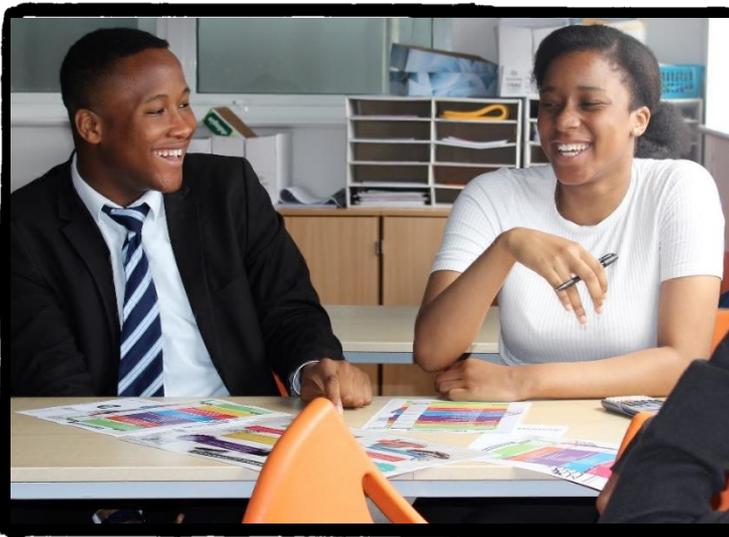


Current studies show that UK first-year undergraduates spend their loans - totalling thousands of pounds - in an average of only 52 days. The cost of student housing has risen by a quarter in seven years and students increasingly rely on parents, working extra hours or taking out payday loans to cover costs.

Student finance and budgeting are not compulsory on the National Curriculum for sixth formers, and many teachers lack the expertise to teach it. Our specialist financial education programme addresses these knowledge gaps, arms students with practical money management skills, and in turn, boosts their confidence. Here is how one student fared four months after our experts' intervention.

Noyan Raquib, 16



“I took risks with spending. When I bought something, I wasn't sure if I had enough money for what I need after, like lunch. I did not know if I had enough money to eat!

Uni Dosh showed me how to handle and be more efficient with my money.

It changed the way I think about money. It taught me that a 'live by the minute' approach for spending is perhaps not the best idea if I'm going to university and it is important to be cautious. I also realised that I'll have to earn while studying.

I get now why it's more important to be conservative with how I spend my money. You should always save up for a rainy day. Without enough money, all of a sudden a small problem may easily become a major disaster. I'll have some support at uni, but I want to do it myself.

I've since made moves towards getting a savings account and will not make any sudden withdrawals.

Many young people do not think very far into the future, these workshops really help us manage our money and budget cash at university so we won't get into trouble. We need to know the real cost of uni before we take that loan, choose a bank or move out.

What did the teacher think?

“Brilliant, 8/10!” Rated: Very Valuable. Extremely Likely to Recommend to a Colleague.

Greg Cohen, 6th Form Coordinator.

I feel more confident now about getting a student loan, because I know now how to budget and spend it carefully. It has got my mind working differently! I'm even thinking of starting a small business.”

This programme was kindly supported by the Chartered Accountant's Livery Company