

Incoming Academic Year

Week 14
5th Aug

Hosts and
Volunteers

Ministry to international students is dependent on the hard work and commitment of hundreds of volunteers. These volunteers host students in their homes, lead Bible studies, help out at Globe Cafés, and so much more. Praise God for them! Please join us in praying for more people who can join us in this ministry in the coming academic year.

Week 15
12th Aug

Chaplaincies

University and college chaplaincies play a large role in our engagement with international students, with a number of our staff also working as associate or volunteer chaplains. In this coming year we pray that chaplaincies would continue to be places of safety and calm for students and that those that work there would hold fast to the truths of the gospel, taking the opportunities they are given to share God's love with the students.

Week 16
19th Aug

Churches

We thank God for each and every church that is joining the important and strategic ministry to international students. We pray that more church leaders would see how simple and yet world-changing it is. We pray that church members would be mobilised to welcome and befriend international visitors, especially as so many arrive in August and September to begin studying. Pray also that Friends International can successfully resource these churches.

Week 17
26th Aug

Christian Unions
(CUs)

Many CUs, right across the country, are reaching their international student friends. Many CU leaders will be attending UCCF's Forum conference (27th-31st August) – where they will be equipped for their year ahead. Pray that whilst at Forum each of them would be reminded of the importance of cross-cultural mission on the university campus, and that the International Secretaries would come to the Friends International stall for resources and networking.



We would like to say a huge thank you to all our supporters who faithfully give to the ministry of Friends International around the UK.



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Friends International is a member of the Evangelical Alliance and Global Connections.
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Prayer Diary

May August 2019



Seventeen weeks of prayer points



"The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth." Psalm 145:18

'Hard to Reach' Ministry

Week 1 6th May A New Ministry Focus

As you would have read in the latest edition of *Opportunity*, we have a renewed focus on reaching groups of international students who often prove especially hard to reach in the current models of ministry. Please pray for Rachel Chard who is our 'Head of Hard to Reach' and for creativity as we consider new and exciting ways to reach these students.

Week 2 13th May Students From 'Restrictive' Countries

Many students who come to the UK are from countries where there cannot be openness about the gospel. Often referred to as 'least reached' people groups we thank God that we have the opportunity to reach them when they come here to study. Pray for these students, that they would encounter the living Christ while here and that He would transform them.

Week 3 20th May 'Hidden' Western Students

Some student groups are hard to reach because they do not regard themselves as international students, European and American students being examples of this, few of whom attend activities with gospel witness. Pray that we would be able to attract and engage with more of the 130,000 students that come from the EU and 17,000 from the USA. Pray that they would return home with the truth in their hearts.

Week 4 27th May Students From Muslim-Majority Countries

Many Muslim students who come here are often hard to reach as they are watched closely by compatriots and governments, and may think that they have too much to risk if they were to get involved with local Christians. Pray specifically for students who come here from Malaysia (16,370) and Saudi Arabia (8,065). Pray that we would love them well and show them the uniqueness of Christ.



Events and Initiatives

Week 5 3rd Jun TRUE Leadership (7th-9th June)

Every year international students go to the Peak District to take part in the TRUE Leadership retreat, where they learn Godly leadership skills and attitudes. Most of the students who attend are not Christian, so please pray that they would grow in their curiosity towards faith and that what they learn at TRUE would draw them to God. Pray also for Wynelle Cowdery and the team as they organise and run the retreat.

Week 6 10th Jun International Student Ministry in Ireland

Christian Unions Ireland (CUI) and Friends International work in partnership with churches across the whole island of Ireland to reach out to international students. We thank God for this partnership, the fruit that is coming from it and the appointment of Hollie Tagle as Project Team Leader and Kim Becker as the Belfast Staff Worker. Do please pray for the future development of further outreach to international students in the south and for next month's Dublin International Outreach run by local churches.

Week 7 17th Jun International Student Mission Housing Trust

The ISM Housing Trust is a sister charity of Friends International. It enables mission workers to afford property in city centre locations where outreach takes place, but where prices are unrealistic on a typical missionary salary. We thank God that a second property is on the horizon and we pray that God would continue to use this new charity mightily in the years to come.

Week 8 24th Jun The Philip Project

Christian international students learn how to handle and teach the Bible at the monthly Philip Project days, held in seven UK cities. By the end of June almost all the Philip Project courses will have finished for the year, and many of the students returned home. Please pray that these students would take with them the valuable lessons learnt and that God would lead them into environments where they can help others to unpack the Bible and understand it.

Please give thanks to God for all seven of our summer teams happening in 2019.

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Summer Outreach Teams



Week 9 1st Jul Manchester Summer Team (29th June-12th July)

Please pray for many pre-sessional and language school students to respond to invitations to our café, Bible studies, guest services and other activities. Pray for the team (of about 25, including 5 from the Navigators USA), that they will work together well and have opportunities to share the gospel. – Graham Stockton, MIO Coordinator

Week 10 8th Jul Edinburgh Summer Team (29th June-13th July)

Pray for the team over the two weeks, that this outreach would be a time of real growth for them as they learn how to reach out to international students. Pray that what they learn would help them back at their universities. Pray that many international students would hear the gospel and that their lives would be changed as a result. – Joanna Manners, EIO Coordinator

Week 11 15th Jul Bournemouth Summer Team (13th-27th July)

Please pray for the Bournemouth International Outreach (BIO). Pray for me as this is the first time I will lead it. Pray for the team as they love the students and share God's truth with them. Pray that the students will be keen to come to our events, and that the Holy Spirit will open their hearts. – Antoine Thenin, BIO Coordinator

Week 12 22nd Jul Oxford Summer Team (20th July-3rd August)

Pray for our volunteers as they come to share the good news of Jesus with international students in Oxford this summer. Pray that our café and outreach events would see many students attend, and that deep and Jesus-centred conversations would happen. Pray that God would be glorified in and through us.

Week 13 29th Jul Dublin Summer Team (26th July-11th August)

Pray for the team as they seek to share the gospel (and their lives) with international students in Dublin. Pray that the students they meet would 'seek and perhaps reach out to Him' (Acts 17:26-27), and ultimately come to know the transforming power of God's love. Pray for team unity, humility, and love as they serve together. – Hollie Tagle, ISMI Team Leader