

Essential Collection



Your Student Handbook



COLLEGIATE

McDonald Road

Contents

Welcome

- 04 Hello
- 08 We can fix it
- 09 Your rent
- 10 Arriving in a new country

Your new community

- 12 McDonald Road
- 14 Living together
- 18 Your apartment

Staying safe and secure

- 24 Here for you
- 25 Healthcare
- 28 Keeping safe

Good housekeeping

- 32 Clean living
- 33 Green living

Your contract

- 35 Terms and conditions

Moving out

- 36 Everything you need to know

Complaints handling and appeals

- 42 Collegiate AC Ltd Complaints Procedure
- 45 Equality and diversity



Welcome

Hello. Welcome to McDonald Road.

You're about to find out everything you need to know about your fabulous new home here in Edinburgh. Feeling a little nervous? Don't worry – we'll keep you safe.

We want your stay with Collegiate AC to be a memorable one, so we've built in loads of great features that we know you'll love. We've also made sure that McDonald Road is in a great location, so that you can get the very best out of Edinburgh and your life at university.

Got any questions? Have a flick through this handbook to find out the answers. If there's anything you're still unsure about, our on-site staff will be happy to help.

The handbook also contains a couple of house rules. Don't worry – there's nothing too tedious. Just a few simple guidelines to ensure that you and your fellow residents at McDonald Road can feel free, safe and ready to enjoy your university years.

So, grab a cup of tea, settle down in your cosy new home and let us guide you through life at McDonald Road.

Read. Relax. Enjoy.

Hello

Office contact detail

You can get in touch with a member of the team in person, or by phone and email.

Telephone: 0131 201 2851

Email: mr@collegiate-ac.com

Out-of-hours emergency contact

In the event of an emergency out of office hours contact 0333 321 4064

Join us on Facebook

Join the McDonald Road community on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/collegiatemcdonaldroad

The main office address is:

McDonald Road Student Accommodation,
6 McDonald Road,
Edinburgh, EH7 4GT

The email address you gave us when you booked will be how we contact you – so please ensure you check your messages regularly. If you'd like us to use a different email address, please let a member of our friendly accommodation team know and they'll give you a change of details form.

Cycle storage

Cycling is a great way to exercise and also a cheap and enjoyable way to explore Edinburgh. You can bring your bicycle to McDonald Road and we will keep it safe on the bike racks to the rear of the garden. Just speak to a member of the accommodation team and complete the form.

Lothian Police here in Edinburgh recommend that you always leave your bike locked with two solid locks: one to secure the bike to a stand by the front or back wheel and the other to go through the remaining wheel and the frame. That way there's no chance of returning to find that all you have left is a wheel

Please note: we can't take responsibility for any loss or damage to bicycles left in the storage area. If there is a problem, please notify the police and the accommodation team.

Parking

There is no vehicle on-site parking for resident use at McDonald Road. The parking space outside reception is for contractors or the emergency services only.

Mail

Your mail will be delivered to your post box in the main reception area. If you're not at home, any larger mail/ parcels will be held at reception for you to collect. If your parcels need signing for, a member of the team will be happy to do this. Please ensure you use your full flat address including room number on all mail delivered to us

Please note that the accommodation team takes no responsibility for any loss or damage to parcels that have been signed for at reception.

Bus routes

There is a bus stop just 50 meters from the apartments, with routes going to the following universities:

Kings Building: Bus Route 41

Edinburgh University: Bus route 7, 14 and 49

Napier University: Bus route 11, 16 and 23

Herriot Watt University: Bus route 25

Queen Margaret University: Bus route 45 and 30

Bus route 100 goes to the airport and bus route 22 takes you quickly into city centre or ocean terminal.

Lothian Buses are the main operator in Edinburgh – see their website www.lothianbuses.com for a downloadable mobile app, as well as information on routes, the cost of tickets and obtaining student bus passes, so that you can enjoy Edinburgh – and elsewhere – for less.



We can fix it

Can't find your keys? Got a leaky tap? Whatever you need, we're here to help.

Lost your keys or locked yourself out?

These things happen, so don't worry. We can help: if you lose your key card, we can replace it for a small fee. You just need to request a replacement from the accommodation office during office hours.

If you lose your keycard outside of office hours, you'll need to call our out of hours number. You'll need to show them some ID and there may be a call out fee for this service. Once you're safely back inside, come to the accommodation office during opening hours to pay and collect a new set of keys.

If you've locked yourself out of your room during office hours, pop along to the accommodation office and we will loan you a temporary key so that you can get into your room to collect your own key. Make sure you bring the borrowed key back to us within an hour though.

Keys are important and costly to replace, so keep them safe and remember where you left them.

Got a maintenance issue?

