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WOLVES

OAKLANDS WOLVES

RESIDENTIAL
HANDBOOK

ST ALBANS
HERTFORDSHIRE
WOLF PACK

FOR LEARNERS, PARENTS AND CARERS | 2026 - 2027



WELCOME!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for choosing Oaklands College. We hope that you will have an enjoyable and productive stay.

This handbook has been developed to provide you with as much information as possible to support your transition into residential life at College. We suggest that you read through this handbook carefully, as it will help you understand what you can expect from us and what we expect from you as a residential learner.

At Oaklands College, we offer a range of residential accommodation options to suit different needs and preferences.

Throughout this handbook, you will find information relevant to all accommodation types, as well as specific guidance where arrangements may differ.

We have also included information about the College in general and the local area to help you settle in quickly and make the most of your time here.



HOMESTEAD (ON-SITE ACCOMMODATION)
Located on campus, offering a structured and supportive residential environment with easy access to College facilities.



UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE (OFF-SITE ACCOMMODATION)
Providing a structured and supportive residential environment within university halls. Managed 24/7 by a team of Oaklands Staff.



HOMESTAY (OFF-SITE ACCOMMODATION)
Living with carefully selected host families in a supportive home environment

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

WE'RE SO MUCH MORE THAN A COLLEGE

Originally established in 1921, Oaklands College St Albans Campus opened its doors to First World War ex-service men under the Officers' Agricultural Training Scheme and to members of the Women's Land Army. Over 100 years later, the College now boasts three campuses (St Albans, Welwyn Garden City and Borehamwood) and provides a wide range of high-quality educational provision, right through to university level.

Oaklands is renowned for providing a supportive and nurturing environment in which learners are able to flourish and realise their potential. It is therefore no surprise that, year on year, the vast majority of our students progress onto their chosen career or further study within four months of completing their course.

The majority of learners come from the local communities we serve. Our courses range from vocational programmes with strong links to employers, through to elite sport, the arts and a wide variety of A Levels. The College is also nationally

recognised for its outstanding provision for learners with a wide range of additional needs, including those with severe learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

We offer a wide range of part-time and full-time courses, including arts, media, publishing, health, public services, construction, horticulture, equine, beauty, music, forensic science and much more. We also run work-based learning programmes, offer apprenticeships and support entry into employment through strong partnerships with local employers.

The St Albans Campus is set in an outstanding rural location and operates a working farm with livestock spread over 647 acres.

