



**ACCOMMODATING EACH OTHER**

# Accommodating each other

We hope you settle into your accommodation quickly and easily, and enjoy living with your new flat/housemates.

Living with other people, no matter who they are, can be challenging as well as fun, so we've put together some tips in case it's not all plain sailing.

## Pop the kettle on

When it comes to communication, nothing beats face-to-face. Get together to talk about how you'll organise yourselves in your new shared accommodation. Try to chat through:

- Preferred living habits – are you early birds or night owls?
- Washing up arrangements – how long is too long to leave it?
- Communal cleaning – how will you allocate tasks? We provide rotas to help.
- Noise levels – what's OK and what's not?
- Guests – let your flat/housemates know if someone's coming to visit.
- Privacy – how will you let everyone have their own space?

A light clean of the hob after each use is much better than letting it get to a state where no-one will touch it. If someone's left the kitchen in a mess, don't leave a passive-aggressive note, send a grumpy Snap, or talk about it behind their back – speak to them and ask them to clean up.



**CONSIDER  
YOUR  
HOUSEMATES**



## The small print

We carry out regular inspections of student accommodation. If your accommodation is not up to standard, then we will either need to inspect your accommodation more frequently, or arrange contract cleaning. The costs for contract cleaning would be split amongst all those in the flat/house share. If this is necessary, we'll give you plenty of notice to do the cleaning yourselves.

If you think you need a helping hand with cleaning, you can buy in cleaning services through the university online store: <http://store.uwe.ac.uk> simply search for 'cleaning'.

## Ssshhh

You might be a party animal and your housemates might prefer a quieter night in, so be considerate.

- Try to keep noise to a minimum in communal areas.
- Move your TV away from shared walls as sound travels.
- Use headphones to listen to music.
- If you've been drinking, you're likely to be louder without realising it.
- Large gatherings are not suitable for student accommodation (as per your License Agreement).
- If you have guests over, make sure they're considerate to your flat/housemates.
- If noise becomes excessive, please inform the customer service desk, Resident Assistant or security staff.

## Friendships, disagreements and personality clashes

You won't necessarily be the best of friends with everyone. That's OK, but it's important to try and get on with your housemates.

### If it gets too much...

If you do face difficulty with a flatmate, then this is how we suggest you handle it.

#### 1) First things first: talk to each other

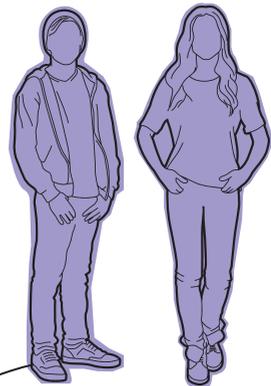
Does the other person know that their behaviour is causing you a problem? Let them know how their behaviour makes you feel. Have a calm and friendly chat. They may not have realised that their behaviour was bothering you. It may be an uncomfortable conversation to have, but better than stewing over something.

#### 2) If you need more help, contact a Resident Assistant

Our Resident Assistants can review all the issues and help you agree a way forward. What you talk about won't be shared with your flat/housemates unless you ask us to. If you feel it's necessary, they can organise a meeting with all of you, to help you find a solution.

#### 3) If that hasn't worked you can meet with an Accommodation Manager

The Resident Assistants may suggest that you put the problem down in writing before you meet with the Accommodation Manager. For this you'll need to note dates, times and ways you've tried to resolve the problem to date. The Accommodation Manager will then contact you to talk things through.



**FIRST THINGS  
FIRST: TALK TO  
EACH OTHER**



## That's all folks

We hope you won't need much of the advice in this guide, but we appreciate that sometimes things do go wrong. That's why we're on hand to help you resolve any difficulties. The sooner you tell us, the sooner we can work with you to find a solution.

**We hope you have a great time here at UWE Bristol.**

UWE Bristol Accommodation Services  
1US, University of the West of England  
Frenchay Campus  
Coldharbour Lane  
Bristol BS16 1US  
UK

### Accommodation Services



**[www.uwe.ac.uk/accommodation](http://www.uwe.ac.uk/accommodation)**

**Email:** [accommodation@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:accommodation@uwe.ac.uk)



**Telephone:** 0117 32 83601

**Fax:** 0117 32 82285

Monday to Thursday 09:00–17:00 and Friday 09:00–16:30  
(excluding bank holidays)