Things wear out and things get broken. It's part of life. But we want you to feel your smart Collegiate accommodation is always in tiptop condition, so that you can be proud of your home.

If something needs sorting out, simply tell the accommodation office and the repair will be carried out in accordance with an agreed schedule of priorities. A time will be arranged for our maintenance team to come and fix things. They will always knock before entering a bedroom and if you're not home, they'll leave a card to let you know if they've been into your room. Rest assured, the problem will be solved quickly, conveniently and efficiently.

Need an emergency repair?

If you have an emergency maintenance issue, such as a burst pipe, or a broken window and it's outside of maintenance staff working hours, you can report it to our out-of-hours service on 0333 321 4064 and they'll immediately contact the appropriate person to rectify the problem.

If you have a non-emergency maintenance issue, such as a defective fridge/freezer, a blocked drain and so on, please hang on and report this to the accommodation office during office hours. These types of issues will be dealt with during the usual maintenance staff working hours.

Your rent

For those students paying in instalments, your payment dates are:

1st Instalment due on or before 26th August 2020

(you should have already paid this if you have moved in)

2nd Instalment due on or before 6th January 2021

3rd Instalment due on or before 5th May 2021

These can also be found on page 4 of your tenancy agreement.

Please note that we don't accept cash.

Arriving in a new country

Opening a bank account

You need to be in the UK in order to open a UK bank account, so make sure it's one of the first things you do once you get to Edinburgh. It is the safest way to manage your money.

Opening a bank account can take a week or more, so make sure you've got enough cash for your first few weeks here.

To open a bank account you'll need to check individual bank requirements. Most will want to see your passport and introductory documentation from your university detailing your personal details and course of study.

Once your account's open, speak to your university or go to www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk for advice on budgeting and managing your money. The British Bankers' Association have a handy guide for international students. Check it out at: www.bba.org.uk/publications/entry/international-students/leaflet

Student Travel Reduction Cards

Want to see more of the UK during your university days? A 16-25 Railcard and/or a Coach Card can save you a considerable amount if you explore by train or coach.

The 16-25 Railcard costs £30 for one year or £70 for three years, and gives you a third off your rail travel in the UK. To get this you will need proof you are a student, your passport and a passport-size photo. The card can be purchased at any train station ticket office. For further information see: www.16-25railcard.co.uk

The Young Persons Coach Card can be bought at National Express coach offices or online. This card costs £10 for a year or £25 for three years and gives you 30% off all coach travel in the UK. To get one you simply need proof that you are a student. For further information see:

www.nationalexpress.com/waystosave/young-persons-coachcard.aspx

Mobile phones

Mobile phones are cheap to buy, but expensive to use, so be careful not to accidentally run up a big bill by spending hours on the phone to another country.

If you choose a contract, the phone will be cheap or free, but make sure you check the monthly payment and call charges before signing and remember that there's often a compulsory monthly charge. You will need an enrolment letter from your university to take out a phone contract.

Pay-as-you-go is the no-contract, no credit check, no-commitment, no-monthly bills way to get a mobile phone. However, you always pay a lot more to buy the initial phone and calls are generally more expensive than on contract mobile phones. On the plus side, you don't need to provide a proof of enrolment letter from your university.

For information on mobile phone companies and to see prices see: www.mobiles.co.uk



Your new community

Edinburgh is a wonderful city to explore and your new home at McDonald Road is perfectly located to allow you to do just that. Pop out for a bit of retail therapy, a coffee and a cake in one of the many cafés or simply a stroll to stretch your legs.

To see an interactive map showing the locations of universities, banks, public transport, supermarkets and other local amenities, please visit: www.collegiate-ac.com/uk-student-accommodation/edinburgh

There are plenty of local retail outlets close to McDonald Road, including a Co-Operative, Sainsbury's, Tesco Express, a Lloyd's Chemist and plenty of restaurants and fast food outlets. There is also a Tesco superstore at the bottom of Leith Walk.

Of course, as well as its food, Edinburgh is famous for its festivals, from the Film Festival to the Fringe. There's also a vast array of cinemas, theatres, art galleries, museums, comedy clubs and music bars, so make the most of your recreation time by heading out into the city to discover one of the most entertaining and exciting places in the UK. In Edinburgh, you will be spoilt for choice!



John Lewis	🚶 10 minutes
Edinburgh Waverley Station	🚶 18 minutes
University of Edinburgh	🚶 30 minutes
College of Art	🚶 35 minutes

Living together

Communal student living is all part of the university experience. At Collegiate we think we've arranged things to ensure that you have a great environment, friendly people and a real sense of community. At the same time, you also have your own space. We want you to enjoy your time at uni to the full and to look back at it fondly when the time comes to move on.

