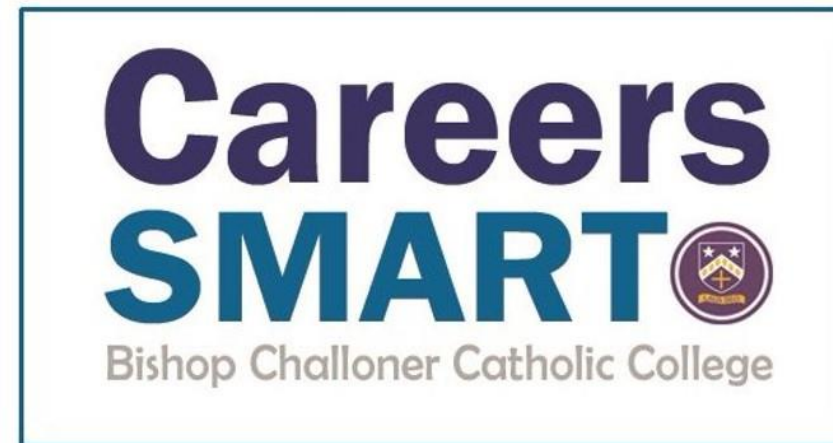


Accommodation at University





WHAT WE WILL COVER

1. What are my options for living at university?
2. When/how do I apply for accommodation?

What are my options?

Halls of Residence

Halls are large blocks of flats housing hundreds of students, with individual furnished bedrooms organised around corridors or apartments with a shared kitchen. In some cases bathrooms are also shared, although en-suite rooms are increasingly commonplace.

Private Accommodation

You may prefer to live in a privately rented house, which usually accommodates around four or five people. This is the path followed by most students from the second year onwards, but also by some first years.

Living at home

Staying at home can be a great alternative. It saves money on rent and bills, is convenient, and you'll avoid the stress of moving out to live with new people..

True or false:

Student rooms are always dark and
grotty

Student rooms are always dark and grotty

False!

- Accommodation has come a long way in recent years, and most student rooms in the UK are now modern and comfortable. This includes, good heating, double glazing, hot showers and speedy Wi-Fi. You can often look around student bedrooms on Open Days. Do remember though, that luxury comes at a price!

Kings College, London



University of Glasgow



Leeds Beckett



True or false:

It's easy to make friends in
halls

It's easy to make friends in halls

True!

- Living in halls in your first year as it really is a great way to make friends. You'll probably all have your first dinner together after you move in, or chat over a cup of tea while you move your belongings in. They'll be your first friends, and people that you see everyday, at your best and at your worst, so it's like a ready made family!



True or false:

As a student you might have
a 'roomie' (share a room with
someone)

As a student you might have a 'roomie'

False!

- You likely won't be sharing a room with anyone – having a 'roomie' is an American college thing, and hardly any bedrooms at universities in the UK have shared bedrooms.



True or false:

If I move into halls I won't
have to think about
paying bills

If I move into halls I won't have to think about paying bills

True!

- Generally, everything is included in the rent for halls. That's heating, internet, water, electrics... great given the current energy price rises! You get to explore the fun of paying your own bills in your second and third year if you chose to move out and rent a private house with some uni friends!



True or false:

Halls are often a short walk
away from lectures

Halls are often a short walk away from lectures

True!

- If it's a campus university you're looking at, it's likely that halls will be on campus, or a very short walk away from where the main action happens.
- Be aware that your lectures could take place anywhere on campus, not just in your 'department building' so you don't need to only look at halls that are closest to your department area. You might like to think about the walk to the gym, library, or shop!



True or false:

It doesn't cost a lot to
stay in halls

It doesn't cost a lot to stay in halls

False!

- The convenience of staying in halls of residence can come at a cost. The typical student will pay around £140 a week for university-supplied accommodation in their first year, so expect to cough up a total of nearly £6,000 for a 40 to 42-week academic year, with London averages closer to £8,000.
- It can be cheaper to stay in private accommodation, but you will have bills on top of your rent.
- You can apply for a student loan to help pay for accommodation but you will need to think about how much it covers.

True or false:

You have to cook your
own meals at uni

You have to cook your own meals at uni

False!

- Learning to cook at university can be fun, and you'll always have people around to ask for help and advice. It's also a nice social activity, and you can get to know people really well by sharing meals and catching up in the kitchen.
- If you're nervous about cooking or worried you won't be able to keep up with making every breakfast, lunch and dinner, you can choose a 'catered' option for halls, where you will get some or all of your meals provided.





What is student accommodation like?

Accommodation can vary depending on what type you choose. In halls you usually get a single bed, wardrobe, desk and chair as a minimum.

You can often pay for extras such as a room with a double bed, or an en-suite bathroom.



A shared kitchen

Whether you chose to be 'catered' or 'self catered', you will most likely find that you share a kitchen with around 6 or 7 other people, and you'll live in the same shared 'flat' as these other students.

This can be difficult if your flatmate is really messy and you are a clean-freak! Or if someone keeps stealing your food!

How and when to apply:

- Usually apply **after** you have accepted an offer
- Some universities will guarantee accommodation for 1st years, some won't!
- Be aware the deadline will be before your course starts – usually around 1st August
- On the application you may be asked to choose a few different options, as well as state your interests and hobbies
- You will usually need to pay a deposit when you reserve accommodation
- There is often accommodation still available on results day in case you get your insurance choice/go through Clearing





Research

- University websites
 - Compare different accommodation options
- Open Days
 - Usually the chance to tour accommodation
- The Student Room

