Where you belong

Everything you need to know about student accommodation
Find your place

You’re at the start of an incredible journey. New place, new people; perhaps living independently for the very first time.

It’s exciting, right?

It’s also a big change. Give yourself the security of a safe place to live that really feels like home, surrounded by friends, in the heart of your new university community.

Choose our student accommodation and the rest is easy.

• Guaranteed* accommodation close to everything on campus
• Wi-Fi, insurance and utilities arranged for you
• 24-hour security
• Support services to look after your wellbeing, all through the year

* See page 23 for Guarantee Scheme details.

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What’s it like to live here?

“Oakley Court made first year the best… very nice and green and close to the uni, you won’t want to leave at the end of first year.”
Oakley student, 2018

See for yourself

Get a feel for living here at the annual Accommodation Open Day. It’s usually in March, and you can have a look around all the accommodation available, and chat with real students about what it’s like. If you get an offer to study here, we’ll email you to tell you all about it.

The Living Concept Flat mixes elements from all our accommodation, to help you imagine your new home.

Not able to visit? 360° tours online allow you to see inside bedrooms and around the villages without leaving home. www.birmingham.ac.uk/accommodation

Make yourself at home

You’re guaranteed a friendly welcome to help you settle into your student accommodation.

Student mentors

Student mentors are current students, who are trained to provide free advice and guidance to students living here. They can help with the little things you’ll need at the beginning, like finding your way around and using the library, and with bigger challenges too, like worries about your course or your general wellbeing.

Hall Reps

Every area of student accommodation has its own Hall Reps. They’re students just like you, and they’ll arrange social events, from casino nights and cocktails to movie marathons and board games.

Finding friends

You don’t even have to wait until you arrive to start making friends. The Flatmate Finder app means you can connect with your new flatmates right after you get your accommodation confirmation.

How to apply
page 22
Be supported

You’re at the beginning of a brilliant new experience when you come to university. But whatever your background, there may be times when you need support.

Don’t worry. You’ll never have to manage alone.

At your accommodation, as well as a 24-hour reception, you’ll also have a Customer Service Manager or Site Manager to make sure you’re getting the best possible living experience.

Student mentors are here to help, if you feel more comfortable talking to another student.

And across the University, you’ll find plenty of support on offer: a Wellbeing Service to help with everyday challenges, and Welfare Tutors and a Counselling Service for your emotional wellbeing.

Find out more: www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/support

Be included

This community is for everyone.

Birmingham is a community: an inclusive, respectful and supportive living environment where diversity is championed.

We all have a shared responsibility to create and maintain this community, allowing each of us to thrive as individuals.

Are you an international student?

The International Student Advisory Service is here for you from the moment you decide to apply. They’ll help with everything from your visa application to letting you know what to expect from life in the UK.

Find out more: intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/as/studentservices/international

Do you have additional requirements?

If you have any specific accommodation needs, or require any aids or adaptations to your living space, please get in touch with Living. We’re committed to supporting you to feel at home.

Find out more: birmingham.ac.uk/untergraduate/support/disability
The University of Birmingham is committed to reducing our impact on the environment. You’ll see that all across this Fairtrade campus - from our cafes’ coffee grounds being turned into sustainable bio-fuels, to zero waste sent to landfill since 2010.

You’ll find sustainability is central to living here, too.

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**Live sustainably**

**Mixed recycling facilities**
on the doorstep

**Sustainable heating** powered by Combined Heat and Power stations

**Bottle amnesty**
over 13,000 bottles recycled energy saved: enough to make 34,250 cups of tea

**Sensor lighting** helping conserve energy

**Water-saving initiatives** like shower time monitors

**Junkbusters community project** recycling unwanted items at the end of the year £170,000 raised for the British Heart Foundation to date

**Eco cups**
100% recycled reusable cups 8,800 bought last year

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**Eat well**

**Meal Plan accommodation makes life easy:**
- food with friends
- 10% discount
- make budgeting easy

**Dietary requirements?**
Don't worry: a wide range of diets will always be catered for.

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**How does Meal Plan work?**
You'll have a weekly budget added to your ID card, which you can spend at over 30 different places to eat and drink across the whole campus – from traditional home-style meals and fresh international flavours to takeaway pizzas and coffee from Costa and Starbucks.

