Why return to halls?

Are you still looking for accommodation for next academic year?

The Accommodation Team are here to help! With a variety of room types available for returning students, you can apply to continue to live in a welcoming and supportive community and return to halls. For the available accommodation options, see below.

**Available accommodation options**

- **Catered**
  - Northcote Crescent – Catered Ensuite
  - St. Patrick’s Hall – all Catered room types
  - Wroxham hall – all Catered room types
  - Winter Hall – all Catered room types

- **Self-catered**
  - Bridge Hall – Premium Ensuite (limited availability)
  - Premium Shared Bathroom (no availability)
  - Bridge Townhouses
  - Childs/Mackinder/Sheffield Halls – Premium Ensuite
  - Northcourt Houses and Crescent House – Ensuite (Priority to DAS supported students)
  - Northcourt Houses – Ensuite / Shared bathroom (with/without washbasin)
  - St. George’s Hall – Ensuite
  - Townhouse – Ensuite / Shared bathroom with/out washbasin
  - Benyon – Quiet Ensuite (limited remaining availability)
  - St. George’s Hall – Ensuite
  - Benyon – Quiet Ensuite (limited remaining availability)
  - Sherfield – Ensuite (limited remaining availability)
  - St. George’s Hall – Ensuite
  - Benyon – Quiet Ensuite (limited remaining availability)
  - Sherfield – Ensuite (limited remaining availability)

- **Families, couples, and mature students**
  - Northcourt Houses – Study Suites
  - St. Patrick’s Hall – Study suite

Hear from fourth year student Joe Leak, who applied to return to hall and has spent his final year living in Stenton Townhouse.

Hi Joe, thanks for answering our questions! So, tell us, why did you decide to apply to return to halls?

Hi there, I’m excited to share my experiences today. So, the reason I decided to return to halls was down to how easy the application process is today. So, the reason I decided to return to halls was down to how easy the application process is today.

The returner application process is very easy. I found out very quickly after my application was handed in that I had a place in Stenton Townhouses which put my mind at rest and allowed me to continue with my placement without having any worries. The Accommodation staff are super helpful, and the simple application process was a big factor as to why I returned to halls.

Thanks Joe, it has been great chatting with you today and hearing all about your amazing experiences of living in halls. We’re so glad you decided to come back to join us!

That sounds lovely, what would you say are the top five benefits of living in halls?

1. Quality of accommodation.
2. The Halls Hotline and attentiveness of the halls team.
3. Great location - how close the centre of campus and the facilities are.
4. Meeting new people.
5. Simple application process.

Living in halls gives you access to a variety of facilities, what facilities do you use the most and how do you think these have improved your hall experience?

The common rooms were brilliant in my first year as they are a great place to meet new people and socialise outside of your flat. The study spaces within halls are great for studying with friends and a space where you can get out of your flat to do some work, I’ve used these a lot during my final year! Also, the catering facilities available are second to none and offer lots of different options for full meals and other food and drink.

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It sounds like you’ve used a wide range of facilities which is great to hear. The ‘home at halls’ programme offers a wide variety of events and activities for hall residents to get involved in. From arts and crafts to cooking and keeping fit, events, there is so much to choose from! Has the ‘home at halls’ programme helped create a community? If so, how has it make you feel part of a community?

Yes definitely, the range of events gives everyone the opportunity to get involved on their own or with other members of their flat too. During lockdown, they transitioned to all online events really quickly and they prepare event packs for activities that need additional items. Being given the items or ingredients encourages more people to do them and has kept me entertained during lockdown.

How did you find the returner application process?

The returner application process is very easy. I applied for Stenton Townhouses, Bridges Townhouses and a Premium Ensuite room at Mackinder Hall. For the Townhouses I applied with a group of six others by using a code when applying. I found out very quickly after my application was handed in that I had a place in Stenton Townhouses which put my mind at rest and allowed me to continue with my placement without having any worries. The Accommodation staff are super helpful, and the simple application process was a big factor as to why I returned to halls.

Thanks, Joe, it has been great chatting with you today and hearing all about your amazing experiences of living in halls. We’re so glad you decided to come back to join us!

Visit the Return to hall webpage here: [reading.ac.uk/return-to-hall](https://www.reading.ac.uk/return-to-hall) to find out more or apply now! [https://applicant.reading.ac.uk/Login.aspx](https://applicant.reading.ac.uk/Login.aspx)

You can also listen to episode one of the ‘My home at halls’ podcast series, ‘Return to halls’ to hear all about other returning student’s experiences of living in halls.[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KepGqg8Jps](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7KepGqg8Jps)