Want to make the most of your time here? Our accommodation team will arrange events throughout the academic year to help you get to know your flatmates, relax and have a good time.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and the notice boards at McDonald Road for up-coming events:
www.facebook.com/collegiatemcdonaldroad

Your on-site facilities at a glance

- Experienced and friendly on site management team to help with any queries about the city, transport and entertainment. They also arrange social gatherings and facilitate you meeting other students on site.
- Spacious lounge, state-of-the-art cinema, study room and private garden - space to work, simply relax or grab a coffee with friends
- High-speed broadband and Wi-Fi throughout the building – stay connected all the time.
- Secure electronic access and CCTV – let us keep you safe and sound.
- All inclusive rates, including heating, lighting and water – makes budgeting simple.
- Room cleaning, laundry service and other technology upgrades available on request – just ask a member of our team.

The common room

There's more to university life than studying 24/7, so head to the common room to join your fellow residents for a coffee, a gossip or to take in a movie in the cinema. It's your common room, so relax and enjoy it.

Laundry

The laundry room is available for all residents to use. All of the machines are brand new, fully maintained and very simple to use. However, please note that the washing machines do not have a powder-dispensing drawer, so you'll need to purchase all-in-one washing and fabric conditioner tablets, which can be placed directly in the drum with your clothes. The Circuit Laundry App can be downloaded onto your phone and cards can be topped up in increments of £10, to a total value of £80.

Study space

Your room comes complete with desk area for hitting the books in privacy, but if you fancy a change of scene then why not use the study room downstairs in our common area or catch up with your fellow residents to discuss ideas, compare notes and work through any challenging assignments.

Please remember that others might like to study quietly or to chill out and watch a movie while you are using the common room, so be aware and respectful of others while you are using the facilities. Please also do your bit for the planet and ensure everything is switched off when you finish and leave the room clean and tidy. If you have problems with any of the equipment please let the accommodation team know as soon as possible and we will sort it.



Internet

Broadband and Wi-Fi is available throughout the building, 24 hours a day, so you can stay connected at all times. Wired connections are available via an Ethernet cable connected to the wall socket in your room – simply open your web browser and follow the instructions.

For wireless connections, search for the GLIDE WIFI network.

You can enjoy impressive speeds of up to 40Mb/s over wired connections and up to 20Mb/s over Wi-Fi connections.

And if that's still not enough connectivity for you, upgrade options are available for £99, up to 100Mb/s.

Speak to a member of the helpful accommodation team for more info.

Your local amenities at a glance

The local area includes all of the following, which should cover most of your daily needs:

- Newsagent
- Tesco Express, Sainsburys and Co-operative supermarkets
- ATM machine
- Cinema, restaurants and fast-food outlets
- Tesco Superstore at foot of Leith Walk

Your apartment

Heating

All rooms have electric heaters. These are set on a thermostat that can be changed easily with a turn of the dial. If you want to put your heating on make sure the radiator is switched on at the wall underneath the unit and then touch the pad next to radiator.

Cooking

All kitchens have both a full electric oven, with grill and 4 ring induction hob. Please ensure that your pots and pans are compatible with our induction hobs, you will see this on the packaging in the description.

Electric hob

To use the electric hobs make sure they are switched on at the wall and then turn on the appropriate ring. Make sure to switch off after us .

The cooking extractor fan

To use the extractor fan in the kitchen simply pull out the cooker hood and slide on the on switch at the top. The kitchen extractor also extracts steam from your bathroom so switch it on when you are having a shower. Remember to switch off when not in use to cut down energy consumption

What to do if your electricity goes off or a fuse goes in your room

If your electricity goes off, check the trip switches in your fuse box, located in your studio or apartment.

If any of the switches are in the 'off' position, reset them by simply turning them back on. If a bulb has blown, the electricity will come back on but the light will remain out. Please inform reception, who will arrange to have the bulb changed.

If the electricity does not turn back on, it could be due to a faulty electrical item such as a hairdryer or toaster, so try unplugging any electrical items you were using when the electricity went off. If you cannot identify a faulty appliance, or the trip switch will not re-set, please report this fault to the office as soon as possible or contact the warden on the emergency number provided if it's outside of office hour

How to use the shower

Hot water is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

The shower is controlled by two dials, one on either end of the control bar. The far right dial turns the shower on/off and controls the water pressure. The left hand dial adjusts the water temperature. A safety button on the control bar stops the hot water from being accidentally turned up too high. If you want hotter water, simply press and hold down this button whilst turning the temperature control.



Windows

Every window has a restrictor on it. If you are on the ground floor, this is to ensure that no one can enter your apartment when the window is open. If you are higher up, the restrictor is in place for your own safety, so you can't fall out of an open window.

You may be charged if window restrictors are removed, so please do not remove the restrictors.