Payments are included in your accommodation costs, and you can check your balance at any time using the app.

Meal Plan’s flexible, cashless system isn’t expected to cover every meal, 7 days a week. You’ll have the same kitchen facilities as a student in self-catered accommodation, so if you feel like cooking for yourself or eating in the city, you won’t lose out: your budget will stay on your card to be used another time.

Best of all, you get 10% off the full price.

Find out more: [www.birmingham.ac.uk/mealplan](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/mealplan)

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**Social media**

@UoBEnvServices
@UoBEnvironmentalServices

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Passionate about sustainability? Apply to live in the Green Community

see page 19
What kind of accommodation will suit you best?

En-suite
Your bedroom comes with its own private bathroom, with a shower. You'll also have a shared kitchen, whether you're in Meal Plan or self-catered accommodation.

Shared
You'll be sharing a bathroom with your flatmates as well as a kitchen, but you’ll still have your own private bedroom. Some locations also offer duplex accommodation, where just two of you share a bathroom.

Studio
Your own exclusive space with a bedroom, bathroom, kitchen and diner.

How much will it cost?
Check the back page

Villages
Accommodation at Birmingham is a mix of privately-owned Partner Accommodation – mostly in lively Selly Oak, near campus – and University ‘villages’. Each has its own sense of community and a unique atmosphere. Wherever you live, you’ll be with other first years. 24-hour security, Wi-Fi, and utilities are all included for you, too.

Partner accommodation
Located close to campus or near the vibrant city centre

Vale Village
The biggest village, in beautiful lakeside parkland, with Meal Plan and self-catering

Pritchatts Park Village
Closest to University train station, with a friendly bar, café and quiet study zone

Selly Oak Village
Closest to campus, in the lively student area of Selly Oak
What to expect from an en-suite room

Sample floor plan: room, bed size and layout may vary

- A comfy single or three-quarter size bed*
- Your own small bathroom, with a toilet, washbasin and shower
- Pinboard for posters, flyers and photos
- Shelves for your books and files
- Wi-Fi, insurance and utilities all included*
- 24-hour security
- Desk and chair
- Shared kitchen
- Wardrobe

*Accommodation with 3/4 beds are marked with this icon.

En-suite accommodation

You’ll find en-suite accommodation in lots of locations on or near to campus.
As well as your en-suite room, you’ll have a shared kitchen where you can cook and socialise with your flatmates, whether you’re in Meal Plan or self-catered accommodation.

How to apply
page 22

Unite
- Self-catered
- 348 students
- Flats of 4 to 5 students

Total cost en-suite: £6,555 (42 weeks)
Deluxe en-suite: £6,767 (42 weeks)

Chamberlain
- Meal Plan
- 702 students
- Flats of 6 students

Total cost: £8,446 (42 weeks)

Host - The Metalworks
- Self-catered
- 300 students
- Flats of 5 students

Total cost: £6,763 (42 weeks)

Mason
- Self-catered
- 804 students
- Flats of 6 students

Total cost: £6,617 (42 weeks)

Liberty Court
- Self-catered
- 702 students
- Flats of 6 to 7 students

Total cost: £5,900 (42 weeks)

Liberty Park
- Self-catered
- 652 students
- Flats of 5 to 6 students

Total cost en-suite: £6,526 (42 weeks)
Deluxe en-suite: £6,699 (42 weeks)

Where are they?
Check the map on pages 10-11

Turn the page to see more en-suite accommodation
A big advantage of Liberty Court was definitely the proximity of the beautiful Cannon Hill Park, Aldi and the availability of free shuttle buses. The standard of accommodation was high and the [Hall reps] were great at organising social events both independently and in conjunction with the other accommodation sites.

Dominika, Law Graduate
Shared accommodation can be found in lots of locations on or near to campus.
You’ll share a bathroom and kitchen with your flatmates, but you’ll still have your own private study bedroom.

