

Q1: What types of accommodation are available for my 1st, 2nd and 3rd year?

A: **Halls of residence** – these are University managed and include Brook Street Halls of Residence, Hughenden Park Student Village and Windsor House.
Halls are primarily allocated to 1st years however there is limited availability for 2nd and 3rd years to return to halls.
Private Sector (including Lodgings) – see bucksnewstudentpad.co.uk The University offers a range of help and advice to help you find a house for your 2nd and 3rd years.

Q2: How do I pay my rent?

A: You will need to log on to myroom.bucks.ac.uk/e-student using your original log on details that you accepted your room with and click rent statement on the left of the screen.

Q3: When do I pay rent for Halls?

A: Rent is paid in three termly instalments, after or at the same time that you receive your student loan; October, January and April.

Q4: What if I am struggling to pay my rent?

A: The last thing we want to do is evict you for not paying rent. However, we expect all students to make every effort to pay their rent on time. If you have difficulty paying rent it is essential that you inform us straight away so we can discuss payment arrangements with you and set up a manageable payment plan. If in the Private Sector we also advise you speak to the Students' Union Advice Centre who can offer you financial support and advice.

Q5: Do students have to pay council tax?

No, but you must contact The Student Centre in High Wycombe (located on the first floor of North Wing next to the Accommodation Service, N1.02) or in Uxbridge (located on the 2nd floor) to request council tax exemption. If you do not do this you may receive a court summons. See wycombe.gov.uk for more information.

Q6: What do I need to bring with me?

A: These are some of the items you may need to bring with you to University:

- Sufficient funds for initial rent payment and your Accommodation Payment Schedule
- Enough money to live on until you receive further funds
- Any loan/funding information
- NHS Medical card, National Insurance Card, and Passport for identification purposes
- Any course information you have received
- Cutlery, crockery, kitchen utensils, pots and pans, etc.
- Duvet, pillow, and sheets
- Towels, toilet rolls, toiletries
- General cleaning items, e.g. washing up liquid, tea towel, dishcloths
- Padlock for Kitchen cupboard
- If bringing a bicycle, a strong padlock

Please be advised that there are plenty of places within the town where you can purchase homeware and other items as needed.

Q7: How do I apply for halls and is there a deadline for completing my application?

A: Once you have been given a firm, conditional or unconditional offer and you have accepted Bucks as your first choice, the application information will be sent out automatically, via email to the email address you gave UCAS. This usually occurs around April / May.

If you have still have not received any information from us in June, then please contact us, with your student ID number to hand, if you have been given one.

Your application should be completed as soon as possible, as rooms are allocated on a first-come first-serve basis. Therefore, the quicker you submit your application the more chance you will have of getting your first choice of accommodation. At Bucks we guarantee a room in University Halls for all applicants that apply for one of our undergraduate programmes by 30 June 2015.

If you are an Uxbridge based student and are interested in a room in a HTS property, you will be able to come along to one of our 'Meet and Greet' days where you will be able to form a group with people on similar courses and choose a house from those available.

Q8: Who will I live with?

A: Our accommodation is generally mixed gender, however if you would like to be in an all-female / all-male flat you can specify this on your application form and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

Q9: Can guests stay overnight in halls?

A: All visitors have to be signed into halls, in person, with photographic identification, by 10pm. We have a flexible approach to overnight guests for the odd night, as long as they don't stay too often and other students have no objections. When residents sign in a guest, they have to take full responsibility for their guest's actions.

Q10: Why is my accommodation contract longer than the academic year?

A: The contracts are all on a 42 week basis as any shorter than this would not make the halls financially viable. The halls contracts are still shorter than private sector contracts.

Q11: Is there any catered accommodation?

A: There is no University-managed catered accommodation. In High Wycombe, there are catering services on Queen Alexandra Road campus and there are three large supermarkets (Tesco, Sainsbury's, and Morrison's) all within a short walk of the halls.

Q12: Can I live in halls over the summer?

A: It is possible to live in halls over summer; however this is a separate contract and not a continuation of your licence (if you lived there over the academic year). We refer to this as 'Open Halls'. Rooms depend on availability.

Q13: Is there security at halls?

A: All of our halls accommodation is covered by staff 24 hours a day. Only residents and visitors which are signed in by a resident can enter halls.

Q14: Can I transfer rooms or flats or move to live with my friends?

A: It is possible to move rooms within our halls of residence; however this depends on available rooms and there is an administration charge. We cannot guarantee that a move can be accommodated but each case is reviewed individually and where possible we try to help. A transfer request form can be found [here](#).

Q15: What is a Senior Resident?