Storage

Storage space for bags and suitcases can be found under the bed so you can keep your room lovely and neat. Simply lift the mattress to access the storage space.

Room cleaning

All three, four and five bedroom flats are supplied with a floor mop and bucket and brush and broom. Residents of studio apartments can borrow these items from reception during office opening time

Refuse bins

The refuse bins are located at the back of the building. However they get moved to the front of the building over the weekend to be emptied. We also have council recycling bins to the left of the building, located on Hopetoun Crescent.

What to do if you still need help

If you have any queries regarding your room or wish to report a maintenance issue, please visit reception Monday to Friday between 9am and 5pm. If you have a serious emergency (when the safety of you or your fellow residents is at risk or a serious maintenance issue such as a water leak, no electricity, or a broken window, has occurred then you can call our 24/7 out-of-hours emergency line and further assistance will be provided. The out of hours emergency telephone number is 0333 321 4064.

Top tips for getting on with your new flatmates

We want to ensure that everyone enjoys their time at McDonald Road, so we ask everyone to stick to a few simple guidelines.

Respect each other's space

The kitchen is your most important communal area and everyone in your flat should feel comfortable using it. Wash up and wipe up after yourself to keep the cooking area, sink and dining area clean and clear for your flatmates – leave it as you would like to find it. Remember that the kitchen is for you and your flatmates only, so guests should only be entertained occasionally.

Smoking is strictly not allowed anywhere in the building.

Be considerate about noise

Not everyone shares your taste in music, and even if your whole flat loves your latest download, the person downstairs trying to study might not appreciate a thumping ceiling. Try to keep noise to a minimum – if you can hear your music outside of your room, then the chances are that everyone else can too.

Try to be quiet coming in and out of your flat as well, especially at night when others might be sleeping. Remember that all doors in the building are fire doors – so if you don't close them quietly, they will close themselves with a loud thud!

Please be aware that you cannot make excessive noise between 10pm and 8am. This is stated in your tenancy agreement.

Handling anti-social behaviour

If other residents are behaving in ways that cause you concern, then in most cases the most effective way when dealing with the problem is to speak to them yourself, perhaps with others who are affected. If you don't find this helps, then you should speak to an on-site student warden to see whether they have any advice on the situation. You can also speak to any member of the team at the accommodation office to discuss the matter further.

Accommodation office: 0131 210 2851

Out-of-hours emergency contact: 0333 321 4064

If it's anti-social behaviour that you believe warrants police action then please call the police when the incident occurs. Non-emergency police number: 101 / Emergency police number: 999

Your guests

Overnight guests are allowed in your room for a maximum of three consecutive nights, but remember if you are in a shared apartment, it is polite to ask your flatmates before inviting people to stay. Unless you're staying in a shared room, it's only designed for one person, so having an overnight guest should only be occasional. You must notify the Accommodation team prior to your guests staying with you in order for us to be able to account for your guests in case of a fire alarm.

Similarly, your kitchen is designed for the number of people living in your flat, so although it's OK to invite friends over for lunch or dinner now and again, you should be careful not to inconvenience your flatmates.

The behaviour of any person you invite into your building, apartment or room is ultimately your responsibility. You'll be held accountable if there are any complaints from your flatmates, or any damages caused by your guests, so make sure they behave as well as you do!



Staying safe and secure

We're here for you

We want you to enjoy living at McDonald Road to the full. We don't just provide first-class accommodation but also a first-class service. Our experienced on site accommodation team is here to offer all the support you need – and a member of the team is available 24-hours a day.

It's good to share

If university life isn't everything you hoped and you are feeling unhappy, don't let it get on top of you – talk to a member of our team. We are always happy to help and work in partnership with your university's pastoral care team to ensure you know how to get help and advice when you need it, so that you can get the most out of your time at uni.

Good health

If you're feeling unwell you can get an appointment with a doctor or nurse at the university's health centre. For out- of-hours health advice, you can call the NHS on 111 – but always get advice in person from a medical professional if anything persists or if you're worried.

Health care in the UK

Non-emergency healthcare matters are dealt with by doctors known as General Practitioners (GPs), in local surgeries. You need to register with a doctor before you are treated, so do this within the first week of your arrival in Edinburgh. You can register with a GP by going to the doctor's surgery and filling out a form.

Names and addresses of doctors can be obtained from: www.nhs.uk

You do not pay to register with or to consult with an NHS doctor.