Aitken
- Meal Plan
- 147 students
- Flats of 6 students
Total cost: £6,042 (42 weeks)

Liberty Gardens
- Self-catered
- 240 students
- Flats of 6 students
Total cost: £4,517 (42 weeks)

Maple Bank
- Meal Plan
- Self-catered
- 435 students
- Flats of 5 students
Total cost: £3,880 (42 weeks Self-catered)
 £5,399 (42 weeks Meal Plan)

Oakley Court
- Shared bathrooms or duplexes (one bathroom between two)
- Self-catered
- 213 students
- Flats of 5 to 13 students
Total cost: £6,221 (42 weeks)

Shackleton
- Meal Plan
- 47 students
- Flats of 2 to 5 students
Total cost: £6,825 – £6,924 (42 weeks)

Ashcroft
- Self-catered
- 198 students
- Flats of 5 students
Total cost: £4,144 (42 weeks)

Tennis Court
- Self-catered
- 510 students
- Flats of 5 to 6 students
Total cost: £5,011 (42 weeks)

Tennis Court Green Community
- Self-catered
- 184 students
- Flats of 5 to 6 students
Total cost: £4,816 (42 weeks)

Ashcroft
- Self-catered
- 198 students
- Flats of 5 students
Total cost: £4,144 (42 weeks)

Tennis Court Green Community
- Self-catered
- 184 students
- Flats of 5 to 6 students
Total cost: £4,816 (42 weeks)

Pritchatts House Global Community
- Shared bathrooms or duplexes (one bathroom between two)
- Self-catered
- 162 students
- Flats of 5 to 18 students
Total cost: £3,995 (42 weeks)

The Spinney
- Self-catered
- 104 students
- Flats of 5 to 9 students
- Bedding and kitchen packs provided
Total cost: £5,418 (50 weeks) Postgraduate accommodation only

How close to campus?
View the map on pages 10-11

At university having friends from all over the world is so enriching. You can learn unique and interesting things from different cultures and it really broadened my horizons as a person as well as leaving me with lifelong friendships.

Grace, BSc Business Management Student

“Living in a courtyard made it feel very homely, and like our own little section of campus. Everyone is friendly and it has a real community spirit.”

Harriet, Green Community resident

“A unique living environment, home to UK and international students who want to build friendships around the world. These large flats are designed for socialising and sharing experiences.”

Grace, BSc Business Management Student

“At university having friends from all over the world is so enriching. You can learn unique and interesting things from different cultures and it really broadened my horizons as a person as well as leaving me with lifelong friendships.”

Grace, BSc Business Management Student
**FAQ**

**Will I be able to park my car?**

Parking is very limited and a permit is required; please only bring your car if there are exceptional circumstances. Not all residences have parking facilities, so check availability first. If you’re a blue badge holder, accessible parking spaces are available at all sites. To arrange yours, contact your site reception once you know where you’ll be living.

**Where can I get Wi-Fi?**

Wi-Fi is available across campus and throughout all accommodation, including the public areas. You can expect speeds of up to 75 mb/s.

**What about utility bills?**

You won’t need to worry about these when you live here. They’re part of your accommodation costs, so your Wi-Fi, heating, electricity, water and basic contents insurance bills are all covered.

**Where will I do my laundry?**

All the villages have their own washing and drying services. They’re open 24 hours a day, every day. The accommodation app lets you monitor the laundry, so you can see when your washing is finished or check if there’s a machine available.

**Will I get my preferred accommodation?**

When you apply, you’ll provide six location preferences. The Living team will try to offer you one of these options; if none are available, we’ll still try to give you your preference of bathroom and/or catering.

**Will my accommodation be safe and secure?**

Your safety is a priority. All University accommodation complies with the regulations set out by the Universities UK Code of Practice, which includes health and safety, maintenance and repair. All Partner accommodation meets the very similar standards of the National Code. You’ll have 24-hour security on hand, and be given clear guidance on what to do in an emergency. All we ask of you is that you act responsibly, for example by complying with fire safety advice, keeping flat doors locked, and looking out for your fellow students.

