
Accommodation Offer

The University will not process your accommodation application until you have been offered a place to study at the University; you have accepted the place and you have paid the £200 prepayment.

When you accept our Accommodation offer a legally binding contract is formed between you and the Royal Agricultural University. The contract formed is subject to these terms and conditions and is referred to as the Agreement in these terms and conditions.

In accepting the Terms and Conditions listed below you are also agreeing to abide by the Regulations for Students Living in Residence and all Rules and Regulations applicable to students of the Royal Agricultural University as published in the student handbook and also the Terms and Conditions for Payment of Fees.

You cannot terminate this Agreement early except in very limited circumstances and you will be held responsible for the payment of the Accommodation Fees for the whole period of this Licence (see Section 14).

Definitions

Accommodation means the accommodation specified in the offer from the University and accepted by you and is the subject of this Agreement.

Fees means the amount charged for the Accommodation specified in the offer from the University

Halls means the residential building or buildings which contains the Accommodation and Shared Areas.

Shared Areas means those parts of a building or flat that are designated for the shared use of the occupiers (for example kitchens, common rooms, laundry rooms, bin stores, corridors, staircases, landings and outdoor areas)

Smoking includes the use of “e-Cigarettes”, “vaping”, shisha pipes and similar devices.

The University means the Royal Agricultural University.

Licence

This Licence is governed by English law which international students might find different from the law which applies in your own country. If you do not understand any of the licence terms and conditions, seek clarification from the accommodation office or take independent advice before proceeding if you think you need it.

This licence does not, and is not intended to create a tenancy. Occupation of University accommodation will be as a licensee only.

Agreement

The University agrees to provide the Accommodation for the Period of Occupation and agrees to comply with its obligations in these terms and conditions. In return you agree to take the Accommodation and to comply with your obligations in this Agreement throughout the Period of Occupation, the Regulations for Students Living in Residence, all Rules and Regulations applicable to students of the Royal Agricultural University as published in the student handbook and also the Terms and Conditions for Payment of Fees.

If the Accommodation is not available because of operational reasons (such as essential maintenance and repairs, Health and Safety or Security) or for reasons beyond the University's reasonable control, the University may relocate you to alternative comparable accommodation. In these circumstances the University will not be liable to you for any damage or loss that you might incur as a result of the relocation.

The Accommodation Fee includes the provision of the following term time services: utilities, internet access (subject to fair use), cleaning of the Accommodation and fortnightly laundry of bedlinen. Where there are shared facilities you are jointly responsible to keep the areas clean but we will help you keep communal bathrooms clean by providing a regular cleaning service. The provision of cleaning services is subject to the separate Service Level Agreement.

All half board accommodation is inclusive of 14 meals per week during term time (breakfast and dinner, brunch on Saturday and Sunday), and self-catered accommodation is exclusive of meals. (Lunch can be purchased directly from the RAU Restaurant subject to availability)

There is no meal provision for three weeks at Christmas and two weeks at Easter, there is no Meal Plan charge included in your accommodation fees for these weeks.

1. Period of Occupation

For Standard contracts

The Period of Occupation is from (and including) Sunday 11th September 2022 to (and including) Sunday 28th May 2023. This Agreement will automatically end on Sunday 28th May 2023, without the need for formal notice.

Your agreement is inclusive of the Christmas and Easter vacation, during which time you may leave your belongings in your room at your own risk and in line with your own personal contents insurance agreement.

You must leave the Accommodation and remove all your belongings from the Accommodation and return all keys / electronic key cards to the Porters Lodge by 9.00am on Sunday 28th May 2023. All Unicard key access will be automatically inactivated.

2. Accommodation Charges

2.1 Room Prepayment

You must pay to the University a prepayment of £200 when you apply for accommodation. The prepayment is part payment towards, and will be deducted from, your annual accommodation fee.

If the University makes you an offer of accommodation, it will not refund this prepayment, whether or not you accept the offer or withdraw from a place at the University. However if your place is still conditional and conditions of the offer are not met the prepayment will be refunded. If the University does not make you an offer of accommodation, it will refund the prepayment.

2.2 Accommodation Fee

When you accept your Accommodation offer you will be liable for the full Fees for the Period of Occupation, including any periods when you are away from the University due to work experience, job shadowing, study tours, illness etc.

You must pay the Fees to the University either in full on or before the date stated in your Accommodation Offer; or by agreement with the University in termly instalments. This option is only available if the instalment payments are set up in advance through the on-line payment facility. The option to pay in instalments does not apply to first year International Students where different payment rules apply.