GP surgeries in Edinburgh

Bellevue Medical Centre (0.3km from McDonald Road)

26 Huntingdon Place, Edinburgh, EH7 4AT

Tel: 0131 556 2642

Brunton Place Surgery (1.2km from McDonald Road)

9 Brunton Place, Edinburgh, EH7 5EG

Tel: 0131 557 5545

Eyre Group Practice (1.6 km from McDonald Road)

31 Eyre Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 5EU

Tel: 0131 556 8842

Leith Walk Surgery (1.7 km from McDonald Road)

60 Leith Walk, Edinburgh, EH6 5HB

Tel: 0131 554 6471

Hospitals

Western General Hospital (4.0km from McDonald Road)

Crewe Road South, Edinburgh, EH4 2XU

Tel: 0131 537 1000

Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh (7.7km from McDonald Road)

51 Little France Cres, Edinburgh EH16 4SA

Tel: 0131 536 1000

Dentists

Although dental treatment is available on the NHS, it is not always free. You can choose which NHS dentist you want to be registered with (it does not need to be the dental practice closest to your residence), but you need to be registered with a dentist before you receive treatment from them. To find a list of NHS registered dentists see: www.nhs.uk

Local dentists in Edinburgh

Dental Practice (0.3km from McDonald Road)

28 Annandale Street, Edinburgh, EH7 4AN

Tel: 0131 556 3704

Dental Practice (0.5km from McDonald Road)

32 Haddington Place, Edinburgh, EH7 4AG

Tel: 0131 556 6636

Montgomery Street Dental Practice (0.8km from McDonald Road)

96 Montgomery Street, Edinburgh, EH7 5HE

Tel: 0131 556 3949

Pilrig Dental Practice (1.0km from McDonald Road)

8 Pilrig Street, Edinburgh, EH6 5AQ

Tel: 0131 554 1606

Other useful contacts

Samaritans | 0845 790 90 90 | www.samaritans.org

Student Loans Company | 0300 555 0505 | www.slc.co.uk

Sexual Health | 0131 536 1070 | www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Sexualhealthtopics

Victim Support | 0845 30 30 900 | www.victimsupport.org.uk

Alcoholics Anonymous | 0845 769 75 55 | www.alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk

British Pregnancy Advisory | 03457 30 40 30 | www.bpas.org

Debtline | 0808 808 40 00 | www.nationaldebtline.org

Drugs Advice & Helpline | 0800 77 66 00 | www.talktofrank.com

Keeping yourself and your flatmates safe

Follow these simple tips to ensure that you, your flatmates and your belongings are kept safe and sound.

Close your windows and lock your doors when you go out. Make sure that the door to the building and the door to your flat and bedroom are kept locked at all times – even when you're in. When you're out, keep your bedroom door locked to protect your possessions.

Never tamper with, cover, or move any fire safety equipment. Doing so puts yourself and others at risk. Anyone caught doing this will face eviction, so don't stand by and let others do things that put you at risk. If you see someone else interfering with fire safety equipment, please notify the accommodation team immediately.

Make sure you know what to do in case of fire and that you comply with any other health and safety regulations

General Safety

Keep the main entrance doors locked at all times and do not prop them open.

Be aware of any strangers on the premises. It will take a while for you to recognise all tenants in the building, but if someone is acting suspiciously, let the accommodation team know. If it's out of office hours, call out-of-hour security (on 0333 321 4064 or the police).

Always carry your keycard with you and never pass it to anyone else.

If you're worried about your safety or any security on site, please speak with a member of the accommodation team during office hours, or call the emergency out-of-hours contact on 0333 321 4064 or the police.

Fire safety

It's vital that you know how to prevent fire and what to do if one happens. Please refer to the fire evacuation procedure notice located on notice boards in McDonald Road.

1. Know your escape route – it is shown on the fire evacuation procedure notice.

When you arrive in your new room make sure you know where the nearest fire exit is. Read the fire notices dotted around the building so that you know your escape route from other areas as well.

Make sure you know where the evacuation assembly point is – details of this are located in your room and also in reception.

Make sure you know where the fire extinguishers are and how to use them – instructions are on the fire notices around the building. Only use them if you are competent and confident. In all cases follow your on-site evacuation procedure.

The assembly point is outside the Co-op, just across the road.

2. Keep access and fire exits clear

If you notice any obstruction to fire exits, please let a member of the team know. Bicycles must not be kept in your room or in the way of an escape route.

3. Know what to do if a fire alarm sounds

Refer to your evacuation procedure. Do not use the lifts.

Make your way to the evacuation assembly point – location details are displayed clearly in your room and at reception.

If you have left the building, do not attempt to re-enter until a member of the team or fire brigade has given you permission to do so.

Fire alarm

The fire alarm system is tested on a weekly basis, which usually takes place on Mondays between 1-2pm. Test alarms last no longer than ten seconds. If the alarm lasts beyond this time, please carry out your evacuation plan.

General fire prevention

If the fire alarm activates then you **MUST** evacuate the building regardless of time of day. You **MUST** go immediately to the fire evacuation assembly point.