You’ll find more answers at [www.birmingham.ac.uk/accommodation/faqs](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/accommodation/faqs)

Ready to apply? Turn the page
How to apply

1. Congratulations! You've been offered a place by the end of January 2019.

2. Apply online for accommodation at www.birmingham.ac.uk accommodation from 1 December 2018.

3. Last date you can apply and be guaranteed accommodation
   - Undergraduate UK/EU students: 31 May 2019
   - All international and postgraduate students: 31 July 2019

Holding the University of Birmingham as your insurance offer?
You should still apply for accommodation – your application will be reviewed after all guarantee scheme students have been allocated bedrooms.

Undergraduate Guarantee Scheme
As a new first year, you’re guaranteed a room in either University-owned or Partner accommodation, provided you have:
- Applied to the University of Birmingham through UCAS
- Met the terms of your offer and accepted it as your firm choice
- Submitted the application by 31 May 2019 (UK/EU students) or 31 July 2019 (international students)
- Confirmed by 1 September 2019 that you’re coming to the University
- Come to the University of Birmingham on your own
- Applied for accommodation for a full academic year on a 42-week contract

Postgraduate Guarantee Scheme
This guarantees a room in either University-owned or Partner accommodation to all first-year postgraduate international and non-UK students, provided you have:
- Met the terms of your offer and accepted it as your firm choice
- Submitted the accommodation application by 31 July 2019
- Confirmed by 1 September 2019 that you’re coming to the University
- Come to the University of Birmingham on your own
- Applied for accommodation for a full academic year on a 50-week contract

Receive your offer

1. Your offer was unconditional and your results were just what you hoped for August 2019 – within 14 working days of A level results day (15 August 2019)
2. Secure your offer with a pre-payment
   - University-owned accommodation: £550 pre-payment (deducted from the overall cost)
   - Partner accommodation: payable to Partner accommodation, who will contact you directly (refundable deposit)
3. Your accommodation is confirmed

Private accommodation
Not all students choose to live in University accommodation. Throughout your University experience, if you’d like to rent from the private sector, you don’t have to do it alone. The Community Living Team can help you find alternative quality accommodation in conjunction with Guild Lettings, the Guild of Students’ own lettings service.
You can get advice on costs, contracts and suitable locations to live. Guild Lettings won’t charge you administration fees, and they only work with landlords accredited with the Midland Landlord Accreditation Scheme.
Find out more: www.guildlettingsbirmingham.co.uk

Got questions?
Living is the University’s accommodation service. Get in touch with the team, and they’ll help you find the right answers.
+44 (0)121 414 8000 living@contacts.bham.ac.uk
On campus: visit the Living branch in University Centre.

StudentPad
The University’s official property search engine, to help you find a new home: www.birminghamstudentpad.co.uk

Apply for your student loan by 31 May 2019

Congratulations! You’ve been offered a place by the end of January 2019.

Apply online for accommodation at www.birmingham.ac.uk accommodation from 1 December 2018.

Last date you can apply and be guaranteed accommodation
- Undergraduate UK/EU students: 31 May 2019
- All international and postgraduate students: 31 July 2019

Receive your offer of accommodation

Your offer was unconditional usually late July 2019

Secure your offer with a pre-payment

University-owned accommodation: £550 pre-payment (deducted from the overall cost)

Partner accommodation: payable to Partner accommodation, who will contact you directly (refundable deposit)

Your accommodation is confirmed
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* Partner Accommodation
(^) Studios and Apartments also suitable for couples

You are bound by the accommodation contract for the 42/50 weeks stated, unless you withdraw from the University (University owned accommodation only) or find a replacement student to take over the contract. Full terms and conditions are available online.

**DISCLAIMER**

Although this information was correct at the date of publication (January 2019), details and other conditions are subject to revision on occasion. Services may be added, changed or withdrawn. Please visit www.birmingham.ac.uk/accommodation for the most up to date accommodation information. Our accommodation guide is in circulation for 12 months and re-printed in January each year.

**YOUR ACCOMMODATION FEE INCLUDES**

- WiFi
- Insurance
- Utilities
- 24hr Service
- Weekly prices are only indicative towards total costs