Terms and Conditions for Residents of Nomination Halls
(Chapter Lewisham, Quantum Court and Town Hall Camberwell)
Academic Year 2018/19

This document is part of the Accommodation Contract. Students (Residents) should read it carefully as it sets out some requirements and expectations in relation to the Accommodation Licence.

Each of our Halls of Residence has access to a team of administrative, management and security staff. Administrative and management staff are on site or in a nearby building and help to deal with the day to day running of the accommodation and the security staff are available out of hours.

Goldsmiths Accommodation Services including the out of hours Campus Support Officers are based at the Loring Management Centre, St James, New Cross, London, SE14 6AD and can be contacted 24 hours a day on 020 7919 7192.

Cleaning

Cleaning is carried out in the communal areas outside the flats regularly and in the common rooms provided. Cleaning in bedrooms, studios, bathrooms and kitchens/lounge areas is the responsibility of the residents. Residents are also expected to clean their bedrooms and communal areas before they leave at the end of their licence. Any additional cleaning that needs to be carried out in the communal areas of the flats/corridors and/or the residents bedrooms when they are vacated will be recharged to the residents in question.

Flat and study bedroom inspections may be carried out periodically throughout the year. If a flat/room is found to be unacceptable, the resident/s will be given 24 hours’ notice to clean it to a satisfactory standard. If this is not carried out the hall hospitality team will automatically request that the cleaning team clean your room and/or communal area without further notice. Any additional cleaning charges made by the hall provider are available on request.

Residents are responsible for taking bagged rubbish from their bedroom and shared areas within the flat and putting it in the communal waste bins provided onsite.

Grease, fats or oil must not be disposed of down the sink. Fridges and freezers need to be cleaned and defrosted regularly by the residents of the flat/floor. Vacuum cleaners are available and must be returned after use.

All bedrooms are equipped with a mattress protector. We do request that residents cover their mattress protectors with a sheet to ensure hygiene standards are maintained.

Communal areas

For Health and Safety reasons, all communal areas, particularly corridors and stairways must be kept clear at all times. Any items that are left in these areas will be removed and may be disposed of without notice. Any notices displayed within communal areas are for the benefit of all residents and should be left until removed by the hall hospitality team. The charge for removal of belongings or additional cleaning in communal areas is detailed in the schedule of charges, which is available from reception at your hall.
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Kitchen facilities

All of our halls are self-catered and equipped with kitchens which are adequate for the numbers sharing. Deep fat fryers are strictly prohibited. Kitchens are for the use of residents only and may not be used by residents’ guests.

Recycling

Residents are encouraged to recycle whenever possible. Recycling of items may vary from site to site but receptacles are provided in each kitchen. Generally, items that can be placed in these are:

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Glass
- Plastic Bottles
- Cans and Tins

Laundry facilities

All halls have access to coin or smart phone operated laundry facilities. Under no circumstances should clothes be washed in bathrooms or bedrooms. Washing must never be dried on the radiators, or hung up outside windows or within the laundry.

Maintenance Reporting

For Chapter Lewisham, Quantum Court and Town Hall Residents

Please log in to the online system to report any maintenance issues. Details of which are available onsite at your hall.

Pest control

If you have any concerns about pest infestation in the accommodation please report this via the maintenance reporting facility of your specific hall. Pest control issues will be reported to and actioned by the external pest control contractor appointed by the hall provider.

Right of access

Accommodation Services and the Third Party Provider as detailed at http://www.gold.ac.uk/accommodation/offer/ reserves the right to have its staff and authorised personnel enter any part of the property to carry out their day to day duties and attend to any maintenance issues. Where possible, adequate notice will be given. You have a right to ask anyone requesting to enter your flat/room/studio to identify themselves with appropriate ID. Staff
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will only enter rooms without giving written notice in the following circumstances:

- In response to a maintenance report request
- In the case of an emergency (particularly if it is felt that the residents or property are in danger)
- If activities are reported at the address which is causing disturbance or distress to other residents.
- If there is a breach of the accommodation agreement

Electrical provision

Please refer to Section 6 of the Health and Safety Regulations for full details however, televisions, computers, lamps and domestic stereo equipment are permitted. You should have your personal electrical equipment Portable Appliance Tested (PAT) and have a certificate to verify this. We have a responsibility to make sure that electrical equipment is kept in a safe condition. We also have a responsibility to ensure residents do not endanger others by using unsafe electrical equipment. If a member of staff becomes aware of an unsafe electrical item they will label it as unsafe and request the owner to arrange for repairs. If this has not been done within a week the item will be removed by the hall management team and will only be available for retrieval at the end of the owner’s period of residence. Any confiscated items not reclaimed after the end of the owner’s period of residence will be disposed of.