Do not misuse any fire fighting/prevention equipment, this equipment is there for your safety and the safety of others in the building. It is essential that it is always in full working order. The equipment in your apartment will be checked once a week by the accommodation team.

Please do not tamper with any smoke detectors. In the event of tamper, you will have to pay for an engineer to ensure that it is still in full working order. It can cost £300 or more for a call out.

Do not bring furniture into your room or kitchen that has not been pre-approved by the accommodation team. This is to ensure that it complies with Health and Safety standards.

Do not prop open fire doors

There is no smoking in any part of the building. Please do not smoke next to the front entrance where people regularly walk past or next to someone's window. Always put your cigarette ends in the bins provided.

Do not let combustible waste build up in your bedroom, hallway or kitchen. The following items are not permitted due to being a fire hazard

- Chip pans
- Deep fat fryers
- Halogen lights
- Candles and oil burners
- Fireworks
- Barbeques
- Incense burners
- Other naked flame
- Electric Blankets
- Halogen or Gas Heaters



Good housekeeping

Clean living

Your kitchen

None of us like domestic chores, but it's important that your kitchen is kept clean. We'll be making regular checks (don't worry, we'll let you know beforehand when they will be and we'll let you know if your kitchen fails any inspection).

If you share a kitchen, it's everybody's responsibility to keep it clean – and everybody's responsibility if you're issued a charge for lack of cleanliness. You can divide up the cleaning tasks or take turns on different days – whatever you find works best for you and those you share it with.

Your room

It's up to you to keep your room and bathroom clean. Our regular checks are to ensure that they meet our health and safety standards. If they fall below standard, you'll have 24 hours to clean them up or risk a charge.

Please remember:

- Please don't use abrasive cleaning products.
- Please don't put up posters or pictures other than on your notice board.

Your bathroom

Descalcify your showerhead every few months to keep your shower working to the best of its ability. Please don't use hair or clothes dye in the bathroom.

Green living

We can all do more to make the planet a greener place, starting with how we behave in the home. Please help us make McDonald Road a greener place by ensuring we're more energy efficient around the development.

Lights – always switch off if you're not using a room

Recycle – recycle as many waste items as you can, such as glass, plastics and cardboard, by using the recycling bins on site.

Heating – do not leave the heating on AND your window open at the same time.

Be a user – Freecycle groups match people who have things they want to get rid of with people who can use them. Find your nearest freecycle group at: www.uk.freecycle.org

Book swap – you can re-use other people's textbooks and let them use yours for free on sites like: www.PaperBackSwap.com. All you have to pay for is shipping. You can also buy second hand books from Amazon: www.amazon.co.uk.

Water – turn off the tap while brushing your teeth to conserve water. And when boiling a kettle, save electricity and water by never boiling more water than you need.

Reuse paper – before you throw away that page you printed by mistake or that paper covered in editing marks, how about using the other side to take notes in class, or chop it up to use as shopping lists and reminder notes?

Turn off your computer – reduce your energy consumption by turning off your computer when you're not using it

Be thrifty – instead of buying an expensive new outfit or gadget, you can save some cash and help out the environment by shopping at a local charity store. Charity store shopping is another form of recycling – you reduce the energy used by factories to make new items, as well as picking up some great, vintage bargains for your wardrobe.

Spend less time in the shower – cut down your shower time by just two minutes to save water and electricity. It also means you can enjoy an extra two minutes in bed every morning!

Go paperless – save trees by going online and changing your bank account and any credit cards to paperless billing.

Reuse your bags – avoid plastic bags by purchasing a couple of reusable shopping bags. They can be used for everything, from food shopping to carrying your lunch, books or even a laptop.

Recycle your old mobile phone – earn cashback when you upgrade your phone by visiting: www.moneysavingexpert.com/phones/mobile-recycling

Consolidate your hair care products – buy 2-in-1 shampoo and conditioner to halve your hair product waste.

Wash clothes at a cooler temperature – modern washing powder means that 30 degrees should be plenty warm enough for your clothes. You'll save electricity and your clothes will last longer due to the reduced heat damage that they suffer.



Your contract

Your contract with us is legally binding so please make sure you're clear on its terms and conditions. Here's an overview of some of the key facts:

You are bound to the full contract period – if you leave before the contract ends you will not receive a reduction in rent.

The Collegiate AC team may need access to your room for room inspections, maintenance and repairs, as well as for showing prospective students around during open days. We'll always give you at least 24 hours' notice (unless it is impractical to do so).

You must pay your accommodation fees on the due dates stated on your contract – outstanding debts will eventually be passed on to an external debt collecting agency.

If you decide to transfer to another room, exchange rooms or leave McDonald Road, you will be charged an admin fee of £50.

