

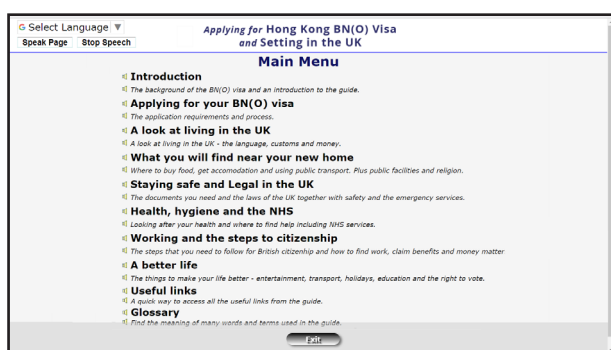
Applying for BN(O) Visa and Settling in the UK

The British way of life

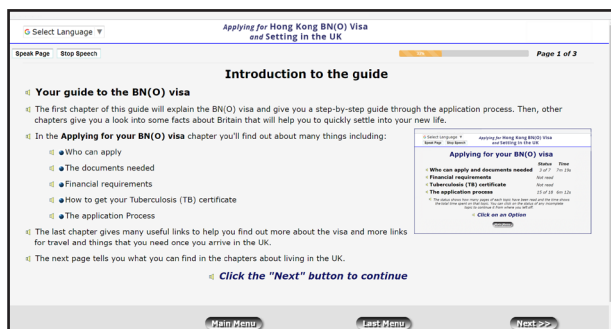


- Who can apply for a BN(O) Visa
- The application process
- Support for all newcomers to the UK
- Information about local housing and religion
- Staying safe and legal
- Making a living in the UK

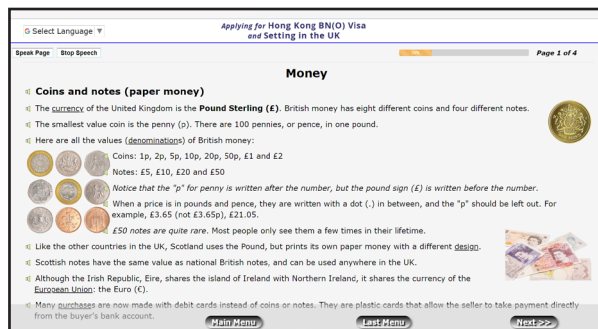
An introduction to the Applying for BN(O) Visa and Settling in the UK Guide



Applying for BN(O) - main menu



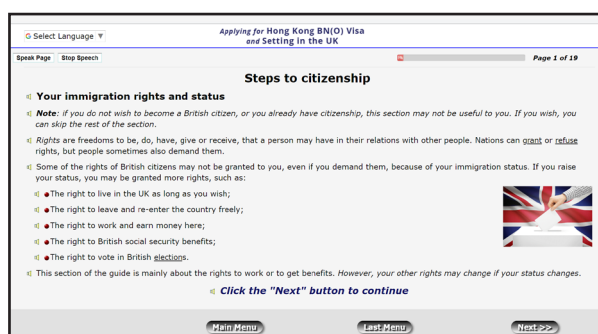
Applying for BN(O) - introduction to the guide



Applying for BN(O) - money

Applying for your Hong Kong BN(O) visa and Settling in the UK is probably the most comprehensive guide that tells BN(O) citizens everything that they need to know about the Hong Kong BN(O) visa and how to apply. It then gives you essential information to make it easier to prepare for their new home, to integrate and to succeed with British life. There are many useful links within the guide to direct directly you to government and other websites for more help.

The guide covers, amongst many other topics, content promoting British values such as the acceptance of all nationalities, religious faiths and the UK's non-discriminatory philosophy and law. Some of the most important topics covered are the NHS, emergency services, finding a job, pre-school for children, further adult education, the communication network and even eligibility to vote.

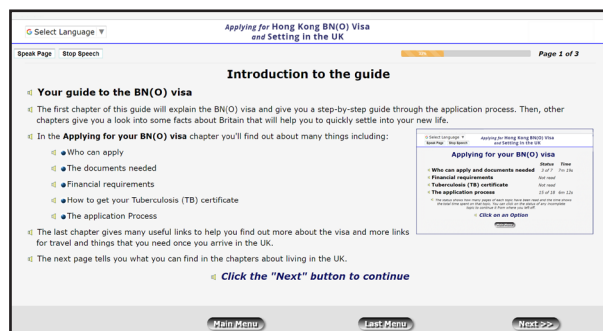


Applying for BN(O) - steps to citizenship

Applying for BN(O) Visa and Settling in the UK – Topic by Topic



Applying for BN(O) - menu



Applying for BN(O) - introduction to the guide

About the visa and the guide

The Background

A brief history of Hong Kong and the reasons behind the introduction of the BN(O) visa.

