

OUR COLLEGE ACCOMMODATION:

Living on campus is the perfect way to enjoy the full Northumberland College experience. By choosing to live on campus, you will make friends for life and enjoy a true-life experience that you will never forget. Embark on a journey of residing in halls of accommodation is exciting.

'More than just a place to live, students will discover their potential, prepare for their future and flourish academically'

The accommodation is provided from September to June and from 6.30pm on a Sunday through to 4.30pm on a Friday but does not include college holidays. Our residential accommodation consists of 30 single bedrooms, divided between 4 houses, all of which have shared kitchen facilities that include a hob, oven, fridge, washer/dryer, kettle, toaster, microwave and airfryer. Each bedroom has a bed, internet access, study desk & chair, bedside unit, noticeboard, coat hooks, full-length mirror and wardrobe. You can apply for either an en-suite room or a room with shared bathroom facilities. There's plenty of free parking and you'll have free WiFi access too. All accommodation is self-catered, with supporting access to on campus canteen facilities.

All residential accommodation, is owned and run but the Northumberland College. Alternative accommodation may be used by 3rd party providers on a short-term basis after a significant event where access to College residences has been denied (e.g. major water leak). Use of such accommodation would be time specific and with recognised providers e.g. Local Hotels etc as outline with the Business Continuity procedure.

Individual Care

Each student has an individual care programme that is tailored to meet each student unique needs, ensuring a safe and enriching living experience.

The social side of living on campus

Residential students are able to take part in a range of fun activities throughout the year.

- Comprehensive and exciting enrichment programme
- Organised outings to bowling, theme parks, go-karting, theatre and many more
- Weekly trips to the supermarket on a local retail park
- Development of independent living skills
- Tutorial sessions with external/internal presenter to cover various issues/topics (e.g. fire safety, sexual health, budgeting, cooking, alcohol awareness, knife crime etc.
- The Shack; our student area where residents can meet in the evening and includes a Halls of Residence specific section which only they have the privilege of accessing

Your safety

The residential accommodation is separated from the main campus by fencing and security gates, with its own outdoor space including a designated smoking area. All houses are supported 24 / 7 by our dedicated team of highly experienced staff. They will make sure you are safe, happy, content and have everything you need.

The college also has its own team of student support officers on hand, who are able to provide any specialist support you may need including Safeguarding, Financial Support, Learning Support,

Counselling, as well as weekly Sexual Health service provided by NHS and Residential staff. Residential students aged under 18-year-olds are accommodated in houses separate from the older 18+ students. Depending on the nature of the demand by gender the allocations of individual rooms create single sex households for those aged u18.

Access to our accommodation is restricted as follows:

- Each resident has access to the accommodation complex
- Only students allocated to a specific house have access
- Doors to individual bedrooms are restricted to the allocated resident

All outside areas of the residential area is covered by CCTV system to monitor activity in a non-intrusive way and coverage is promoted to the students and their parents at the point of application. No such coverage takes place within the households.

Students are required to sign in and out of the residences and there is a curfew of 11.00pm each evening. Late passes are available for recognised events but are subject to written permission being secured from the parent/guardian for those aged u18. Students are required to inform the residential staff when they intend to be absent overnight.

The Residential Team Leader operates on a daily drop-in basis, while the Wardens have a schedule of 'inspection' throughout the evening to ensure housekeeping is in good order and contact is maintained with the students up to curfew.

Student Safety Officer, in place, who's primary purpose is to ensure a safe, secure, welcoming environment for staff, students and campus visitors. They work closely with managers responsible for curriculum, the Residential Team Leader and wider support staff to promote positive student behaviour and respond to any incidents.

Allocation of rooms

Rooms are allocated by the Residential Team Leader, on a first come-first served basis, reflecting the age and gender of the applicant. The Residential Team Leader will consider previous history of occupancy and requests safeguarding records from previous education providers when judging access to the residences. In such cases where access is denied (e.g. for behavioural issues), the student would have the right to appeal to the Head of Student Participation and Well-being who would make an independent judgement. Students can request a change in their accommodation, and any such request would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Equality Diversity and Inclusion

College is committed to meeting and supporting the needs of its student and staff community. Educationally: SEND Strategy and Learning Support Policy in place. Close links with County Council to meet needs of specific students including those with Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) and Care experienced (LAC/CL) with Personal Educational Plans (PEP).

Halls of residence: Any student specific issues/requirements are picked up through the application process.

The accommodation application form specifically asks whether the student is subject to EHCP and PEP support. Where this is the case the Residential Team Leader with Learning Support and curriculum staff to ensure that need can be met and agreement of resident specific levels of support.

Specific adjustments which can be made include: - access to a multi-faith/reflection room - provision of fridges in rooms for food separation - disabled student access and reasonable adjustments - provision of specific dietary requirements in the catering outlets.