THE ACCOMMODATION

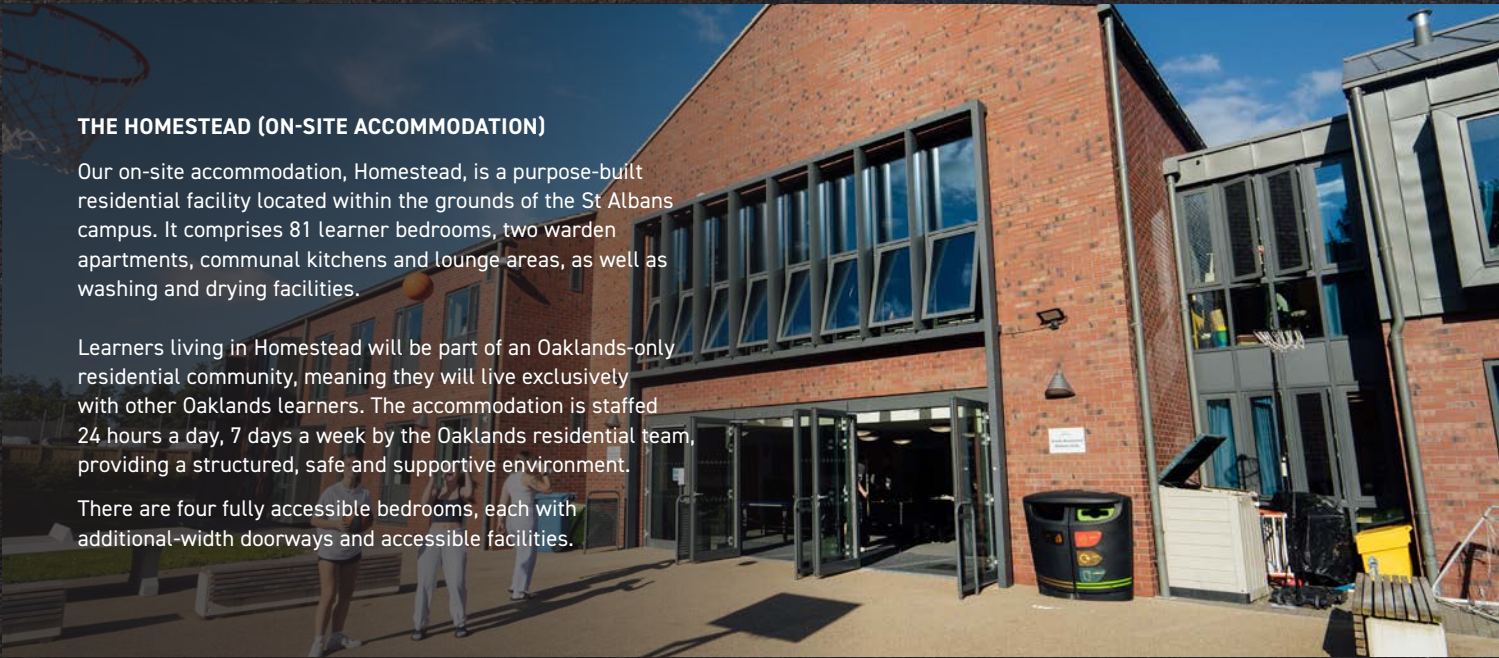
Oaklands College offers a range of high-quality residential accommodation options designed to support students of all levels while ensuring learner safety, wellbeing and success

THE HOMESTEAD (ON-SITE ACCOMMODATION)

Our on-site accommodation, Homestead, is a purpose-built residential facility located within the grounds of the St Albans campus. It comprises 81 learner bedrooms, two warden apartments, communal kitchens and lounge areas, as well as washing and drying facilities.

Learners living in Homestead will be part of an Oaklands-only residential community, meaning they will live exclusively with other Oaklands learners. The accommodation is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by the Oaklands residential team, providing a structured, safe and supportive environment.

There are four fully accessible bedrooms, each with additional-width doorways and accessible facilities.



UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE (DE HAVILLAND CAMPUS)

New for 2026, our off-site residential option is based at the University of Hertfordshire's de Havilland Campus, offering learners a high-quality, university-style living experience with the reassurance of Oaklands support. The accommodation is ideally located close to key facilities including the Hertfordshire Sports Village, the Weston Auditorium and the Enterprise Hub, providing learners with access to a vibrant and well-equipped environment.

Learners are accommodated in single en-suite rooms, each room includes a private en-suite bathroom with a shower, toilet and sink. Learners share a large communal kitchen space.

