<u>Kirsty Williams confirms EU student</u> <u>funding guarantee for Welsh</u> <u>universities</u>

As a result, EU nationals who intend to study in Wales for the academic year 2019/20 will be eligible to pay the same tuition fees as Welsh students and will be eligible to receive loans and/or grants from Student Finance Wales.

This is a continuation of the Welsh Government's current policy and means that students will be eligible to receive support until they finish their course.

EU students should consult their university's student finance office, or the Student Finance Wales website, for information about the support available.

Kirsty Williams said:

"I am pleased to confirm today that EU students will continue to be entitled to student support in the 19/20 academic year.

"This is absolutely vital if we're to continue to attract students from around the world to study and research at our universities.

"This will provide some welcome clarity for our universities and colleges regarding future funding, but also assures prospective EU students that there will not be any disruption to their funding as the UK prepares to leave the EU.

"Our universities are central to our social and economic future, which value and celebrate their links with Europe, and thrive through the diversity of the people who come to them.

"Today's announcement sends a very clear message; Wales remains a friendly, outward-looking and tolerant place to study. We deeply value our students from the EU and beyond and look forward to welcoming many more to our world-class institutions."