Please note that the meal plan inclusive accommodation fees allow for a 3 week period during the Christmas vacation and a 2 week period during the Easter vacation when the catering facilities associated with residency are not available and therefore no meal plan charges are made. If you do require meals during this time they can be purchased directly in the RAU Restaurant subject to availability.

3. Use of Accommodation

You may only use the Accommodation for residential and study purposes. You must not use the Accommodation for any trade or business, or for any purpose which may cause annoyance / nuisance / disturbance to other people or which may reasonably be thought to bring the University into disrepute.

4. Standard of Property

At the start of the Period of Occupation, the University will provide the Accommodation in clean and sound condition. Within 7 days of the start of the Period of Occupation, you should report in writing to the University any defects, damage or missing items.

4.1 Your responsibility

4.1.1 You must keep the Accommodation and its contents in the same good and clean condition throughout the Period of Occupation as they were in at the start of the Period of Occupation, except for reasonable wear and tear. At the end of the Period of Occupation, you must return the Accommodation and its contents to the University in good clean condition, cleared of all your personal belongings and rubbish.

4.1.2 Jointly with the other occupiers entitled to use them, you must keep the Shared Areas reasonably clean and tidy during the Period of Occupation. At the end of the Period of Occupation, you must remove all your personal belongings and rubbish from the Shared Areas.

4.1.3 You must keep the Accommodation, and the Accommodation contents clean and tidy, and not damage them. You agree to pay for any damage that you or your visitors cause in the Accommodation or associated parts during your stay. Non-accidental damage and wilful interference are serious breaches of your Agreement, for which we will be entitled to end the Agreement without liability to you.

4.1.4 You agree to notify the Porters Lodge as soon as is reasonably practical if you lose the keys or electronic card to your Accommodation. You must not cut a duplicate key. You will be charged for the cost of replacing lost or damaged keys or electronic cards.

4.1.5 You agree to not to do anything or omit to do anything that is likely to be a security or Health and Safety risk (such as, but not limited to, leaving doors or windows unlocked when away from the Accommodation).

4.1.6 You agree not to bring into the Accommodation any illegal items or substances, highly flammable items, dangerous items (including fireworks or guns), or additional furniture or non-PAT tested electrical items.

4.1.7 You agree not to store or use any cooking equipment in any catered University property. If you have a documented medical need that requires a dispensation from this prohibition, the University will discuss this with you on an individual basis.

4.1.8 You agree not to bring into the Accommodation or Halls any animal (this includes, without limiting, mammals, fish, birds, insects and reptiles) unless it is a trained aid for a person with a disability, which the university has agreed you may keep with you. You will be responsible for any damage or nuisance which your animal causes.

4.1.9 You must not smoke in any University building, including the Accommodation and Halls. You must not interfere with any fire detection system or fire-fighting equipment without good cause, as defined in the Regulations

for Students Living in Residence. You may smoke outside at a distance of not less than 10 metres from the Halls.

4.1.10 You must not alter, add to or change the Accommodation or alter, damage or add to the decoration of the Accommodation.

4.2 The University may end the Agreement for breach of any of the above conditions and claim from you any costs it incurs in reinstating the room and/or its contents (including, without limiting costs for cleaning, repair or replacement if reasonably necessary) and its reasonable legal and administration expenses. In many cases the University will first notify you of the breach and give you a reasonable opportunity to put things right, but for serious breaches and persistent breaches, the University may immediately give you notice of termination the Agreement.

5. Vehicles

Space for parking vehicles on campus is limited. The University allocates parking spaces on a “first come first served basis”, subject to availability. You must apply for a parking permit and register your car details in advance as part of your on-line Registration.

You may not store a bicycle in the Accommodation or Shared Areas or in a manner that restricts walkways or passages. Please see the Student Handbook for details of bicycle storage facilities on campus.

6. Security

6.1 University staff will monitor and patrol the campus with the primary intent to ensure that students and property are kept safe and that peaceful enjoyment can be experienced by all.

6.2 All resident students must advise the accommodation office of planned periods of absence which are likely to last for more than 5 days for health and safety reasons.

6.3 If you leave your personal belongings in the Shared Areas, you do so at your own risk.

6.4 You must comply with all notices and guidance relating to security which may be posted in the Halls or circulated by the University from time to time.

7. Insurance

The University does not accept responsibility for the loss of or damage to any of your personal possessions on Campus, other than that resulting from the University’s own negligence. You are responsible for insuring your own possessions and belongings.

