

YOUR QUICK GUIDE TO KEEPING THE PEACE



CONSIDERATION FOR OTHER RESIDENTS

You have chosen to share your home: **some compromise will be necessary.**

- Don't assume your flatmates have the same interests as you – **respect their boundaries.**
- Others may have **different lifestyles** or **study commitments**, which means they may eat, sleep and study at different times to you.
- **Get to know one another** – eat together or watch a film sometimes.
- **Make sure your flatmates are ok** – it can be isolating living in student accommodation.
- **Be sensible about your alcohol intake.**

CLEANING

- **Clear up when you have finished cooking or eating.** It is unfair to expect the other residents to have to clean the kitchen before using them.
- **Agree if you are willing to share your pots and pans.** If somebody borrows something, agree that **they should wash it up immediately** after using it.
- When discussing cleaning, **focus on the future and how to improve the situation**, rather than going over who is to blame.
- **Remember that people have different standards** and there is never a perfect resolution.

NOISE ISSUES

- **Move your speakers away** from neighbour's walls and keep them off the floor.
- **Use headphones** during quiet hours.
- **Set the bass** on your stereo **at a low level** as this can be particularly irritating.
- **Don't play your music too late.** After 11pm you should not make any noise that can be heard outside the room it is being made in.
 - **If you play a musical instrument, practice at reasonable times** and not early in the morning or during the late evening. **Agree practice times with neighbours.**

DEALING WITH ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

- Antisocial behaviour is a general term which refers to behaviour which **adversely affects the health, safety or well-being of other people.**
- In student housing this can include **vandalism, setting off fire alarms, abusive behaviour, excessive noise, dumping rubbish or tampering with the health and safety equipment.**
- **We take antisocial behaviour** - particularly damage to health and safety or fire equipment - **extremely seriously.**
 - **Find Digs may involve the Police where vandalism has occurred.**
 - **We also encourage all tenants to report any criminal activity to the Police themselves.**

Contact us

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FRIENDSHIPS, FALL-OUTS AND PERSONALITY CLASHES

- Many first year students have been randomly allocated together and **it can take time to learn** the skills to **negotiate and compromise** over issues
- Even if you do not like somebody you can still live together in a pleasant environment.
- You may find that the **best way forward is to** agree that you will **be polite and keep your interaction down to a minimum** in future.
- You **don't need to be friends**, but you can normally **find a way to live with each other** for the remainder of your tenancy.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT OTHERS

- You should always try to speak to the person involved **first**, they might not be aware of the problem they are causing.
- **Avoid writing notes or posting messages on Facebook** – this will not help.
- It is in **everyone's best interest** for problems to **sorted out amongst residents themselves**
 - If the **problems persist** and **you cannot sort them out**, please speak to the **Accommodation Manager**



Please be reminded that all issues must be reported to the Residence Manager

HOW FIND DIGS CAN HELP

WHAT FIND DIGS WILL DO

- respond to requests for welfare or pastoral support
- ask you to try to resolve any problems first
 - refer matters to University disciplinary procedures if necessary

WHAT FIND DIGS WILL TRY TO

- encourage a good living environment
- organise some social events in cooperation with social reps
- assist with help and advice
- solve complaints and disputes between residents
- if we can't help, refer you to someone who can

WHAT FIND DIGS CANNOT DO

- clean your room/kitchen/bathroom
- solve disputes or fall outs without your help and compromise
- discuss personal details with other residents or your parents without your consent

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