Heating

Each hall will operate their heating slightly differently, so please check with the hall provider for details on how to operate your heating.

Gas

If you smell gas in any building, never turn on any electrical appliances or lights. Report the incident immediately to your hall office or the Security officer on site.

Keys and cards

Keep keys and entry fobs/cards safe at all times. Losses must be reported immediately to your halls hospitality team. If you have misplaced your key/card and would like access to your room the team will be able to do this for you once, following this you will be required to purchase a replacement key/card (please check with your hall provider for specific costs). If the loss occurs out of office hours please contact your security guard for access to your room. Please refer to the schedule of charges for details of any lock out charges, where applicable. At the end of the period of residence, keys and fobs/cards must be handed in by the resident. Residents who fail to comply will be treated as still in residence and charged accordingly.

Fire

All residents should make themselves familiar with the fire notices and exits around the buildings and follow all local instructions. Each building is equipped with a fire alarm system. Anyone
detecting a fire should raise the alarm immediately and call 999. On hearing the fire alarm, you must evacuate the building in an orderly fashion. You should then meet at the assembly points outside your hall. Do not re-enter the building until it has been deemed safe to do so by the fire brigade or a member of staff. If you know that you have set off the fire alarm, whether by accident or because of a real fire, contact a member of staff once outside.

**Fire safety**

Fire safety is a major concern in any hall of residence. For the halls of residence to stay open we must comply with various legal requirements. We also have some simple rules in place to protect residents:

- A number of items are prohibited from rooms (for example; candles, incense)
- Smoking is not allowed anywhere within the buildings, including balconies (this includes the use of e-cigarettes and shisha pipes);
- Fire equipment must not be tampered with;
- Fire alarm tests are carried out every week;
- Fire evacuations will be carried out at least twice a year;
- Cooking must never be left unsupervised when in the oven or on the hob.

Any resident not complying with these requirements will receive a formal written warning and may be issued with a penalty as detailed in the Student Accommodation Regulations. Fire equipment must not be tampered with. This includes setting off fire extinguishers for no reason, letting out fire blankets, covering smoke detectors and keeping fire doors open. If you tamper with any aspect of the fire detection or firefighting equipment not only do you put yourself at risk of fire but also your friends, colleagues and neighbours.

Tampering with fire equipment is a criminal offence, not simply a contravention of the halls rules and regulations. Should we be unable to determine who is responsible we will consider it the responsibility of all residents in the flat and action will be taken accordingly. We would advise you to note that covering the smoke detector in your room is very easily attributable. Also, taking the smoke detector apart is easily identifiable as the system reports it to us as a fault. Again this is very easily traced back to the responsible resident. The fire alarm can be activated by steam, therefore, in en-suite rooms, you must close the bathroom door when showering and ensure the fan has been activated. Individuals/flats/floors that persistently activate the fire alarm by burning food, not closing shower doors or other such careless action will be charged for the resulting fire brigade call-outs which may be in the region of several hundred pounds.

**Fire drills**

Fire drills are carried out at least twice a year. All residents must evacuate during fire evacuation practices.

**Fire tests**

Every week, as advertised within the entrance of your hall/black, our maintenance team will test
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the fire alarms. This will involve them setting off the alarm in your flat/corridor and then checking to see if all of the sounders work properly. There is no need to evacuate during these fire alarm tests. These tests should last for no more than a couple of minutes. Fire evacuation practices will involve the alarm sounding for much longer and you should then evacuate.