8. Acceptable Behaviour

8.1 Whilst at or near the building you must behave reasonably and treat other people with respect and consideration. You must not cause a hazard, nuisance or disturbance to others. You must comply with all reasonable requirements of our staff.

8.2 You must respect the privacy and possessions of other occupiers in the Hall.

8.3 Bullying, harassment and any other abusive, threatening or violent behaviour (whether in the physical presence of the target or not) is a serious breach of these terms and conditions, which will entitle the University to end the Contract.

8.4 You must not possess, use or supply or deal in any controlled or psychoactive substances whilst at the Building, or anywhere else on property owned or managed by the University, except for possession and use of drugs that have been prescribed for you and you take them in accordance with your doctor’s instructions. The University has a zero-tolerance policy to substance abuse. It will terminate your Contract and report the matter to the police if you do not comply with this condition.

9. Privacy and Access

9.1 The Accommodation is lockable for your own security and that of your possessions, but the University has a duplicate key or key card which may be used by University staff and contractors for any reasonable purpose including

conducting viewings, making inspections, cleaning, maintenance and/or repair. For your convenience, we will normally only let ourselves into the Accommodation at reasonable times and after giving you reasonable advance notice, but we may let ourselves in without notice if you have reported that something needs repairing, or if we reasonably suspect that:

- (a) you are engaged in or planning any criminal activity;
- (b) you are in serious breach of these terms and conditions;
- (c) there are grounds to have serious concerns about your health or welfare;
- (d) something in your room is causing a nuisance or disturbance to other residents;
- (e) there is some other justification for entering the Accommodation immediately.

9.2 If we come across anything which we believe it is illegal for you to have in your possession (such as a weapon or controlled drugs) or if there is something in the Accommodation that is causing a serious disturbance (e.g. sound system) or dangerous to have in a hall of residence (e.g. deep fat fryer), or which is otherwise prohibited by these terms and conditions we may remove it. We will give you a receipt for the item and, unless perishable, animate or illegal to possess, we will return it to you at the end of the Period of Occupation.

9.3 From time to time the University will allow the police and sniffer dogs to inspect the Building for controlled and/or psychoactive substances. Advance notice of such inspections may or may not be given.

10. Removal

10.1 Outside the period of your Agreement, the University cannot store your belongings. The University will move to Lost Property any of your belongings left in the Accommodation or Shared Areas at the end of the Period of Occupation. The University will make reasonable attempts to contact you in order to arrange for collection of the belongings. If the University cannot contact you and the belongings remain uncollected at the end of July the University will dispose of them. Items of value (in excess of £300) will not automatically be disposed of but you are responsible for their collection, storage and/or postage costs and will only be kept for a period of 6 months before disposal.

10.2 The University may remove any item or substance from the Accommodation which it reasonably considers to be unsafe, illegal or which is otherwise prohibited by these terms and conditions.

10.3 You will be responsible for the costs of removal, storage, disposal or sale of any item under paragraph 10.1 or 10.2 above.

11. Guests

11.1 One visitor may stay in the Accommodation for up to three nights in any seven day period, though we recommend that you seek the agreement of your fellow residents before arranging the visit. In order to comply with fire regulations, all visitors staying overnight must register their stay at least 48 hours in advance with the Accommodation office.

11.2 You are responsible for the conduct of all visitors you invite into the Halls and any loss, damage or injury to the University or other persons which result from the visitor's actions or negligence.

11.3 You must co-operate if a member of the University staff requests a visitor to leave.

11.4 You must not allow anyone else to live in or occupy the Accommodation or any of the Shared Areas.

11.5 You must not host any party in the Accommodation or Shared Areas.

12. Room and Meal Plan Changes

12.1 If you want to change your Accommodation for another room in University Halls, you must apply by email to the University Accommodation Office accommodation@rau.ac.uk. The University is not obliged to change your Accommodation, but will make reasonable efforts to make the change you request.

If you want to change your Meal Plan between Half Board (half board) and self-catered, you must apply by

email to the University Accommodation Office. As Meal Plans are loaded in advance onto your Unicaid two weeks' notice is required.

13.2 The University may relocate you to alternative comparable accommodation, either temporarily or permanently, for operational reasons (such as essential maintenance and repairs), safety or security grounds or if the Accommodation is not available for reasons outside the University's reasonable control.