Collegiate AC does not accept liability for the loss or damage to any resident's property, whatever the circumstance. Contents insurance with Endsleigh (www.endsleigh.co.uk) is included in your rent. Please refer to your Endsleigh leaflet for upgrade options

If you're unsure of your full legal obligations, please double-check your contract agreement and let us know if you have any queries.

Moving out

Changing rooms

We want to ensure you are 100% happy during your stay with us, so if for any reason you're unhappy with your room, you can apply to change it at the accommodation office. Please bear in mind that during the first few weeks of term, almost all of our rooms are occupied or allocated to students, so a room change in the first two weeks might prove tricky. Instead, bear with us and try to settle in and get to know your new flatmates and home.

We've found that most students settle in within the first few weeks, make friends and then don't want to move, but if you really feel you would like to change rooms, let the accommodation team know and we'll do our best to find you a more suitable room as soon as we can.

We charge an admin fee of £50 for a room change, including the drawing up of a new contract.

Moving out at the end of your tenancy

We are always sad to see our residents leave, but we know that all tenancies have to end at some point.

As a condition of your contract, you'll need to book and meet a member of the team for a check-out inspection.

There are a few requirements for your last day:

- Your room needs to be clear of all belongings by 12 noon
- Please return all keys to reception
- Please make sure your room and en-suite are deep cleaned before you leave

Protecting your personal information

Collegiate Group is committed to protecting and respecting the privacy of all parties with which it comes into contact.

You have a number of rights and protections under Data Privacy Law and Regulation. From the 25th May 2018, this is governed across all EU member states by the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

For more information, and to read our full Privacy Notice, please visit our website on <https://www.collegiate-ac.com/privacy-policy/>

For questions, you can contact us at dpt@collegiate-ac.com

Extra charges for damage/cleaning

Here is a rundown of charges for any damage to items or additional cleaning necessary due to a tenant's behaviour. **Disclaimer: these prices are for guidance only and are not exact.**

Your kitchen	Price
Extractor fan (above stove)	£300
Combination/conventional oven	£500
Dining stool	£100
Kitchen work surface	£500
Vinyl floo	£500
Redecorate walls	£50 per wall
Redecorate ceiling	£100
Fire extinguisher	£120
Fire blanket	£60
Vacuum cleaner*	£150
Fridge/Freezer	£500
Curtains/Blinds	£200
Sofas	£200 per 1 seater sofa
General damage to walls	£150
Door and fitting	£350
Dining table and chairs	£350
Smoke detector	£120
Hob	£500
Lights and fitting	£350

Your bedroom	Price
Bed	£250
Underbed storage doors/drawers	£150
Mattress	£150
Study chair	£90
Desk	£200
Wardrobe	£300
Bedside cabinet	£100
Book/folder shelves	£150
Curtains/Blinds	£200
Flooring	£500
Window	£750
Radiator/Wall heater	£350
Redecorate walls	£50 per wall
Redecorate ceiling	£100
Bedroom door	£500
Lights and fitting	£350
Smoke detector	£120
Mirror	£100
Door lock	£300

Cleaning your room	Price
Bedroom - general clean	£40
Entire Studio inc bathroom	£70
Bedroom floorin	£30
Oven Clean	£45
Shared kitchen	£150 (Split between all flatmates)
Removal of rubbish	£15 per black bin bag
Ensuite bathroom clean	£25
Cooker extractor clean	£30

Your bathroom	Price
Shower	£250
Glass shower door	£250
Mirror and/or Shelf	£100
Shaving point	£120
Towel hook/rail	£10
Toilet roll holder	£10
Toilet	£200
Toilet seat	£40
Vinyl floo	£500
Sink and taps	£200
Door and fitting	£350
Lights and fitting	£250

Your flat corridor	Price
Front door	£500
Intercom*	£150
Door lock	£300
Redecorate walls	£50 per wall
Redecorate ceiling	£100
Flooring	£300
Lights and fitting	£350
Smoke detector	£120

Other items	Price
Replacement mailbox key	You will be charged the exact cost of a replacement
Replacement mailbox lock	
Replacement key card	
Laundry card	

On your Return of Deposit form that is filled out at your Check Out appointment, you can select a payment option for how you want your booking fee returned - we will generally return using the same method as you paid it by. Please note overseas transfer will incur a charge and will be deducted prior to returning the funds

* Items marked with an asterisk are not supplied at all Collegiate's Accommodation sites - if you do not have this supplied please delete where appropriate



Complaints handling and appeals

Complaints will be subject to the ANUK complaint procedure and subject to independent appeal and referral up to the ANUK committee on standards to ensure we have an open, fair and transparent process. We would also notify any affiliated University in our monthly written reports and deal with any major complaints through our routine daily and weekly liaison.

