

Get in Touch



Our specialist advisers are experienced in supporting students, and will be able to guide you through the process of getting the support you need while you study.

If you would like more information about homelessness, please contact us and we will assist you with your query.

Contact Details:

Student Wellbeing Service
University of Derby
Buxton Campus
1 Devonshire Road
Buxton
Derbyshire SK17 6RY

T: 01298 330 414
Email: swsbuxton@derby.ac.uk
Website: <http://www.blc.ac.uk/student-handbook/student-wellbeing>



Are you under 18 and homeless or being threatened with homelessness?

Student Wellbeing supports students who may find themselves homeless or being threatened with homelessness. The content within this practical guide can be used by all students

Local Authority Housing

Your local council has a duty to help you with your housing situation if you are classed as eligible, homeless, in priority need, have a local connection and they do not find you intentionally homeless.

What is Priority need?

Priority need is targeted at young people aged 16 or 17.

In extenuating circumstances young people aged 18 or young people with a disability may receive support

What is a local connection?

You must have been living in the area for the past 6 months, (or 3 out of the past 5 years), have close family in the area or work in the area. *Please note that College is not classed as a local connection.*

What does Intentionally homeless mean?

If you have chosen to leave home or if you have done something deliberately (eg: not paid your rent, even though you could afford it) which has caused you to be homeless, it could be classed as "intentional". If you think your situation may be classed as intentional, please seek further advice noting the detail below:

- The local council works alongside Social Care and a joint assessment will be completed to assess your need for support etc and will normally contact your parents/guardian to confirm you are unable to go home.
- In emergencies or on a temporary basis, you may be housed in a hostel or B&B accommodation.
- Due to housing shortages there may be a wait until longer term accommodation is available.
- Some local authorities have supported housing projects for young people.
- If you are not eligible for assistance or are not homeless, your local council has a duty to give you general housing information and advice.

Contact details for your local council are available by contacting us using the contact details on the back of his leaflet.

Private Rented Accommodation

You may choose to look at renting private accommodation, either by yourself or with others in a shared house. This can be done through an estate agent, on websites or through local adverts.

Please note that you may need an adult who can be your "financial guarantor" to pay up for any damage, if you can't pay the rent. Your landlord may also ask you to pay a bond (deposit) and your first months rent before you move in.

How will I pay my rent?

Whether you are housed by your Local Council or you rent privately you will be asked to sign a tenancy agreement, which is a legal document, so once you have signed up, you will be required by law to pay your rent. Your landlord can evict you or take you to court if you do not pay your rent. Some students may be eligible to receive Housing Benefit to help with rent costs.

Seek more advice by contacting us using the contact details found on the back of this leaflet.

How will I pay my bills and living costs?

If you live independently, you will need to budget for all your living costs, which include going out, shopping and bills (gas, electricity, water, phone, TV licence) out of your wage, or any other income you may have. Some students may be eligible for income support to assist with these costs.

Seek more advice by contacting us using the contact details found on the back of this leaflet.

Budgeting Exercise

Take a few minutes using the calculator below to assess your cost of living independently. Some tips that might assist you:

- You should have enough money coming in to pay for all your outgoings.
- If you have money left over, could you save some of it?
- If you don't have enough money coming in to cover costs, where could you cut back or increase your income?
- If you are concerned about your personal financial circumstances inclusive of debt, contact Student Wellbeing.

Income	Amount	Outgoings	Amount
Wages	£	Rent	£
Maintenance	£	Food	£
Income Support	£	Council Tax	£
Housing Benefit	£	Travel	£
Other	£	Electricity & Gas	£
		TV License	£
		Phone	£
		Going out	£
		Clothes	£
		Other	£