

Buddy Love–The Student Buddy Programme

If you are looking for more information, head over to our [official Freshers' group of 2020](#) to have your doubts cleared.

Where do I buy new textbooks?

What clubs should I join?

Will EG ever be easy?

Is that Thai place near End Point any good?

Answers to these critical questions are often difficult to find for a first-year student in Manipal. Understandably, there's no time for extensive research when one spends most of their time navigating through the campus and ensuring that their umbrellas don't get blown away.

The nervousness and unfamiliarity that accompanies the first year of college in this small, bustling town is nothing out of the ordinary. Freshers often find themselves overwhelmed by the sheer number of things on their checklist. Having a readily available source of information is incredibly helpful. Thus, to make the winding hallways of the academic blocks feel more like home, enter MIT's **Buddy Programme**.

Interested students can enrol themselves for the Buddy Programme [here](#).

Second and third-year students can enrol themselves as a Buddy from 10th October till 15th October 2020.

First years can start enrolling themselves as a Bud from now till 21st November 2020.

What is the Buddy Programme?

This programme helps a fresher adjust to the ways of life in Manipal as quickly as possible. The freshman registers as a bud and finds their buddy in a senior student and can take

their help whenever required. The buddy's job is to provide guidance and support, whether it be soothing anxiety about academics at MIT or giving fast-food recommendations.

The bud will be matched to their buddy based on their shared interests, as entered on the website during the registration. This way, the buddy and the bud can connect on a more personal level. The buds can seek their buddy's help regarding queries related to academics, extracurriculars, and anything else they feel unsure of. It is also the responsibility of the buddy to ensure that the no-ragging policy is upheld. The programme will last for one semester, and the pair cannot withdraw from the project before the termination of this duration.

How will the Buddy Programme be implemented?

The Buddy Programme will be entirely voluntary. Students from the second and third years can apply as buddies by filling a registration form that will record their interests. The freshers will also fill a similar form, registering as buds.

The bud and the buddy will then be matched according to the details entered. The assignment is done automatically by an algorithm that aims to ensure that every bud gets a buddy and the buds are distributed fairly among all the buddies. The assignment takes the interests entered during registration into account and randomises the assignment in case of no matching interests. In case the algorithm is unable to find a match, there is an option for manual assignment. The bud can report any problem faced with a buddy to the Student Council via their website or the contact provided.

Spearheaded by the Student Council of MIT, this year's edition of the Buddy Programme aims to get a higher number of people registered. The project is also a certified one, and every senior will receive a certificate at the end of their tenure as a buddy.