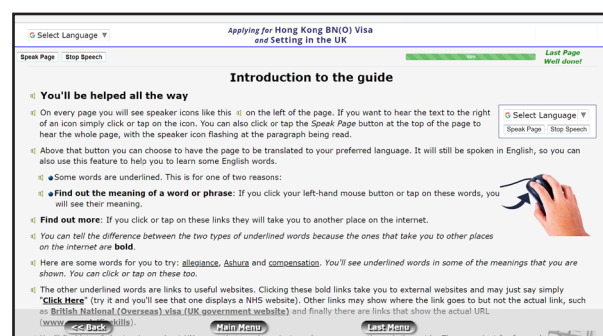
The new visa

An outline of when the Hong Kong BN(O) was introduced, who can apply for it and what it entitles them to do.

The timescale for applying for settled status and British Citizenship.

Introduction to the guide

The guide starts with an explanation of what is in the guide. It explains many of its features like looking up words in the glossary and lots of other features of the program including the simple quizzes that are found throughout the guide so that what has been read in the guide has been understood.



Applying for BN(O) - introduction to the guide

Applying for your BN(O) visa

Who can apply and documents needed

A look at who can apply for a BN(O) pointing mentioning, also, families and who will not be eligible to apply. The documents needed are covered together with ways that you can identify and current residence.

You will also need to prove your financial position and some examples of how this can be done are given. The guide goes on to explain what is meant by family for people who can apply with you.

Finally, in this section, you will discover the rules determining whether dependants can apply for the visa and the situation for people who already live in the UK.

Financial requirements

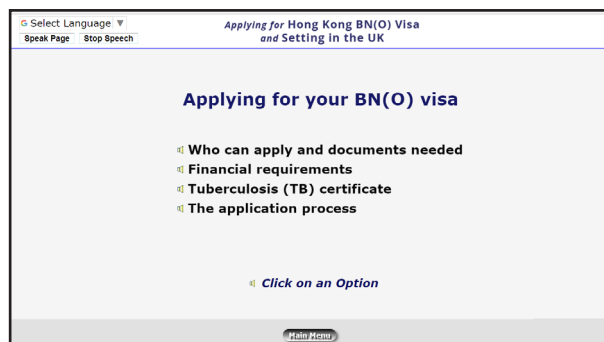
You need to prove that you can accommodate and give financial support for yourself and your family members for a period when you arrive in the UK. You will find details of ways that you can do this and who is exempt from this requirement.

Tuberculosis (TB) certificate

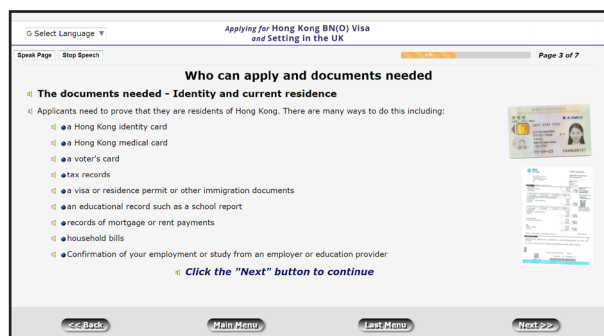
The sections give details about the TB test and where to get it. This includes links to the UK government website giving more details about the test and also links to the government pages listing where you can find an approved testing centre either in Hong Kong or the UK.

The application process

First, the guide gives a link that you can click so that you can check the very latest guidance on the UK government website. The guide then proceeds with a step-by-step instructions to take you through the application process.



Applying for BN(O) - applying for the BN(O) visa



Applying for BN(O) - who can apply and documents you need

The first step is a link that takes you to the UK government's web page ready for you to start your application. Clicking the link opens a new window so that you can follow the steps in the guide as you go through your application.

