I’m Meagan, I’m studying at La Trobe University. Currently studying a Bachelor of Law/ Bachelor of Accounting double degree. I grew up in regional Victoria and to study what I wanted to study I did have to relocate, so I decided to move to Melbourne and therefore I had to move out of home.

I’m living in a share house with two other girls, there’s three of us that live here. I’ve know these girls for a couple of years, we actually went to school together so I was pretty comfortable moving in with them and I spent a bit of time here prior to moving in as well.

Mum and Dad come down with me to the Open Days, assisted me in looking at sort of all the different financial situations in moving out of home, where living in different scenarios would sort of leave you financially. It was important to sort of weigh-up what was include within the costs so some of them did include all of your utilities like water, electricity, gas, internet, all of those kind of things. And then others would just be the rent and then you’d have to sort of work out what you thought those costs might be.

I think one of the main concerns my parents had was security, making sure you live in a house that the locks work and ensuring that you lived with people that, sort of, looking at the same things as you, for example if you’re not interested in partying every night you don’t really want to live with people that do that.

I speak to mum and dad on the phone regularly, usually a couple of times a week. There’s also a bit of texting that goes on and sometimes even a Skype session if we haven’t seen each other in a little while. There were defiantly concerns which were raised within the first few weeks I think when I put in a few phone calls to mum in regards of “how do I, what do I if I’ve got pink all over this white shirt?”. “Dad, the cars not starting today dad I’m not sure how to deal with it” So those few things were dealt with in the first few weeks, but I think they were pretty confident in sort of the lessons they’d taught me when I was at home.

I didn’t necessarily do a lot of cooking or a lot of cleaning or a lot of washing and things at home, but I always showed enough interest to know how those things were done and perhaps a little more practice would have been good. The cooking skill probably need some work.

I’m on Youth Allowance, I also work part time so I usually do a day or two a week working and often that can be supplemented by mum and dad.

If your child is looking at moving out of home, their pretty comfortable in what they’re thinking so have a bit of faith and just give them a bit of support. Look at the houses they’re looking at, make sure you’re comfortable with where they are going to live.

I love always having someone around to chat to and to go on adventures with. It’s really nice to have someone to come home to in your house, someone in your house that cares when your home and asks how you day was and all of those kind of things and you try and give that back to the people you live with as well.