# THE WELL-BEING BASICS How to stay happy and cope if you're not

## **CONNECT**

How & when will you keep in touch? Have you been in touch with others heading to the UK? Plan ways to keep in touch with home. Check out your UK university's clubs and societies before you leave to make friends and connections.

### **BE ACTIVE**

Is there something you're determined to do in the UK? Make yourself a note to make sure you do it.

Find out what sports and activities are available at your University and which you'll need to investigate further

#### **GIVE**

How can you 'give' while you're in the UK? Does your University have a volunteering page? (Check what your visa allows) Helping others is proven to improve your mood

# TAKE NOTICE

What are your plans for noticing and reflection while you're abroad? What are you expecting to find in the UK?

Keep a journal, photo diary or vlog while you're in the UK. What differences do you notice between the US (or your home country) and the UK? Why is it different?

# **SELF CARE**

Write yourself a note to remind you what improves your mood. Do you need to identify how you can do that in the UK before you leave?

Treat yourself kindly. Get enough sleep. Eat well and be sensible about alcohol. What are YOUR self-comfort techniques?

#### **KNOW YOURSELF**

What situations do you need to look out for? What are signs in yourself that things aren't right? Knowing your triggers is the first step in avoiding problems. It's smart to know what are the signs that you're struggling so you can ask for help.