

MOVING IN TO YOUR NEW PROPERTY



So you have signed your tenancy agreement, sorted your deposit and it's finally time to move into your new home... all exciting stuff! We have some helpful tips and advice on the practical things to do to ensure your tenancy gets off to a great start.

MOVING IN CHECK LIST

- ✓ **TAKE METER READINGS** - Give them to the energy supplier and landlord as you don't want to pay for the previous tenant's bills and keep a record for yourself. Avoid costly estimated bills by taking monthly meter readings.
- ✓ **FIND OUT HOW TO TURN OFF THE GAS & WHERE THE ELECTRIC FUSE BOARD IS** - It's important to know, just in case of an emergency and if the electric fuse trips.
- ✓ **FIND OUT WHERE THE STOPCOCK IS** - This is the mains water tap and is the off switch for all the water in your home. It is usually under the kitchen sink - check with your landlord. If a water pipe bursts you need to know how to switch it off.
- ✓ **CHECK THE INVENTORY** - This is a list of all the furniture, fixtures and fittings and their condition, usually supplied by the landlord. Check it, make any necessary amendments and return it to them. If they don't provide one, you can produce your own. Also take dated photos of any disrepair or damage, however minor and send to the landlord.
- ✓ **READ THE BOILER & APPLIANCE MANUALS** - Make sure you know how to work everything, as you don't want to cause any damage. If the manuals are missing, ask the landlord for a copy.
- ✓ **TV LICENCE** - You must have one to watch or record programmes as they're being shown on TV or live on an online TV service. This includes downloading or watching BBC programmes on iPlayer - live, catch up or on demand and applies no matter what device you use.
- ✓ **FIRE SAFETY** - Plan an escape route and a backup route. Make sure exits are always kept clear and keys are where they can be easily found, but not left in doors as this can attract burglars.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF



Say "Hi" to your new neighbours - it's a great way to start on a positive with those living around you. You may choose to live there for the academic year or longer so getting on with your neighbours keeps things pleasant and helps you fit into the local community.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Can be attended by residents, local councillors, student reps and community police. They are a great way to get involved in community issues and meet new people.

BE CONSIDERATE

Avoid offensive, loud or unruly behaviour and be considerate to your neighbours by respecting their property. Don't forget to park any vehicles safely and keep to any parking restrictions.

Be considerate to those around you and they will do the same.

PARTIES

- ★ Let your neighbours know your party plans well in advance and set a finishing time
- ★ Think about the number of parties you are having, could they be spread out amongst friends or could you hire a venue?
- ★ Make sure you know who is invited, avoid shouting about it on social media
- ★ During the party keep the front door closed and reduce outside noise by keeping windows closed.

NOISE



REMEMBER TO...

MEDICAL STUFF



It's really important to register with a GP practice in Birmingham, before you get sick. Babylon GP at Hand gives you 24/7 access to a doctor through your phone. Download the Babylon app. You can access to their nearby clinic in Digbeth. Alternatively, you can search online for a GP near you using your postcode at [nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk)



Henderson's Dental Surgery (entrance on the south side of the Health Clinics building) charges £21.60 for an assessment and provides advice on the NHS or whether you would need to be referred elsewhere.

Tel: 0121 204 4310

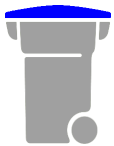


Aston Eye Clinic, Vision Sciences Building. Students are welcome at the opticians where free eye checks are carried out by final year Optometry students under supervision. Reasonably priced spectacles, lenses and contact lenses can be purchased following the eye check if required. Appointments are available most week days from October to April. For further information or to book an appointment: 0121 204 3900 / eyecare@aston.ac.uk

PUT THE BIN OUT & RECYCLE



All non-recyclable waste should be placed in the bin with the grey lid.



Recyclable items including paper, glass, cardboard, plastic bottles, tins and cans should be put in bin with the blue lid.



If you live in an apartment block then waste should be disposed of in the large wheelie bins in the communal bin areas.

£20 is the cost you will have to pay to replace a bin

Some properties don't have the space for a wheelie bin (e.g. narrow terraced housing), and you will need to put your waste into black plastic bin bags, and recyclables into a special box for collection.

Collection and waste info:

www.birmingham.gov.uk/wasteservices

BINS NEED TO BE PUT OUT AT THE RIGHT TIME AND PLACE. STORE THEM AWAY BETWEEN COLLECTION DAYS TO ENSURE THEY DON'T GET LOST OR STOLEN.

NOW LOCK THE DOOR!

Burglars are known to try door handles to check if they are unlocked.

Lock all external doors, even when you are in, to reduce the risk of theft.

NOW SECURE THE WINDOW!



DON'T INVITE UNWANTED GUESTS INTO YOUR HOME BY LEAVING YOUR WINDOWS UNSECURED

THIEVES OPERATE DAY AND NIGHT



The official accommodation support service



Accommodation Search - www.astonstudenthomes.org | General Information - www.astonsu.com/housing/astonstudenthomes

Email - astonstudenthomes@aston.ac.uk | Tel - 0121 204 4893