**Emergencies and calling the emergency services**

If there is an emergency on site you should let a member of staff know immediately. For example, if there is need to call an ambulance out-of-office hours you should inform the security guard on duty if available. The guard can then call 999 on your behalf, instruct the emergency services, and direct them when they arrive. You can, of course, call the emergency services yourself but it makes their arrival much easier if the security guards are kept informed and not taken by surprise by the sudden appearance of an ambulance, police car or fire engine.

**Gardens and grounds**

Barbeques, fires and open flames in general are not permitted in any part of the halls or grounds. No hall furniture or equipment may be taken into the garden or grounds. Residents must not congregate in the garden or grounds after 11.00pm for the benefit of other residents and neighbours.

**Snow and ice**

Every effort will be made to clear snow and ice from paths and access routes within the grounds of the halls as soon as circumstances allow. High risk areas (e.g. steps and slopes) will be prioritised for attention. Persons with mobility difficulties or who anticipate particular problems should make themselves known to the hospitality team on site.

**Responsible/liable**

When you live in halls not only are you responsible for looking after your room, you are also responsible for ensuring that the communal areas are kept in a reasonable condition. This means that you will be held personally responsible for noise and damage in your own room as well as collectively for noise or damage in communal areas. Given that the upkeep of your room/flat/corridor is your responsibility it is in your interest to report maintenance concerns as soon as they happen.

See the Specific Hall Information (http://www.gold.ac.uk/accommodation/halls/). It is important to note that if you live in a flat where there are problems, such as other flatmates are disturbing other people or they are mistreating the flat and causing damage, if you do not tell us

a) We cannot do anything about it and

b) You will have implicitly consented to their behaviour and will still be held responsible.

The sooner you tell the hospitality teams, the sooner attempts to rectify the situation can be made and the sooner you will have disassociated yourself with whatever is going on. Where appropriate
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all contact with your individual hall provider team will be kept in strictest confidence. Please remember that the accommodation agreement is with you as the resident and we are not able to discuss any aspect of your contract with other parties without your consent. The sooner you report anti-social behaviour, the sooner it can be dealt with. There are a number of routes you can take to deal with anti-social behaviour from your neighbours depending on the nature of the behaviour. You can:

- Call Security;
- Speak to the hall provider Management Team;
- Make a complaint to the hall provider;
- If you have exhausted the above routes and the behaviour persists, where applicable, you may want to consider making a formal complaint to Goldsmiths Accommodation Services under the student conduct regulations [link]
- You can also apply for a room move (dependent on the availability of rooms).

Each of these resources has a place in the process of dealing with anti-social behaviour.

**Security**

Residents are able to contact the hall Help Desk or Security Officers out of hours by phone or in person. Emergency contact numbers are detailed on the noticeboards in your hall and provided on arrival. You can also report anti-social behaviour to the Security Officers and this means that not only has the immediate problem hopefully been dealt with but an independent log has been made of it. This log can be very useful if problems are recurring.

A Security Officer or other member of staff will respond to your complaint promptly and will in most cases provide the most immediate and effective response.

- Don’t let strangers into the building, all visitors may only be admitted by the person they have come to see.
- Never loan your keys or access cards to another person.
- If you lose or misplace your room keys please notify your Hall Office immediately or if out of hours out of hours by phone/in person/on an emergency contact number as detailed on the noticeboards in your hall. Never leave doors unlocked because of lost keys. Either staff can lock doors for you or you will be provided with replacement keys.
- If you see someone in the building who you believe should not be there, or someone attempting to force entry to a building, please contact a Security Officer or a member of halls staff immediately.

**Campus Support Team**

A team of Campus Support Officers based in the Loring Management Centre are also available 7 days a week. An experienced team of officers work early evening and overnight to provide out of hours pastoral care and support to residents and to engage with the student community.
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Campus Support Officers are on hand to provide advice, information and guidance on your halls and anything to do with residence life. They run a series of events and activities throughout the academic year for you to get involved in on campus. You can drop in to see them or you contact them on 020 7919 7284 or email campus-support@gold.ac.uk

Bullying and harassment claim

As a student at Goldsmiths you have a right to live and work without fear of bullying or harassment. This is an element of the Student Code of Conduct by which you are bound while studying at Goldsmiths, University of London. More details of this can be found at:

http://www.gold.ac.uk/equality-diversity/

Report and Support

We believe that sexual violence, sexual harassment, domestic violence, stalking and sexual misconduct are never ok. All staff, students and visitors to our campus can report something either anonymously or with contact details so you will get a response. Reports can be about an individual, a group of people or cultures.

https://reportandsupport.gold.ac.uk/

Room moves

There will be an opportunity for students to apply for a room move from one room/hall to another. There is an administration charge of £50 applicable for room moves and any move is subject to availability of a suitable room for you to move into.