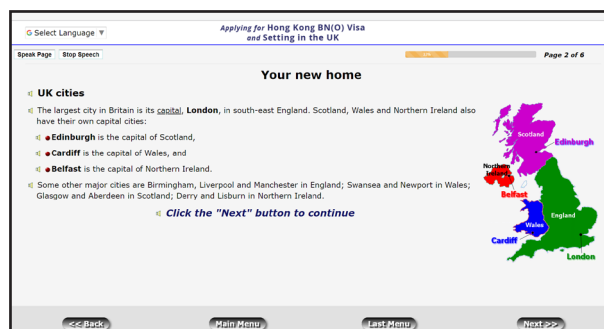
Then the application process is followed step-by-step, covering aspects of filling in the form like where you want to move to in the UK, the type of passport that you are using and the verification methods used for your email and phone numbers. Details of how to confirm your identity, including details of using the government's are also given.

Importantly, the guide tells you how you can see your progress through the application process at any time.

A look at living in the UK



Applying for BN(O) - a look at living in the UK



Applying for BN(O) - your new home

Your new home

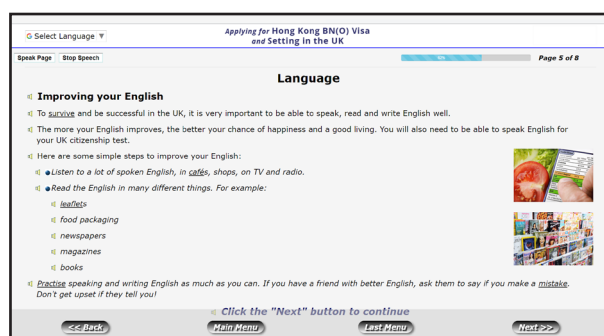
Discovering the four countries of the United Kingdom and some of the major cities in it. There is a look at the British weather and some hints and tips for newcomers to the UK.

Language

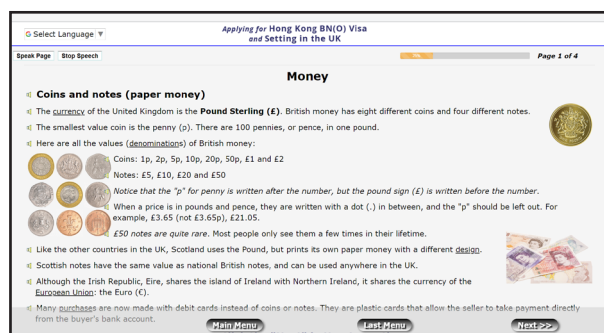
Although most people in the United Kingdom speak English there are some different languages and where they are spoken is explained. There are also many regional accents and some of the major ones are explained. Finally, there are some hints and tips to help people to improve their English and some tips for filling in forms.

Customs

A look at polite ways of speaking and body language that can be seen across in the UK. Learn how to greet people in the UK and the best way to behave in groups and good manners. The guide looks at tolerance of differences within the UK And explains that most people in the UK are okay with all other people. The British government wants people to live together happily.



Applying for BN(O) - language



Applying for BN(O) - money

Money

Discover the UK currency and the coins and notes used. We look at some UK customs on taking the change from shopping or other purchases, no matter how small it is, or if it should be left as a tip and how that tip should be paid.

Life in the UK (The British way of Life) – Topic by Topic

What you will find near your new home

Provisions and supplies

This section shows lots of ways where food and other supplies can be bought. It first looks at the types of shops that are in the UK for to buy food from and other necessities. Next it looks at places to eat and the difference between cafes and restaurants. Other places where quick food can be obtained are also explained. There is also a section to show where to find a particular thing that a person may enjoy and shops that sell items from a person's own country. Section finishes with suggestions where shopping can be done more cheaply than in some major stores.

Accommodation

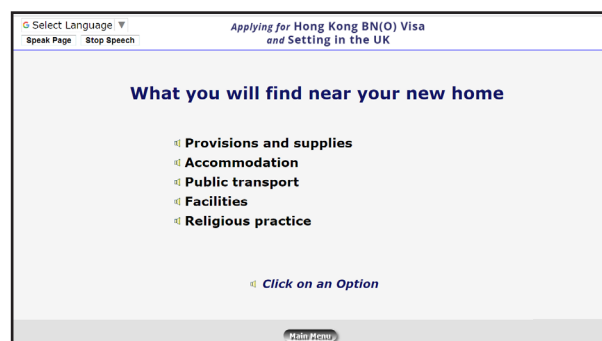
A look at some places to live in that may be suitable for people arriving in the UK. The types of places available are described and many organisations that may be able to help are listed. The types of homes available to rent are described again with links of where to find help. There are many ethnic communities in the UK and anyone preferring to live in one will find help in the guide.