13. Termination of Agreement by the University

13.1 The University is entitled to serve notice to terminate this Agreement before it would otherwise come to an end at the end of the Period of Occupation if:

- any payment due under this Agreement has not been paid within 14 days of it being due;
- you are in serious, repeated or persistent breach of any of these terms and conditions or University Regulations;
- you are not or cease to be a student at the University; or you have been suspended by the University from study;
- you behave in a manner which is in the reasonable opinion of the University is likely to cause harm distress or anxiety to the University staff or to other students or such behaviour actually causes distress, alarm or anxiety to the University staff or to other students;

13.2 The notice of termination will be in writing and will give not less than four weeks' notice of termination of the Agreement. When the Agreement is terminated, all benefits that accompany residency at the University (including meal plans) shall cease.

14. Termination of Agreement by the student

14.1 You may only end this Agreement with the University in accordance with these terms and conditions. This includes students whose course includes a sandwich placement. To terminate the Agreement before the Period of Occupation would otherwise come to an end, you must pay the Room Fees, the Administration fee and any additional charges due in full for the Period of Occupation unless and until all of the following conditions are met:

- a replacement occupier, reasonably acceptable to the University, agrees to take the Accommodation for the remainder of the Period of Occupation (the University will use its reasonable endeavours to help you find a replacement, but cannot guarantee that a replacement will be available);
- you have paid all sums due under the Agreement ;
- the replacement occupier must not already be occupying University accommodation. If you introduce the replacement occupier, that replacement shall be allocated to the Accommodation. If you do not introduce a replacement occupier, the University shall be entitled to allocate prospective occupiers to rooms that are already available to occupy, until all such rooms are occupied, before allocating a replacement to the Accommodation and releasing you from the Agreement.

14.2 If the Agreement is validly terminated under clause 14.1, the University will refund you a fair and reasonable proportion of any the Fees which you have already paid, calculated according to the period during which the Accommodation is licenced to the replacement occupier. You are liable to pay the Fees up to the date the Accommodation is re-licenced to the replacement occupier, even if that is some time after the date you move out of the Accommodation. (If the Accommodation is not re-licenced before the end of the Period of Stay, the University will not refund any pre-paid Fees.)

14.3 The University may make the Accommodation available to other occupiers for room transfers, but transfers will not be treated as replacements for the purposes of releasing a student who wants to end their Agreement early. Refunds of the Fees will only be given if and when the void in the Accommodation caused by the Student's early departure has been filled and there is no loss to the University.

14.4 The University's acceptance of the keys to the Accommodation at any time shall not in itself be effective to terminate the Agreement while any part of the Period of Occupation remains unexpired

15. End of Licence

15.1 At the end of the Period of Occupation you must vacate the Accommodation and you must leave the University Campus by 9am on the last day of the Period of Occupation.

15.2 You must remove all your personal belongings from University premises and hand in keys / electronic cards handed to the Porters Lodge.

16. Failure to Vacate

16.1 It is likely that the University will have agreed to licence the Accommodation to someone else after the end of the Period of Occupation. If you do not leave the Accommodation at the end of the Period of Occupation, the University will serve notice on you that it requires possession and notifying you that you will be liable to pay double the value of the Accommodation until you do leave (in accordance with the Landlord and Tenant Act 1730).

16.2 If the University has to house the new occupier somewhere else, the University will claim any additional costs of the substituted accommodation from you.

17. Breach of Agreement

You agree to pay to the University all costs reasonably incurred by the University, or by other people or organisations acting on the University's behalf, in enforcing your obligations in the Agreement or arising from a breach of them (including without limitation taking legal advice about a breach or suspected breach of these terms and conditions, whether or not legal proceedings are begun, tracing costs and costs in excess of the fixed costs and court fees set out in the Civil Procedure Rules and costs of enforcing any judgement and applicable VAT).

18. Licence Information

18.1 The following information is given on your "My Accommodation page" of the Royal Agricultural University website and in the Royal Agricultural University's standard terms and conditions of residence:

- Name and address of the supplier of your accommodation
- The type and location of the accommodation and the services that we will be supplying
- How long the contract will last for
- The price of the accommodation and what is included in that price
- The arrangements for payment and the dates when payment must be made.

18.2 There is no "cooling off period" for this agreement (see regulation 6(1)(d) of the Consumer Contracts (Information, Cancellation and Additional Charges) Regulations 2013)

18.3 The Agreement becomes binding when you click "**I ACCEPT**" on the offer of accommodation screen.

18.4 There is no extra charge for booking your accommodation on-line or by any other means of distance communication.

18.5 The minimum duration of the Agreement is for the Period of Occupation specified in these standard terms and conditions.