Where you belong
Everything you need to know about student accommodation
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.

* 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

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.

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

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

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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

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/studentervices/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/undergraduate/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 cafés’ 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.

Social media
@UoBEEnvServices
@UoBEEnvirolmentalServices

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.

Mixed recycling facilities
Sustainable heating
Bottle amnesty
Sensor lighting
on the doorstep
powered by Combined Heat and Power stations
over 13,000 bottles recycled
energy saved; enough to make 34,250 cups of tea
helping conserve energy

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
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.

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.

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

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

3. Selly Oak Village
Closest to campus, in the lively student area of Selly Oak

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

How much will it cost?
Check the back page
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
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: £6,655 (42 weeks)
Deluxe en-suite: £6,767 (42 weeks)

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

Total cost: £6,846 (42 weeks)

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

Total cost: £6,763 (42 weeks)

Liberty Court
- Self-catered
- 332 students
- Flats of 6 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)

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

Total cost: £6,617 (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

What to expect from a bedroom with a shared bathroom

Sharing a bathroom is probably what you do at home, so this won’t feel any different. You’ll also have a shared kitchen, so you can relax with your friends and flatmates, and maybe share some of the cooking too.

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

How to apply page 22

- A comfy single or three-quarter size bed in your own private bedroom
- Wi-Fi, insurance and utilities all included
- Pinboard for posters, flyers and photos
- Shelves for your books and files
- Shared bathroom
- Desk and chair
- Shared kitchen
- Wardrobe

Jarratt Hall
- Self-catered
- 699 students
- Flats of 4 to 6 students
- Total cost: £6,296 (42 weeks)
- £7,503 (50 weeks)

Elgar Court
- Self-catered
- 236 students
- Flats of 6 students
- Total cost: £6,277 (42 weeks)

Bournbrook
- Self-catered
- 179 students
- Flats of 4 to 7 students
- Total cost: £6,719 (42 weeks)

Shackleton
- Meal Plan
- 288 students
- Flats of 5 to 8 students
- Total cost: £8,060 (42 weeks)
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: £4,397 (42 weeks)

### Maple Bank
- **Meal Plan**
- Self-catered
- 435 students
- Flats of 5 students

Total cost: £3,880 (42 weeks Self-catered)
£5,359 (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: £5,321 (42 weeks)

### Shackleton
- **Meal Plan**
- 47 students
- Flats of 2 to 5 students

Total cost: £6,825 – £6,924 (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**
- 164 students
- Flats of 5 to 6 students

Total cost: £4,816 (42 weeks)

### The Spinney
- **Self-catered**
- 104 students
- Flats of 5 to 9 students
- Bedding and kitchen packs provided

Total cost: £5,349 (50 weeks) Postgraduate accommodation only

### 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)

### Ashcroft
- **Self-catered**
- 198 students
- Flats of 6 students

Total cost: £4,144 (42 weeks)

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

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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
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.

Still have a question?

You’ll find more answers at www.birmingham.ac.uk/accommodation/faqs

Ready to apply?

Turn the page

Studios and apartments

You’ll have your own bathroom, kitchen and diner alongside your bedroom in these contemporary spaces.

Studios and apartments range in size from single studios to apartments suitable for couples, and are particularly popular with mature undergraduate students and postgraduates.

The Vale Village

Studios and apartments in Shackleton, Mason and Chamberlain are available on a 42-week undergraduate contract or 50-week postgraduate contract. They’re usually on the top floor or in a separate part of the building.

Pritchatts Road

These studios and apartments are located in four beautiful converted houses at the entrance to Pritchatts Park Village. They’re available on a 50-week postgraduate contract only.

Studio

• Weekly fee: £197
• Pritchatts Road
• Average size: 19m²

Studio Plus

• Weekly fee: £210 – 212
• Pritchatts Road and Shackleton
• Average size: 28m²

Studio Apartment

• Weekly fee: £248
• Pritchatts Road, Shackleton, Mason and Chamberlain
• Average size: 32m²

Studio Apartment Plus

• Weekly fee: £261 – £265
• Pritchatts Road and Mason
• Average size: 60m²

See inside with a 360° tour.

www.birmingham.ac.uk/accommodation
**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 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

   **Apply for your student loan by 31 May 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

**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

**Receive your offer**

1. **Receive your offer of accommodation**
   - Your offer was unconditional
   - Usually late July 2019
   - University-owned accommodation: £550 pre-payment (deducted from the overall cost)

2. **Secure your offer with a pre-payment**
   - 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.

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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.
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**DISCLAIMER**

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

You are bound by the accommodation contract for the 42/50 weeks stated. If you withdraw from the University you must inform your accommodation provider, who will then seek to sublet the contract. Full terms and conditions are available online.