

# ACCOMMODATION POLICY



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#### 1. Purpose

This Accommodation Policy is intended for the use of QA Higher Education (QAHE) staff. It aims to provide information on what accommodation provisions are available to students and what steps staff at QAHE take to ensure that the accommodation offered to our students via third parties, meet their requirements.

#### 2. Ownership

The Accommodation Policy is owned by the Head of Shared Services and Agent Management with oversight from the Chief Marketing and International Officer and it is the responsibility of the Head of Shared Services and Agent Management to review this document annually (as a minimum) or when necessary, changes are required (for example, post audit or review).

#### 3. Introduction

QAHE offers a range of courses in partnership with several UK Universities, in a range of city centre locations.

QAHE do not own properties that can be offered to students as student accommodation.

We support the students as a point of contact regarding accommodation queries.

Campuses operated by QAHE in partnership with universities can be found here: gahighereducation.com/partner-institutions/

The table below also shows whether international students can study at those campuses, and whether courses are delivered which may attract Under 18's (such as International Foundation Programmes).

Campus Name	Location	International Students	Under 18s
Northumbria University London Campus	London	Yes	No
Northumbria University Pathway College	Newcastle	Yes	Yes
Solent University Pathway College	Southampton	Yes	Yes
Solent University London Centre	London	Yes	No
Solent University Birmingham Centre	Birmingham	Yes	No
Solent University Manchester Centre	Manchester	Yes	No
University of Roehampton Pathway College	London	Yes	Yes
Ulster University London Campus	London	Yes	No
Ulster University Birmingham Campus	Birmingham	Yes	No
University of Roehampton London Holborn Centre	London	Yes	No
University of Roehampton Birmingham Centre	Birmingham	Yes	No
University of Roehampton Manchester Centre	Manchester	Yes	No
Middlesex University London Centre	London	Yes	No
Middlesex University Birmingham Centre	Birmingham	Yes	No
Middlesex University Manchester Centre	Manchester	Yes	No
University of South Wales Pathway College	Pontypridd	Yes	Yes
London Metropolitan University London Campus	London	Yes	No
London Metropolitan University Birmingham Centre	Birmingham	Yes	No
London Metropolitan University Manchester Centre	Manchester	Yes	No



On-campus accommodation is available to students via QAHE's university partners where pathway colleges are operated. Information can be found here: <a href="Partners">Partners</a> <a href="QA Higher Education">QA Higher Education</a>

QAHE does not own or directly provide accommodation to students. However, it is recognised that students seeking higher education courses in the UK may require accommodation during their studies.

This Policy confirms how QAHE seeks to support the accommodation requirements of students, whilst not directly offering or owning its own accommodation.

#### **QAHE's Accommodation Service**

QAHE endeavours to offer a customer focused accommodation service to its students. Reporting to the Head of Shared Services and Agency Management and Propositions, a QAHE Accommodation Coordinator is in place to deliver this service.

It is the responsibility of the accommodation coordinator to ensure that students receive relevant support to find accommodation that may be available to them through QAHE's university partnerships and third-party accommodation providers.

Students are directed to the relevant accommodation pages for them depending on their chosen course and campus.

Pathway students are directed to the relevant university partner accommodation service pages which offer both university accommodation and off-campus solutions.

Under 18 students would be encouraged to look at homestay options through the university partner or alternatively if this is not available, through a British council approved provider (see under 18 section).

Students that are applying to a QAHE franchised campus will be directed to the QAHE accommodation page <a href="https://www.qahighereducation.com/about-us/accommodation/">www.qahighereducation.com/about-us/accommodation/</a>.

Once students have completed their enquiry form, the Accommodation Coordinator will collate tailored information on the properties that potentially suit their requirements to show students the options that may be available to them and then liaise with the students until they have selected the accommodation that they are happy with.

Students are encouraged to notify the Accommodation Coordinator that a booking has been made and confirmed.

All students that are moved to the 'Deposit Paid' status during their application process will be sent an automated email offering our services which will include the <u>Private Rental Accommodation Guide</u>. This document can also be located on the website.



All students that are moved to the 'CAS received', status during their application process will be sent out an automated email reminder of the accommodation services we offer.

#### 3.1 On-Campus Accommodation

On-campus accommodation is available to students at the following campuses offered by QAHE:

- Northumbria University Pathway College
- Solent University Pathway College
- University of Roehampton Pathway College
- University of South Wales Pathway College

International students making applications before the end of July each year are typically offered guaranteed accommodation on-campus.

To access this accommodation option, students are signposted by QAHE to the partner university accommodation services during the application and offer process.

For those choosing on-campus accommodation, they will enter into a formal contract with the University for the Provision of accommodation. Payments for accommodation fees are made directly from students and current students to the University Accommodation Services.

Where on-campus accommodation is not available, QAHE will provide links to accommodation providers to ensure that that students are able to choose the accommodation that is most suitable for them. Some of which are mentioned below.

#### 3.2 Student.com

Student.com is the world's leading marketplace for international student housing, helping students find their perfect home abroad. Student.com offer a wide range of private halls.

#### 3.3 StudentTennant.com

Student Tennant offer a wide selection of student properties across the UK. They work with a hand-picked selection of friendly and transparent letting agents and landlords.

#### 3.4 Britannia Student Services

Britannia Student Services meets the standards for registration with the British Council as a provider of homestay, residential, hostel and independent self-catering accommodation for adults and under-18s for accredited providers in London

All accommodation is checked by their expert team with no need for a guarantor to book. Britannia Student Services are approved and recognised by British Council.

QAHE will offer Homestays to all Under 18-year-old students as their most appropriate option. Should under 18 year old students and their parents wish to



not live in a homestay they will be asked to complete the QAHE Alternative accommodation consent form which can be located <u>here</u>.

## 3.5 Alternative accommodation options including those requiring accommodation for families

The accommodation team will also provide links to students which they may find useful, such as:

https://www.zoopla.co.uk/

https://www.gumtree.com/property-to-rent/london

https://www.rightmove.co.uk/property/London.htm

https://www.spareroom.co.uk/london

https://www.rightmove.co.uk/student-accommodation.html

#### 4. Under 18s

All under 18s are required to have a guardian in the UK. These details need to be provided on their application before it can be processed, and an offer issued. During the admissions process and before a CAS can be issued to the student, QAHE must receive all relevant documentation as set out in the QAHE or relevant university partner's Under 18 Policy.

#### 5. Students Seeking Private Accommodation

Where students are looking to source their own accommodation, QAHE is still committed to supporting these students to ensure they find suitable accommodation and that they are fully aware and prepared to become a private tenant.

Further information on this can also be found in the private rental accommodation guide, that is mentioned in section 3.0.