

Accommodation Policy 20/21 Information for students and parents.

The University makes a guarantee of halls accommodation to a number of cohorts of students on an annual basis more explicitly listed below.

Accommodation Guarantees

Subject to **the Limitations (as set out below)** an offer of accommodation in a Hall of Residence will be guaranteed to an applicant who is;

- a) not currently registered as a student at the University but who has been made an **Unconditional** offer to study on a full-time or part-time undergraduate or postgraduate programme at the University which they have firmly accepted and have applied for accommodation by 1st August of the year of entry onto the programme.
- b) not currently registered as a student at the University but who has been made a **conditional** offer to study on a full time or part-time undergraduate or postgraduate programme at the University which they have firmly accepted as a first choice and have applied for accommodation by 1st August of the year of entry onto the programme and has fulfilled the conditions of that offer by 31st August of the year of entry.
- c) guaranteed accommodation as part of a University exchange or placement programme
- d) guaranteed accommodation as part of clearing or adjustment.

The guarantee extends only to a room in halls. There is no guarantee that a particular type of room at a particular rent will be available.

The University reserves the right to extend the guarantee to other cohorts of students as deemed appropriate on an annual basis.

Not covered by the Accommodation Guarantee.

- a) Applicants who put Reading as an insurance choice **are NOT guaranteed** accommodation in halls. It is important to **take note of this** as it may mean that you need to make alternative private arrangements for accommodation if the halls are oversubscribed.
- b) Returning students – there are limited places for returning students in selected room types. No returning student is guaranteed accommodation. Where demand exceeds supply, places are allocated by random ballot. The terms and conditions of application, how and when to apply and any Limitations will be communicated prior to the opening date of applications for returning students.

Limitations of offers.

- a) **Under 18's**

No offer of accommodation shall be made to an applicant who is not 17 years of age by the

start of the residency period.

b) Students deemed unsuitable for admission into a Hall of Residence.

Examples of students who might be deemed as unsuitable include those with an outstanding debt to the University, those with certain criminal convictions and students with an unsatisfactory disciplinary record. It may also include Vexatious Complainants or particularly disruptive individuals.

This is not an exhaustive list and the University reserves the right to withdraw any offer of accommodation at any time (even after the offer has been made and accepted) should the student be deemed unsuitable.

Allocations and priority of offers of accommodation

Where possible students will be offered one of their choices of room type/rental preferences however there is no guarantee that any of these choices will be available at the time of offer.

Where possible we try and allocate like-minded students together but this is not always possible. You may request an inter hall transfer **after 2 weeks** of being resident. There is no guarantee we can organize a transfer but will do as much as possible to assist. If your request is successful, there will be a cost of £50 payable to the University.

Priority order of allocations/offers

There are numerous factors which influence the priority of offers to rooms. As an example;

- Disabled students and students with genuine specific needs will be prioritised for specific rooms.
- Under 18s will be prioritised for room offers as they do not have opportunities to take out private rental contracts. A guarantor will be required.

After any priority offers are made the online system will generate the next offer matched as far as possible to student preferences compared to the available rooms remaining.

NB: For new students rooms are not prioritised for offers on a first come first serve basis due to matching student preferences and other considerations as outlined above.
Members of staff do not have influence over the method of prioritisation.