Public transport

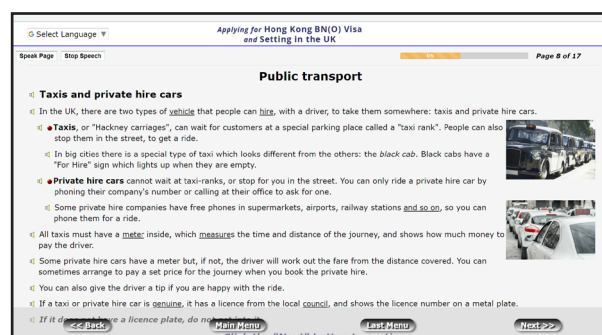
In this section there is a lot of useful information about the public transport within the UK. Buses, coaches, trains, trams, the Underground, taxis and private hire cars are all explained. How the fare for each of these my modes of transport is explained and also the best way to find cheap travel are also covered.

Facilities

The UK has many public libraries and this section explains what they can be used for and how to find the nearest. There are also a lot of leisure and community centres offering things like a library, museum, gym, swimming pools, sports halls and how to find one is explained. Where to



Applying for BN(O) - what you will find near your new home



Applying for BN(O) - public transport

find public toilets (WCs) is covered together with other places that may be available. Next there is a look at postal services in the UK including Royal Mail and other delivery services. Mobile phones and networks are also covered and there is a look at where free Wi-Fi and Internet access can be found.

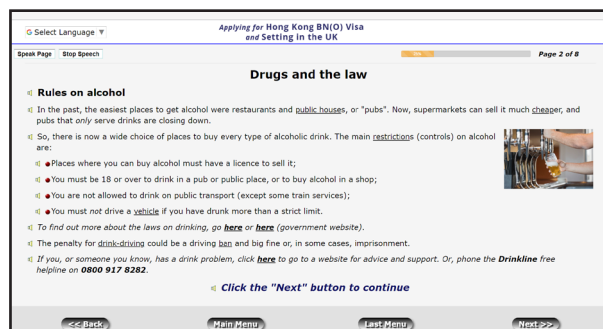
Religious practice

Discover more about the UK's religious communities and find places of worship. Festivals and holy days are explained together with links where people can find out more about various religions. There are explanations about how people can carry on with their prayers and rituals where they can find help with their religious needs. This action finishes with a look at diet, dress and grooming in connection with religious beliefs.

Staying safe and legal



Applying for BN(O) - staying safe in the UK



Applying for BN(O) - drugs and the law

Documentation

A look at all the documents needed for living in the UK. This includes passports identity cards and visa's. Details of who needs to register with the police are given together with where more information can be found. Licences are needed for some activities in the UK and what they are needed for and where to get them is given.

Social conduct

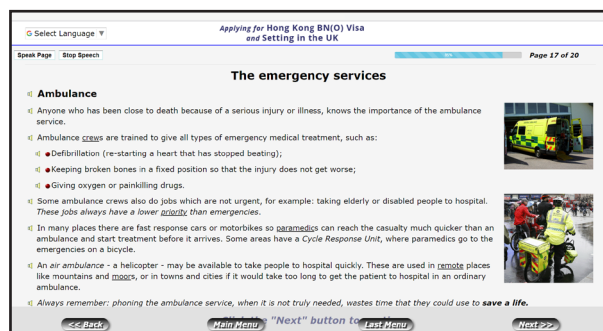
The way that the UK recycles rubbish and how anyone can help to take care of the environment. Discover the type of clothing that is acceptable in various places. How children are educated and what they are allowed to do for work is covered too. Find out about how animals are looked after in the UK both as pets and in the wild.

Drugs and the law

Looking at the rules concerning drinking alcohol, smoking tobacco and controlled substances.

Safety at home

How to deal with and treat infection and infestation. We look at fire and electrical safety, gas and boiler safety including landlord responsibilities and how homes can be kept secure.



Applying for BN(O) - the emergency services

Safety outdoors

Keeping safe on the roads including ways to cross the road safely and other advice for pedestrians. There is also a brief summary for care drivers. Warnings and help is given covering pickpockets bag snatchers and muggers and racism.

