



UL BUDDY PROGRAMME - TOP TEN THINGS TO KNOW

1. Introduce yourself via email to your Buddies at least three to four weeks in advance of their arrival. You will receive an email with their details at the end of July for the autumn semester and the end of December for the spring semester. Therefore, it is vital that you monitor your email over the summer and Christmas holidays.
2. Your role is to be a friendly welcoming face to approximately two to four Buddies. This entails answering their questions in person or via email, meeting with them on occasion, and providing useful information on the University and locality
3. Maintain contact with your Buddy and email them regularly. Periods such as the lead-up to mid-term breaks and the end of semester are when they may need extra support and advice from you.
4. On average, participants in the Programme are expected to commit between 12 and 20 hours a semester to their Buddies.
5. In the days following their arrival, you should organise to meet your Buddies. This is just a nice way for you to get to know the new arrivals. We'll provide you with vouchers for tea or coffee in Scholars.
6. We organise a number of Buddy Events throughout the semester, including movie nights, roller jams and a Welcome Party at the start of each semester! This is a great way for you to get to know your Buddies and to meet some of the other new international students in UL.
7. Whether or not you plan on attending the Events, you are expected to collect the tickets for your Buddies from the International Education Division. Don't forget to ask your Buddies if they are interested in attending any of the Events when they are announced.
8. Your time spent participating in the Buddy Programme can be used as hours to go towards the President's Volunteer Award. Enquire with the Buddy Programme Coordinator for more details.
9. Always bear in mind that people from different cultures have different ideas about what is an enjoyable and appropriate way to spend leisure time. For some students, it is their first time away from home and they may feel a little overwhelmed. If that is the case, please advise the International Office and we can assist the student.
10. Don't forget that you are a representative of the University of Limerick and Ireland. Do us proud!