

## LIFE IN CAMPUS AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Congratulations for working hard in your secondary school to attain a good grade for you to pursue higher education

Congratulations for being selected to join Chuka University, you will love it. It is a prophetic university in a serene environment for learning.

As you join the university you will meet new friends, new environment, new experiences and a general change of life different from what you are used to at home or in your previous school.

Your environment will change, you will make new friends but we encourage you to uphold your personal core values, your foundational beliefs, which dictate your behavior and guide you to make good decisions, values such as respect, integrity, obedience, decency especially in dressing and others.

Your first priority in Campus is your education and career development that's the reason why you are here. Your life in campus will therefore entail attending all classes.

While you are here, choose your friends wisely, live within your means, one of our core values in Chuka is 'Prudent use of Resources' use your finances and resources well, this will keep you from negative peer pressure such as having sponsors or cohabiting. We encourage students to apply for HELB if your parents or guardians are not financially stable.

It is important to note that we are all different and uniquely made. We are also blessed differently, there are those with more resources than others fit in where you are comfortable as you respect others. There are those of us who are also enabled differently physically, let us respect people living with disability. We are all equal in the eyes of the creator.

Avoid alcohol and substance abuse, its effects and consequences cannot be over emphasized. There are many myths and beliefs surrounding some drugs especially weed. One of the belief is that it's medicinal, even if this were true, why take medication when you are not sick? Why don't you then keep taking malariaquine or chloroquine since it cures malaria? Quit illegal drugs they will destroy you.

As you meet new friends and start relationships, watch out and be aware of toxic relationships, set boundaries in your relationships.

The best hostels are within the university but if you get to live outside the university choose your roommate wisely as well as the hostel. Avoid cohabiting.

Chuka University has several clubs and societies, every student is required to join a club and a society. There are 4 religious groups that are recognized in the university; the Christian Union for all protestant groups, the Catholic Association, the Seventh Day Adventist and the Muslim Group. Chuka University is near a Mosque where Muslim Students worship. Join any one of these religious groups and you will not go wrong.

As you develop your career in campus keep in mind that effective education is that which should answer to the needs of the society, it should provide answers and solutions to people's problems

and needs. In whatever course you are doing ask yourself what you can do for the society, how is what you are learning going to solve people's problems?

Watch out for hindrances towards your career development some of which I have mentioned; drugs and substance abuse, toxic relationships, cohabitation because this makes you a husband doing husbands roles before your time, same to the lady becoming a wife before your time, missing classes, betting and gambling, non-substance addictions such as pornography, movies and many others that take you away from your studies.

Develop skills that are required to not only help you get employment and be a good employee but also become entrepreneurial and be an employer. Strong work ethics, positive attitude, self-confidence, being a team player, excellent communication skills, time management abilities problem solving skills, commitment, interpersonal or people skills, listening skills, Curriculum vitae writing skills and interview preparation are some of the skills you need to cultivate so that you can be able to fit in the working environment.

There are those among you that have inborn talents in one area or another, explore them, be creative and come up with innovations that can change the world just like the M-pesa innovation did.

Welcome to Chuka University, all our offices are open for your sake walk in and ask for any assistance. The Chuka University community is quite friendly. Enjoy your stay.

God bless you all.

**By Joyce Mghoi Macharia**  
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