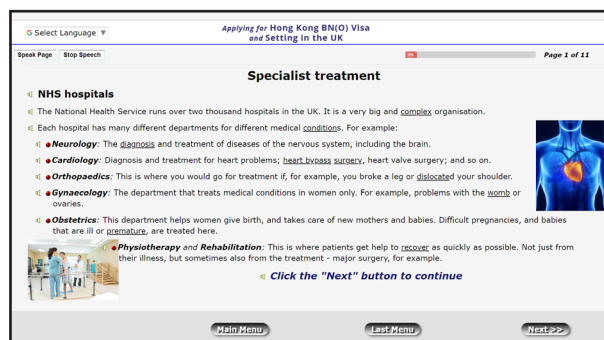
The emergency services

An outline of the emergency services available in the UK, what each service does and how to contact them. Help on deciding what is a real emergency and several telephone numbers are given for various situations.

Health, hygiene and the NHS



Applying for BN(O) - health, hygiene and the NHS



Applying for BN(O) - specialist treatment

Home hygiene

Covering how to treat of body infestations such as head-lice and where to get advice. Food storage is discussed, together with an explanation of the difference between "Best before" and "Use by". The correct way to dispose and recycle rubbish is explained and the section ends with mentioning the type of pests that may be encountered in the UK and how to control them.

Nutrition and the NHS

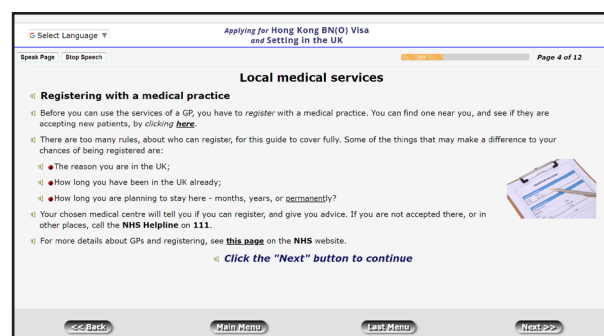
Where to find advice about nutrition and healthy eating, including the NHS choices website. How to avoid becoming ill and stop the spread of infections. For people who have a minor illness there is information about how to treat it.

Local medical services

A look at pharmacies, General Practitioners (including how to register, and walk-in centres and minor Injury units. Where to take a prescription and whether payment will be required are covered too. For teeth and eyes, dental and optical treatment is covered with useful links and a number for telephone help.

Specialist treatment

Discover the uses of NHS hospitals and their accident and emergency departments. Some of the alternatives to A & E are pointed out and information about hospital inpatients and outpatients is given. Private hospitals and clinics are also covered in the guide.

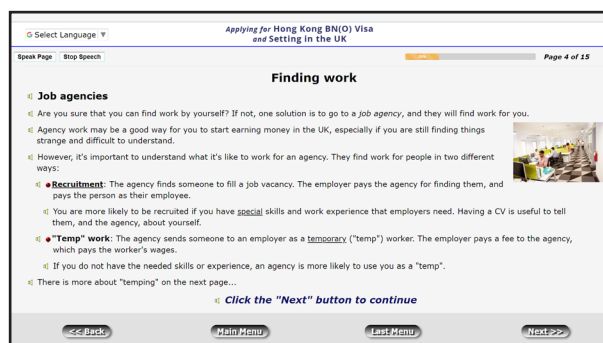


Applying for BN(O) - local medical services

Working and the steps to citizenship



Applying for BN(O) - working and the steps to citizenship



Applying for BN(O) - finding work

Steps to citizenship

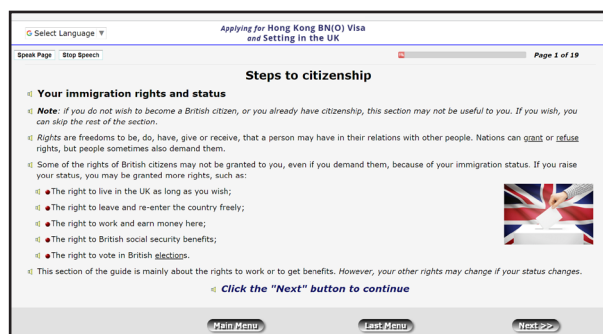
A look at immigration status and rights, extending or switching visas English language testing and the Life in the United Kingdom test. Other important areas covered include settlement, naturalisation and citizenship.