Disciplinary measures

The Halls of Residence are not simply accommodation. They are specifically student accommodation to facilitate studying at Goldsmiths. That means that the hall providers and Goldsmiths Accommodation Services has a responsibility to ensure that the halls provide a fit environment for studying. It also has a responsibility to treat each resident equally.

There are a number of levels of disciplinary action that can be taken by your hall provider and/or Goldsmiths Accommodation Services Formal written warnings are the most common. If you receive a written warning in most cases we will not offer you halls accommodation in the future and will not provide you with a private landlord reference. Although this may not sound too serious it is worth bearing in mind what kind of accommodation you will be able to find if you need to find a landlord that does not require a reference from your previous accommodation.

Also many returning residents find it useful to apply for halls accommodation in their final year so that they do not need to worry about residence-related matters and can concentrate on their academic work; if you have received a formal written warning this option will not be open to you.
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If you receive a number of formal written warnings, or are responsible for some particularly serious act of anti-social behaviour, your agreement may be terminated and you could be asked to leave halls. Receiving a formal written warning may prevent you from finding private accommodation once you leave halls.

Key points:

- During Quiet Hours you are required to keep noise to a minimum; this means you should not use TVs, stereos, radios etc., and you should make sure your voice does not disturb people, particularly in the corridors;
- You are responsible for both your room and the communal areas;
- The sooner you report a problem the sooner it can be dealt with;
- If you have a problem, it is your responsibility to use the services of the Security officers. If matters get as far as a formal complaint to Goldsmiths Accommodation Services in most cases we will expect you to have already made use of Security and staff on site available.
- If you receive a formal written warning it will have serious ramifications for your prospects of finding private accommodation when you leave halls. Contact the Security Officers, Hall Management Team if you are suffering from anti-social behaviour. Their involvement is invaluable if a situation progresses to the formal complaint stage.

If you make a complaint about a fellow resident to Accommodation Services you will have taken the situation forward to a process which will usually end in some kind of formal disciplinary action. By the time your complaint comes to Accommodation Services we would expect to be able to track the history of your problem through security logs.

Art work

Residents may not paint or carry out other art work in halls. Hall staff are at liberty to remove any item that contravenes this regulation.

Furniture

For health and safety reasons, additional furniture may not be brought into halls. Such items may be removed from the hall and reclaimed at the end of the accommodation agreement. This includes additional white goods such as fridges or microwaves.

Inventories and charges

During the period of residence, regular inspections of halls will be made and any losses or damages found at these times will result in an invoice being raised for which immediate payment will be required. Any losses or damages found between previous inspections and the end of the period of residence will be deducted from the deposit at the end of the period of residence. Charges are set by the individual Hall provider and a list of charges should be available from the hospitality team.

The completion of the inventory given at the beginning of the period of residence is very important. The condition of the room on leaving will be checked against this inventory and the cost of repairing
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any losses or damage to the room not included on the inventory will be deducted from the deposit. If the inventory is not returned, the room will be considered to be in good condition and any losses or damage at the end of the period of residence will be charged to the deposit accordingly.

Your security

It is the responsibility of every resident to ensure that all doors are kept locked. Never let strangers into the building and never give your keys, entry cards or entry codes to any other person. Always ensure that you close the window and lock the door on leaving your room. If you live on the ground floor, curtains should be closed if you are away or leaving your room for any period. In the event of any security problems, residents should immediately contact their Hall Office, the Security Officer or in an emergency, the police on telephone number 999. Residents who contravene hall regulations on security, by admitting strangers into the building will face disciplinary action.

