If you receive an unexpected email, telephone call or letter from someone who claims to be from the Home Office, it may be a scam.

Fraudsters may call and tell you there is a serious problem with your visa. They appear to be genuine and convincing, and may give a false name and return phone number that appears to be a genuine Home Office number.

They may tell you to send money as soon as possible using different methods of payment, to prevent some kind of action, like deportation or cancellation of your visa.

Always question unwanted requests for your personal or financial information. Even if someone knows your basic details, it doesn’t mean they are genuine.

Learn the facts and stay safe:

If you receive an unexpected call, text message or email and are worried about your Visa status, contact your university or place of study where someone will help you.

The Home Office or UKVI will never ask you to pay visa fees or fines using itunes vouchers, gift cards, cryptocurrency or money transfer service.

Home Office and UKVI officials will never pressure you to make a financial transaction on the spot. If something feels wrong, question it.

If you think you have been a victim of fraud you should report it to your place of study and to Action Fraud. Call 0300 123 2040 or report it online at www.actionfraud.police.uk

Visit www.gov.uk and search ‘fraud, tricks and scams’ for further advice.