Finding work

Who can work in the UK is covered followed by guidance in job preparation and CVs? Then there are some ideas of where to look for job such as job agencies, local advertising and several other places. The role of the government's Find a job scheme and Find a job and Jobcentre Plus are explained.

Banking and money management

Find out about different account providers and accounts and choosing and opening an account. Bank services like Debit cards, ATM machines, depositing money and direct debits are covered together with understanding bank statements, saving money and budgeting and how to send money overseas.



Applying for BN(O) - steps to citizenship

A better life

Entertainment and culture

Links to various services are given in the entertainment at home section. Then the guide looks at other ways to spend leisure time such as public houses, bars, cinema, theatre and festivals. For people preferring more cultural entertainment such as museums, galleries, exhibits and art galleries. Finally, discover where to watch and play sport in the UK.

Your own transport

Public transport was covered earlier in the guide and this section moves bicycles, cars and motorcycles. It moves on to driving a car covering lessons and the test. Then, for people who have a car, the legal requirements of insurance, tax and the MOT test are covered.

Holidays and travel

The difference between public and bank holidays and when they happen is listed together with holiday entitlement at work. Then, for those wishing to holiday in the UK, some places to visit and links to more information are given. For anyone wanting to travel abroad, some rules are explained followed by information about airports and air travel.

Children and schooling

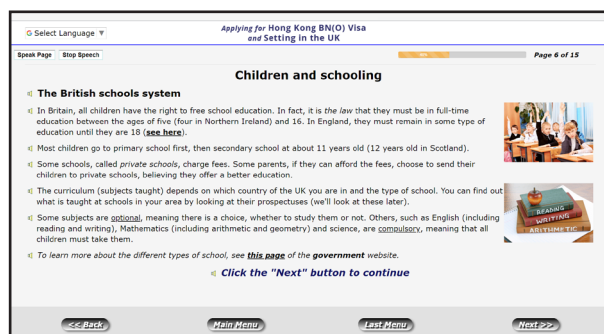
How to find childminding and pre-school places and where help with the costs may be available. The British school system is explained, including the differences between the four countries of the UK. Parents can choose a school for their child and how to do this, together with help finding the most suitable school is given.

Further education

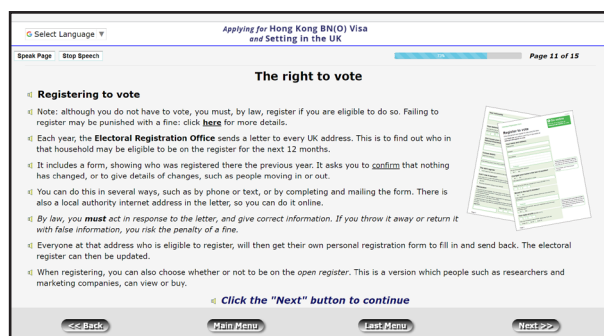
For people wishing to further their education, many suggestions are given including part-time courses and full-time training. The fees, and possible ways to get them funded are discussed.



Applying for BN(O) - a better life



Applying for BN(O) - children and schooling



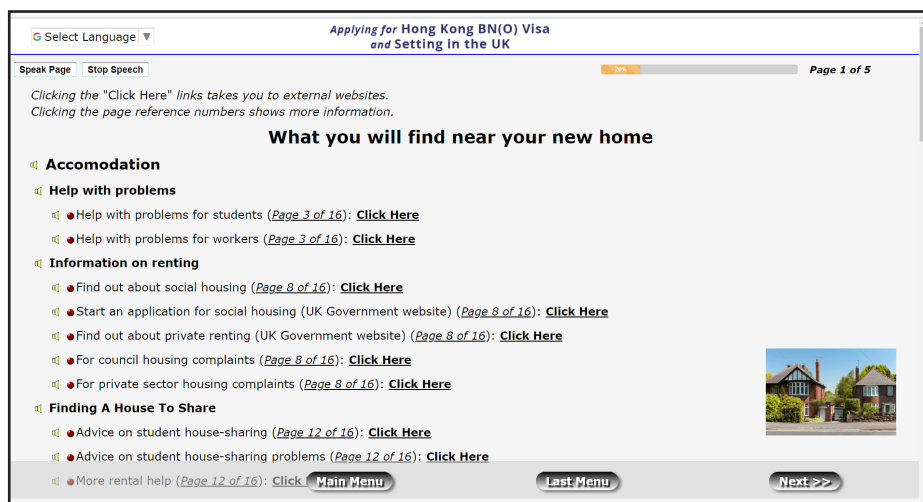
Applying for BN(O) - the right to vote

The right to vote

This section starts with an explanation of the structure of the British government and tax system. It then moves on to looking at the British political parties. There is an overview of who can vote in the UK elections and how to register. Finally, the procedure for voting on election day is explained.

