

MTU Ready — Arrival Toolkit for First-Year Students



Overview of Initiative

MTU Ready is an online arrival toolkit that incoming first-year students access before starting university. Hosted on the Potential.ly Ltd platform (London-based specialists in digital education), the arrival toolkit invites students to reflect on their preparedness and needs. Upon completion, they receive a personalised report that includes: (A) a visual summary of their responses; (B) highlighted strengths and potential challenges; and (C) tailored recommendations for MTU support and services. The toolkit explores key areas like student academic preparedness and study skills, social and community integration, transition and adaptation, as well as time management and personal concerns. It's not just a questionnaire — it's an early connection point between students and the MTU community.

The following comprises an initial snapshot of our headline findings in September/October 2025:

- 1517 respondents
- 3390 population size
- 44% response rate
- 2.6% margin of error
- 95% confidence level

Monitoring & Oversight

The MTU Ready is administered via our 10-item arrival check-in on our interactive platform. By analysing data, facilitating second-semester focus groups, running surveys, and holding regular team review meetings, we effectively oversee and monitor the project. Annually, MTU submits a detailed HEA report on TSAF-supported activity, shared with relevant University Executives. For 2025/26, we monitored engagement early via the arrival toolkit and class visits, gathered qualitative feedback in semester 2, and will track retention to assess ongoing impact into 2026/27.

Key Features

- First-year students
- Early intervention initiative
- Transition focus

Aims & Objectives

Aim: MTU Ready aims to help incoming students reflect, plan, and feel seen before they start studying at MTU. The programme aims to encourage early engagement with support, a culture where seeking help is normal, greater retention, and a stronger first-year experience.

Objective 1: To encourage early engagement.

Objective 2: To promote a culture where seeking help is normal.

Institutional Context

MTU Strategic Plan

Data & Evidence of Impact

MTU Ready achieved a 44% response rate, capturing students' subject choice preferences and motivations. Seventy-five percent of students were intrinsically motivated to study, and they were also influenced by open days, social connections, and guidance counsellors. This suggests the greatest impact comes from fostering connection and peer engagement early, particularly for commuting students and those not in university accommodation.

Additional Information

- [MTU Student Engagement — MTU Ready Toolkit](#)
- [YouTube — What Is MTU Ready?](#)
- [MTU Student Engagement — MTU Ready Resources for Lecturers](#)