Collegiate AC Ltd Complaints Procedure

Collegiate AC Ltd is responsive to the needs of our students and visitors and welcomes comments and complaints as a means of improving services. We won't necessarily be able to change the things in the way that you would like or always meet your needs but we will always be able to give you an explanation of how a decision has been made. Collegiate AC Ltd will always be professional and courteous in dealing with complaints and we will try to be as quick as we can in responding to you.

Collegiate AC Ltd is a large community and it is inevitable that from time to time complaints arise. This procedure explains:

- How to make a complaint
- How you can expect us to deal with it
- What you can do if you are unhappy with our response

Informal

If you have a complaint, in the first instance please discuss this with a member of the accommodation team in person or with the Collegiate AC Ltd central management team to try and resolve the matter swiftly. If you do have a complaint you should let us know as soon as possible and within eight weeks of the event or lack of action, about which you are complaining. Your complaint will normally be acknowledged within 48 hours (excluding weekends, public holidays and official University holidays) and responded to fully within five working days of the receipt of the complaint. If circumstances mean a full response is likely to take longer we will inform you and keep you informed of the process.

Formal

Stage 1

If you are unhappy about a response you receive, or the complaint is actually about the member of staff involved or if you feel that the complaint warrants further investigation then you may initiate a formal complaint. To do this you should email the Collegiate AC Ltd team who will normally acknowledge receipt within 48 hours (excluding weekends, public holidays and official University holidays). The complaint will be passed to our Director of Residences who will determine whether a manager for the area in which your complaint falls should deal with the complaint or whether a member of the senior management team should more appropriately investigate the complaint.

Stage 2

If you are unhappy with the response received at Stage 1 then you may appeal to the Director of Residences stating the reason why you are unhappy with the initial response. You will receive an acknowledgement within 48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays from receipt of the appeal and a full written response within 10 working days. If you are still not happy with the response you have the right to ask for your complaint to be taken to Review.

Review

If, once a final decision on the complaint has been given you believe that the complaint has not been handled fairly or properly in accordance with this procedure, you can request a review by writing to the Director of Residences within ten working days of you receiving your written response. You will need to state why you are unhappy with the outcome and include copies of any correspondence exchanged during the earlier stages. You will receive an acknowledgement of your request within five working days

The Registrar, or his or her delegated representative, will then review the case based on the documentation provided and will notify you of their decision within twenty working days of receipt of the request for the review. We will make every effort to follow the time limits set out in our procedure. However, where, for good reason, this is not possible we will keep you informed of progress.

Confidentiality

All complaints will be dealt with confidentially though enquiries may have to be made to investigate the matters that are the subject of the complaint. The effectiveness of any complaints procedure depends on Collegiate being able to collect appropriate information from the parties involved in order to investigate the matter properly. For this reason, anonymous complaints will not be dealt with.

Harassment

Collegiate AC Ltd seeks to create a residential environment which is free of harassment and which protects the dignity of students and staff irrespective of their gender, sexual orientation, racial or ethnic background, religion or disabled status. It regards sexual, racial or personal harassment very seriously and requires all students and staff to observe its policy in this area.

Students who believe they are experiencing harassment within their accommodation are advised to raise this with their warden in the first instance. You can also contact the Equality and Diversity Office, or the Students Union Advice Centre.

External Referral

Collegiate AC Ltd is registered to comply with the regulations set by the ANUK code of practice for larger student developments. If you believe that Collegiate AC Ltd has not dealt with your case properly, or that the outcome is unreasonable then you can, provided you have completed all of our internal procedures, complain to the ANUK Code directly.

Please note...

This information does not cover every aspect of your contractual obligations, and as a resident you are legally bound to the terms set out in your signed tenancy agreement.

Equality and diversity

Collegiate – committed to equal opportunities

Managers of Collegiate’s premises will ensure that all accommodation allocation procedures comply with applicable equal opportunities policies.

Where no equal opportunities policies exist, managers will ensure that no person or group of persons is discriminated against or unfairly treated because of their race, colour, ethnic or national origin, gender, disability, appearance, age, marital status, sexual orientation, social status or any other factor.

As part of its commitment to assisting persons with disabilities, Collegiate will ensure that charges for rooms adapted for use by students with disabilities do not exceed the standard room rate for the building in which they are located.

Want to know more?

If you would like to know more about Collegiate’s commitment to equal opportunities, please contact us by emailing tenants@collegiate-ac.com or calling 0123 525 0140.



Essential Collection



Collegiate McDonald Road

6 McDonald Road, Edinburgh, EH7 4GT

Telephone: 0131 201 2851

Email: mr@collegiate-ac.com

www.collegiate-ac.com

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Out-of-hours emergency Contact: 0333 321 4064



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