Useful Links

The guide contains many links. This section brings them all together for easy access. Each page is full of the links to external sites, together with links to the relevant pages of the guide for extra information.

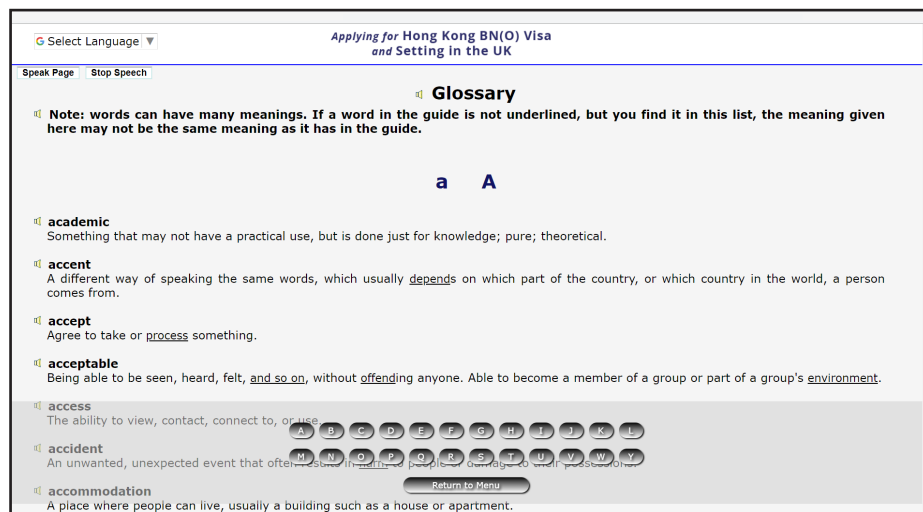


The Glossary

Throughout the guide there are links to words and terms that may be new to the user. Clicking these links displays the word with its definition.



The whole glossary is also available to view by selecting it from the Main Menu.



The 220 Soft Support Range

Guides in the 220 Soft Support Range

The guides are updated versions of the programs that have been licenced to and used in many UK Libraries and other organisations for over twenty years.

Universal Credit – Step by Step

A guide to the Universal Credit system that takes you through the steps of setting up your account, how much will be paid and when it will be paid. Other useful areas like budgeting and, for those new to computing, basic computer skills are also covered.

Demo at universalcredit.220soft.support/phoenix *

Job Skills – Find and Succeed

A guide to the skills and techniques you need for finding your new job. Among the many areas covered are interview preparation and techniques, tips on finding your ideal job, your first day at work and how to get the most from your job.

Demo at jobskills.220soft.support/phoenix *

Find a job – Step by Step

A guide to the government's Find a job system that takes you through the steps of setting up your account and managing it. Other useful areas like covering letters and creating CVs (with templates) and searching for jobs are also covered.

Demo at findajob.220soft.support/phoenix *

Life in the UK – The British way of Life

This guide is designed to support all newcomers to the UK. There is lots of useful information including customs, religion, travelling and public transport, health, hygiene and the NHS, making a living and benefits.

Demo at lifeintheuk.220soft.support/phoenix *

Collections in the 220 Soft Support Range

The collections bring together guides to support people facing changes in their life.

Redundancy Support contains:

- Redundancy and adapting to change
- Universal Credit – Step by Step
- Find a job – Step by Step

Demo at redundancy.support/phoenix *

Find a Job Support contains:

- Adapting to change (The above, Redundancy Support, without the mentions of redundancy)
- Universal Credit – Step by Step
- Find a job – Step by Step

Demo at findajob.support/phoenix *

Life in the UK Support contains:

- Settling in the UK
- Job Skills – Find and Succeed
- Find a job – Step by Step
- Universal Credit – Step by Step

Demo at lifeintheuk.support/phoenix *

BNO contains:

- Applying for your Hong Kong BN(O) Visa and Settling in the UK
- Job Skills – Find and Succeed
- Find a job – Step by Step

Demo at bno.lifeintheuk.support/phoenix *

* You will need a code to login to the demos. Please contact info@220soft.co.uk