Visitors

Residents may have one overnight guest (over the age of 18) for a maximum of three nights in any seven days, on the understanding that they do not cause annoyance or inconvenience to other members of the flat/corridor or hall. You are responsible for your guest and must accompany them at all times. Guests must sleep within your room, not in any other areas of the flat/hall. Residents will be held liable for any damage caused by or misconduct of their guests. Guests who cause annoyance or inconvenience may be banned from the halls.

Guests are required to sign in at reception. We understand that sometimes you may have friends or family come over to stay who live a considerable distance from the halls and a three day trip is not always feasible. If this is the case please consult the Accommodation Services Team prior to the arrival of your guest to seek the availability of any guest accommodation that may be on offer. We can also give you a separate list of places available around the area.

Absence

If you intend to be absent from the residence for more than one week, please notify the staff in the halls office and advise other residents in your flat/corridor. If a resident on your floor has not been seen for some time, without explanation for their absence, please advise your hall office.

Extending your stay

Usually those residents who are attending a study abroad programme for one or two terms will have the opportunity to extend their stay in halls. However the time available to extend will vary depending on the time of year. Those residents who are undertaking a full undergraduate or postgraduate programme will not be able to extend their stay in their room but can look to book a room through the Summer Conference Office. For further details please view their website http://www.gold.ac.uk/conference-services/conferenceaccommodationbooking/ .

If you are a Postgraduate resident in halls generally your contract will last for 51 weeks. If you are successful in receiving an offer of accommodation for the next academic session then we will
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contact you to advise you on extending your stay to cover the periods that your current agreement ends and new agreement begins.

All extensions will only be allowed if an offer of accommodation has been accepted online and paid for within the deadline. No resident with a poor payment record or written warning will be allowed to extend their stay. Rates of extending your stay will be published nearer the time and will vary depending on the length of time that you are looking to extend for.

Post

If it is essential that you have mail sent to your hall of residence before your arrival, please ensure that items are clearly marked “NEW RESIDENT” and that it is as near to your arrival date as possible. We cannot guarantee that post will not be returned to sender. Due to the volume of post received, halls staff cannot redirect mail. Please ensure that on departure, you make your own arrangements for the re-direction of mail.

Each hall operates differently, however large packages are generally left with the reception teams on site and residents are notified to collect this.

Change of contact details

Residents are requested to ensure that they have valid up to date contact information registered with Goldsmiths. You can do this by logging in to your ‘my Goldsmiths’ account’ and updating the contact information.

What to bring

• duvet/blankets  
• pillows  
• sheets/duvet covers  
• pillowcases  
• towels  
• crockery  
• cutlery  
• saucepans  
• general cooking utensils  
• tin openers

We strongly encourage students to wait until they arrive in halls to purchase those essential items, as it is often the case that students arrive with the same items and storage is limited in the communal kitchens.

The following items are provided in the communal kitchens:

• cookers  
• refrigerators  
• freezers  
• kettles
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- microwave ovens
- irons and ironing boards (depending on the hall)

All the rooms are equipped with:

- a bed
- a desk
- a wardrobe
- drawers
- a study chair

We don't provide small electrical items such as bedside lamps. Some rooms do, however, have built-in lights above desk. Cleaning materials, washing powder and toilet paper are not provided.

Conferences and summer schools

A lot of our halls are used extensively outside of term-time for conference business. During the summer vacations, halls are let for conference groups, language schools and holiday lets.

During term-time, some public areas are used for teaching, training days and other functions and, therefore, are not available for use by residents at those times. Where conference business is operated by Goldsmiths, any income generated from conference activity is reinvested within Goldsmiths to both support and enhance the student experience.

Refurbishment

Refurbishment work may be carried out during term-time. We aim to keep any disruption to a minimum and will inform you of any planned refurbishment works that may affect you.

Complaints and concerns

Complaints of any nature should be expressed in writing in the first instance to your hall provider.

If you are unable to reach a satisfactory conclusion then you may forward your complaint to the Accommodation Services Department. You can do this by completing our online form at: http://www.gold.ac.uk/accommodation/contact/complaints-form. You will also find details of our complaints policy.

If you have any queries or concerns about living in halls please get in contact with the Accommodation Services Team on 020 7919 7192 or accommodation@gold.ac.uk.