A: A Senior Resident (SR) is normally somebody who has been a student at Bucks for at least a year. There is a team of SRs based at Brook Street, Hughenden Park Student Village and Windsor House. The SR role includes dealing with lifestyle and welfare issues and they are available to help with issues that may be making living in your accommodation difficult, such as noise complaints and cleanliness.

The SRs can mediate problems between housemates, are first aid trained and are responsible for assisting the security and supporting the accommodation team in monitoring and addressing discipline. On moving in day the SRs will be available to help you settle in and are on hand to answer questions.

Excessive noise is not acceptable in any University-managed accommodation. If you experience excessive noise or anti-social behaviour outside of office hours you need to contact the SR or security at your halls. During office hours, please report to the Accommodation Service.

Q16: Do I have Internet in my halls room and how do I gain access?

A: Yes, all halls have internet access. Once you have enrolled you will be given your login and password and this will be required to log onto the internet network at all sites.

Q17: Is there a launderette at the halls?

A: Yes, there are laundry facilities in each of our halls of residence. A wash currently costs £2.50 and a dry costs £1.00. The facilities are provided by [Circuit Laundry](#).

Q18: Do I have to pay a deposit to secure a room in halls?

A: To secure a room you must pay a £300 prepayment deposit. The £300 will be deducted from the rent you owe; therefore the deposit is not refunded at the end of the year.

Q19: What if I want to leave halls?

A: **In the first week** of the Licence period, a student may give one week's notice to leave for any reason. You will be charged to the date your key is returned plus a £150 withdrawal fee. If you fail to give the appropriate notice then rent in lieu of notice will be charged.

After the first week of the Licence period: the Licence Agreement becomes an absolute covenant and a student will be charged rent until the end of the residential agreement (whether they leave the accommodation or are evicted from it). Students can only give notice and be released from this clause in exceptional circumstances.

If you cease to be a student: If you cease to be a student at any time during the Licence period you must vacate the halls, giving one week's notice. You will be charged to the date your key is returned plus a £150 withdrawal fee. If you fail to give the appropriate notice then rent in lieu of notice will be charged.

Q20: Can I bring a car?

A: No, all our halls are located in densely populated areas; you are therefore prohibited, through planning consent, from bringing a car, regardless of where you might park it. It is also contrary to the Licence Agreement and can result in the loss of accommodation. Blue Badge holders are permitted to bring a car, however you need to contact the Accommodation Service to arrange this.

For students living in Uxbridge parking availability depends on the individual property, often road side parking is available, but you may need to apply to the [London Borough of Hillingdon](#) for a parking permit. Please note that there is no parking on campus for students.

Q21: Do I have to go home at Christmas and Easter?

A: No, your Licence runs for the full 42 weeks, so you can stay in halls if you wish.

Q22: Can 2nd and 3rd year students live in halls?

A: Yes but there is limited availability. The applications for returners are typically released after Christmas vacation.

Q23: Is there accommodation in Uxbridge?

A: We have university-managed accommodation in Uxbridge on the Head Tenancy Scheme (HTS). This scheme is jointly managed between the University and Nupad Ltd.

The properties are family-type homes, range in size and layout and have between 4 and 6 bedrooms. Houses are let on single tenancies. The cost of renting HTS properties varies depending on the location, size and quality of the individual property.

Q24: I'm studying in Uxbridge; can I apply for halls in High Wycombe?

A: First year/semester students can apply for halls of residences in High Wycombe. We can accommodate you on a shorter licence to cover the period you are studying at Uxbridge before you go onto placement. Please be aware that the Uxbridge campus is approximately 15 miles from High Wycombe and that there is no parking for students at the halls. Therefore, you would have to use public transport which could take an hour at busy times, there is currently a [free inter-campus bus link](#) which runs from 8am to 9.30pm Monday to Friday. Students must show their ID cards to access the free service.

Q25: Can I apply for nursing accommodation at the hospitals whilst on placement?

A: Yes, nursing accommodation at the hospitals is often available to students both on placement and studying on the Uxbridge campus. Your placement advisor will assist you with accommodation options, it is also advisable to see the information available on the [accommodation webpage](#).

Q26: Because of my teaching/placement I need accommodation for 6 months, is this possible?

A: In the private sector, contracts can be 6-12 months, and therefore you will need to check with the estate agent or landlord. Some estate agents and owners will allow you to do a six month contract.

If you are in your first year/semester then the Accommodation Service will book your room with an end date to coincide with the end date of the teaching; i.e. this will end when your placement starts.

In case of nursing accommodation at the hospitals, you will need to discuss with the provider as this can vary, but most hospitals will accommodate this request.