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| HIGHER EDUCATION PREPARATION | | |
|  | **ACCOMMODATION** |  |

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| 1 | **HALLS OF RESIDENCE** | A close up of a logo  Description automatically generated |
| **Most first-year students choose to live in halls of residence, as they can offer a straightforward way of moving away from home and transitioning to independent living.** |
| |  | | --- | | **COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY-MANAGED** | | These are typically **individual**, **furnished** bedrooms organised around **shared kitchens and bathrooms** (although **en-suite** rooms are becoming **more common**). Often located **close to campus**, or attached to a college or university bus link, colleges and universities **may be able to guarantee** you a room if you **fulfil certain criteria**.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **A close up of a logo  Description automatically generated** | **Check the application process (including deadline)** | | Most colleges and universities can **only guarantee accommodation** if you select them as your **‘firm’ UCAS** | | **choice** and/or **apply by their deadline**. The most desirable rooms may fill up quick, so make sure to **apply early**. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Explore your back-up option(s)** | | Many colleges and universities will ask you to **rank your accommodation preferences** and **may not be** | | **able to offer your first choice**. As such, make sure that you can **afford the rent for your other choice(s)** and **investigate other sources of accommodation** (e.g. privately-managed halls of residence and privately-rented accommodation). Explore how to book **accommodation at your insurance choice** college or university. | | |  |  | | --- | | **PRIVATELY-MANAGED** | | These are **similar** in many ways to college- and university-managed halls of residence, except they are **owned** and **operated** by an **independent company**. In large cities, private halls may be open to those studying at **all nearby colleges and universities**. Privately-managed options may include a **range of features not traditionally offered** as part of college- and university-managed halls of residence.   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Check the cost** | | Prices can be **more expensive** than university-managed options. |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | my student halls | Explore the range of privately-managed halls of residence available where you are studying: **https://bit.ly/2Zb21zG** | | | | |

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| 2 | **PRIVATE-RENTED HOUSING** | **A close up of a logo  Description automatically generated** |
| **Colleges and universities can typically only offer their halls of residence to students in their first year. For some students, a house or flat share may be the best option for their first year.** |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Speak to student services** | | Your college or university may have a **housing office** who can help you **find housemates** and/or share a | | **list of trusted landlords** and **student-focussed letting agencies**. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Read the tenancy agreement** | | **Question anything** **you are not sure about** and **ask someone more experienced to look over it** with you (e.g. | | student services**). Do not feel pressured into signing anything you feel uncomfortable with**; most areas have a surplus of student housing. **Save The Student** has a **guide of what to check** before signing a tenancy agreement: [**https://bit.ly/3670a0a**](https://bit.ly/3670a0a)**.** | |      |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **Add up all the costs** | | Unlike halls of residence, **bills** such as electricity, gas, water and internet are **typically not included in your** | | **rent.** You may also need to **apply for council tax exemption**. Discuss with your **housemates** how you are going to **divide** these between you and **who is going to be responsible** for arranging payments. | |      |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Useful websites for finding private-rented housing:**   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | [**https://bit.ly/2WFMciM**](https://bit.ly/2WFMciM) | | |  | | --- | | Studentpad | | [**https://bit.ly/2yeSSLq**](https://bit.ly/2yeSSLq) | | |  | | --- | | UK Residential Property Data - Rightmove Data Services | | [**https://bit.ly/2Lzl0fe**](https://bit.ly/2Lzl0fe) | | |  | | --- | | Spareroom – Logos Download | | [**https://bit.ly/2zOrd4c**](https://bit.ly/2zOrd4c) | | | | | |

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| **THINGS TO CONSIDER** |
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| **MY ACCOMMODATION RESEARCH** |
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| **SLN Connect** is funded by the **Office for Students** and works in partnership with the **Chichester College Group** to provide **free** and **impartial** **information, advice and guidance on progression pathways** (including **college** and **university** study and **apprenticeships**). | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | **SLNConnect@chigroup.ac.uk** | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | [**sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk**](https://www.sussexlearningnetwork.org.uk/) | |