

# **College Accommodation: Frequently Asked questions**

# **Allocating Accommodation**

### Can I change the room I am allocated in the Ballot?

Rooms are randomly allocated during the ballot based on your preferences. Unfortunately, once a room has been assigned, it cannot be changed. Each successful student will be offered only one room. If you decline the offered room, you will not be eligible to participate in any further ballots nor added to the waitlist.

#### How are room bands determined?

Room bands are assigned based on several factors, including the amount of natural light, room size, available facilities (e.g., ensuite bathroom, double bed), house size, and the number of people sharing communal facilities. For example, a spacious, well-lit room with a kitchen or bathroom shared among fewer than 5–6 students will likely fall into Band A or B. Smaller rooms on lower ground floors with a higher ratio of shared facility usage will typically be categorized as Band E or F.

#### Can my contract be amended if I want to arrive before or after the start date?

Unfortunately, contract start dates are fixed and cannot be amended. You may arrive after your contract start date, but please note that you are still responsible for rent from the official start date, regardless of when you move in.

# **Arrivals**

### Can I arrive before my contract start date?

Unfortunately, we are not able to offer early arrivals to the accommodation. Should you need to arrive early, please feel free to make a booking in out <u>short stay accommodation</u> available on our website.

### Can I arrive after my contract start date?

Yes, you are welcome to arrive after your contract start date on a date more convenient for you. You will, however, be liable for the rent from the start date of your contract.

#### Can I arrive out of hours?

We prefer that students move in during office hours (Monday - Friday 8:30 - 19:00) so we can show you to your room. However, we understand that this may not always be possible, especially for our international residents. In extenuating circumstances, we will try to



accommodate an out-of-hours arrival. If you need to arrive out of hours, please indicate this on the <u>arrivals form</u>

### Will someone be able to help me with my luggage?

The college buildings are traditional Oxford villas, as such they do not contain lifts. I am afraid the college does not offer a porter service.

N.B. We do not offer luggage storage.

# Can I get my things shipped to college before I arrive?

The college has incredibly limited storage space, for this reason, we will not accept any items on behalf residents before they arrive.

### Do I need to bring my own bedding?

Yes. The college does not provide bedding, however you can buy a bedding pack from us. Details about this will be in the arrivals form.

### Do I need to bring my own kitchen items?

Yes, you will need to bring your own kitchen items, including crockery, cutlery, pots and pans, and utensils. It's a good idea to wait until you arrive to assess your space before purchasing these items. You may also be able to bring small electrical items, but check the handbook for specific details.

Important: All kitchen appliances must remain in the kitchen; kettles and fridges are not allowed in bedrooms.

### Is it possible to bring my own furniture into College accommodation?

Bringing your own furniture into College accommodation is not permitted. Exceptions can be made only with prior written consent from the College, and only if the items adhere to all UK safety standards. Additionally, certain items that pose health and safety risks are strictly prohibited. You are also not allowed to remove any furniture provided by the College from room. For more information permission, please your or to seek email accommodation@kellogg.ox.ac.uk.

# **General Accommodation**

### When will my room/building be cleaned?

Your room will be cleaned every other week, while the communal areas will be cleaned once a week by the College subcontractors, Absolutely Cleaning. Please refer to the <u>Domestic</u> <u>Arrangements: Student Accommodation Handbook</u> for more information. The cleaning team are here to assist residents in keeping their spaces tidy, we would recommend purchasing some basic cleaning items to help you keep your space clean between visits. Residents are responsible for sorting and taking their own rubbish out to the external bins.



### How do I pay my rent and when is it due?

Rent is due on the first of each month. Typically, the finance team will send out an email the week before with the payment link on it. The first payment will be due 1st October and will cover the pro rata amount for September and the full October amount. Should you wish to set up a different payment plan (i.e. you may wish to pay the full amount for the year), you are welcome to discuss this directly with the finance team upon receiving your November rental payment request. The finance team will also be able to help you should you have any difficulties making the payment or wish to use an alternate payment method.

### Can I bring a car?

Unfortunately, students are not permitted to have a car on site at any time. This is stipulated in your Licence to Occupy agreement. If you are being dropped off, you are welcome to pull up outside the property you are moving into, the resident can come and collect their keys from us at the College reception. We recommend someone stays with the vehicle where possible. Should your guests wish to stay a while, there is pay and display parking on Norham Road, or further up Banbury Road by the shops (Summertown) which is a 5–10-minute walk back to college. If you park on the street, please follow the parking restrictions.

# Can I transfer to another room if I am not happy with my allocated room?

This may be possible to swap rooms if both you and another resident in College accommodation wishes to proceed with a room swap. There will be an administrative and cleaning fee payable for a swap. If you have any concerns or wish to proceed with a room swap, please email <u>accommodation@kellogg.ox.ac.uk</u>.

### How do I report if something is broken?

Please submit an online <u>form</u> via our website or the QR code on the poster in the entrance way.

### My friend wants to stay for a few nights, is this possible?

Yes, your friend can stay for a few nights, typically up to two nights per month, in your College room. However, you must seek permission from the Accommodation Manager in writing in advance for health and safety reasons. Please note that guests are not permitted during the first couple of weeks of the term while everyone is settling in. For more details, refer to the *Domestic Arrangements: Student Accommodation Handbook.* 

### Can I arrange for a package to arrive at College?

Yes, you can arrange for your post, including parcels and letters, to be delivered either to your residence or the College main Reception (for small-sized important parcels only). Make sure you are already on site if you order larger items to your accommodation address. The College will not accept packages in advance of your arrival. For detailed guidance, refer to the *Domestic Arrangements: Student Accommodation Handbook.* 



# What if I am locked out of my room/building?

If you are locked out of your room or building, here is what you can do:

- During office hours (Mon-Fri 8:30am 7pm): Contact Reception for assistance at 01865 612000.
- Out of hours (Mon-Fri 17:00-08:30 and weekends: Reach out to one of the four Junior Deans who reside on site and can help with welfare-related matters and out-of-hours lock-outs or lost keys.
  - Email: junior.dean@kellogg.ox.ac.uk
  - Immediate or out-of-hours assistance: Call 07932 951 849. This service is available:

# If I go away from my accommodation for a period of time, am I able to sublet me room? I am afraid subletting is strictly prohibited.

# Do I need to pay for Council tax and other utilities

All utilities and internet are included in your rental amount.

**Single occupancy rooms:** Students are exempt from council tax, arrangements have been made by the college for this already, there is no further action required

**Student in Couples accommodation:** If you live with your partner, and they are not a full-time student, then you may be liable for Council Tax. You may be eligible for a discounted Council Tax rate. Further details of this can be found on the Oxford City Council website: <u>www.oxford.gov.uk.</u> You will be responsible for arranging your council tax emption and responsible for the payment of your council tax during your stay should it be required.

### Can I shorten my contract if I want to leave early?

Contract end dates are fixed at 31st July each year. You may leave early, but you will still be responsible for the rent for the entire duration of the contract.

### Can I extend my contract for the summer?

Yes, summer contract extensions are available to cover August. However, you may need to move to a different room. Further details will be provided to residents in the spring.