholarship Programme is critical to our mission to provide opportunities for young people who may otherwise struggle to access higher education. For many of these students, university is not just a personal achievement, but a dream realised, a testament to their determination in the face of adversity.

With your support, we have worked with schools and colleges across the North West, welcomed thousands of young people to summer schools and taster days, and proudly awarded hundreds of donor-funded scholarships to enrolling undergraduate students. By next year, we aim to have provided scholarships to 1,000 first-in-their-family students, many of whom will be drawn from areas with some of the highest rates of deprivation in the UK. With your continued generosity, I am confident that we can achieve this goal.

Quite simply, you are changing lives. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Malcolm Press". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Professor Malcolm Press CBE
Vice-Chancellor

Dear Donors,

My name is Maryam. I am a graduating First Generation Scholarship student at Manchester Metropolitan University studying Psychology. When I was told about your support, I wanted to write and thank you.



Growing up, I didn't think university was possible for me. It took an encounter with a First Generation representative at my college to help me see the support I could access at Manchester Met, both as the first in my family to go to university and as a disabled student.

Once at Manchester Met, I felt a sense of confidence. I found a community through the First Generation Programme and the staff and Scholar Ambassadors were always there to help. Their belief in me has taught me what I can achieve and what I have to give back to others. I became a Scholar Ambassador, so I could help new students on their journey. Your support has even had an impact on my family – my sister is now a First Generation Scholar studying Accounting and Finance!

I never thought I would have the chance to go to university, never mind graduate from a degree that I love. When I first thought about being a psychologist, I didn't see anyone who looked like me. Now, I want to show others that they can do it too. As I prepare to graduate, I feel a bit scared but mostly excited for my future. I can't wait for the moment when I get up on stage and accept my degree.

Thank you does not sum up the amount of gratitude I have for your support. Thank you for believing in me and my fellow scholars.

With best wishes,

Maryam

3rd year BSc (Hons) Psychology

Dear Donors,

I'm extremely proud of my daughter Elle who received a First Generation Scholarship to study Law. I didn't go to university but both my children wanted to go and they worked extremely hard to get there.

Elle-Sue, LLB (Hons), 3rd year



Elle has always been a hard worker, even from a young age she was very driven. In high school she was Head Girl and later became Deputy Youth MP for Bury.

The funding from First Generation has been amazing. It's fantastic and has given Elle and others ideas for what they can do and what's possible. Elle was even a finalist for the Undergraduate of the Year Awards – an annual competition aimed at finding the best undergraduates in the UK.

There are people out there like Elle who work hard and who want to do well but who need some extra help. Support like this makes such a big difference and for those who get help, it doesn't stop with them, they often go on to help their families and people around them. When she finishes university, she wants to set up a scholarship to support others like her.

It's hard to believe she's graduating from university, I still remember taking her to her first day of nursery. I can't wait to see what the future holds for Elle. I know whatever she does she will help other children like her.

Thank you for supporting this Programme, your generosity helps a lot.

Warmest regards,

Monica

Mum of Elle-Sue, LLB (Hons), 3rd year

Graduating Scholars of 2024

**This summer we are thrilled to see 126
First Generation Scholars from 22 different
departments graduate.**

They will stand proudly in the Bridgewater Hall, ready to celebrate their hard work. Before joining the award-winning scholarship programme, many students felt the idea of attending university was unthinkable. But, thanks to the unwavering support of donors like you, these scholars are now poised to join our esteemed community of 350,000 alumni in 170 countries.



“I can't believe this has been my last year at Manchester Met, it has gone far too quickly! I would just like to say I am deeply thankful for your continued support. Your generosity is helping students that might otherwise lack opportunity to excel in higher education. You are contributing to the future in so many ways: funding future healthcare workers, like me; future leading scientists; the next big contributor to the art world; and this is all made possible by your donations. Thank you.”

Niall, 3rd year BSc (Hons)
Physiotherapy



“The experiences and skills I've gained at university and from my mentor have given me everything I need to excel. I can't wait to start an investment banking course with Deloitte, my summer internship with Handelsbanken, and secure a graduate job in the finance or insurance industry. Thank you to my mentor Ian for all the opportunities and guidance he has given me, and to the donors of the First Generation Scholarship Programme, whose support has made all of this possible.”

Senay, 3rd year BA (Hons)
Economics



The First Generation journey so far...

765

First Generation Scholarships awarded since 2018.



48% of students at Manchester Met are among the first in their family to attend university.

80%

are from areas with low participation in higher education, compared to 45% for all other students.



Our scholarship recipients regularly outperform their peers in their degree results.

65%

identify as being from a Black, Asian or minority ethnic background.



Our scholarship recipients are more likely to progress onto their second year of studies than their peer group.

We're getting so close to impacting 1,000 lives, thanks to you.

To renew your support and to help continue to make a difference please visit www.mmu.ac.uk/giving

Development and Alumni Relations
Manchester Metropolitan University
6 Great Marlborough Street
Manchester
M1 5AL
+44 (0)161 247 2158
giving@mmu.ac.uk

1ST
GENERATION
CAMPAIGN

Manchester Metropolitan University has exempt charitable status. HMRC No. EW37493