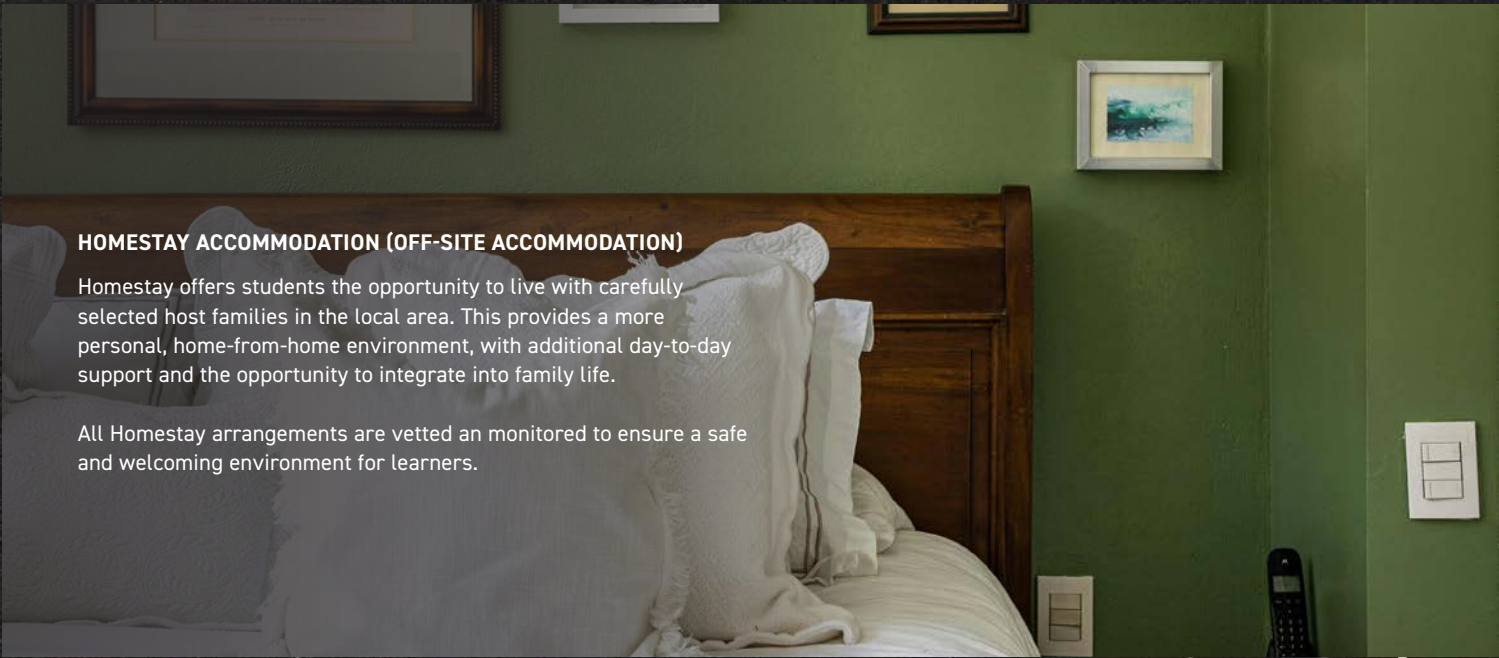
Learners live exclusively with other Oaklands students, and the accommodation is staffed 24/7 by the Oaklands residential team, ensuring a safe, well-managed and supportive environment while encouraging independence and personal responsibility.



HOMESTAY ACCOMMODATION (OFF-SITE ACCOMMODATION)

Homestay offers students the opportunity to live with carefully selected host families in the local area. This provides a more personal, home-from-home environment, with additional day-to-day support and the opportunity to integrate into family life.

All Homestay arrangements are vetted and monitored to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for learners.



Our Values

EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION,
COLLABORATIVE LEARNING,
INCLUSION AND HAPPINESS,
INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY



RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT AND KEY CONTACTS

Throughout your time at Oaklands, our dedicated residential team are here to support you with everyday life. Whether you are living onsite at the Homestead or at the University of Hertfordshire. All residential learners have access to our safeguarding teams. Our priority is to ensure all learners feel safe, supported and able to make the most of their residential experience.

For any day-to-day queries or urgent concerns, please use the contacts:



Garry Leask
Head of Residential
07786 163 887
garry.leask@oaklands.ac.uk



Richard Howcutt
Residential Operations Manager
07804 410 714
richard.howcutt@oaklands.ac.uk

THE WIDER TEAM

We are committed to helping every learner achieve their full potential. Alongside the Residential team, a range of support services are available to help you succeed both academically and personally.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE
Our Learning Resource Centre provides a supportive environment for independent and guided study, with staff available to help you stay on track.

- Support includes:**
- Revision and homework sessions
 - One-to-one support, particularly in Maths and English
 - Quiet study spaces
 - Research and referencing guidance
 - Group coaching sessions

Opening Times:
Monday to Thursday: 8.30am – 5.00pm
Friday: 8.30am – 5.00pm

OPENING HOURS AND MAIL
Homestead (On-Site Accommodation)
Residential staff will collect and distribute mail to learners.

STUDENT ADVICE
Our Student Advice team are here to support you throughout your time at College, offering guidance on a wide range of topics.
They can help with:

- Career planning and progression
- CV writing and interview preparation
- University and apprenticeship applications
- Welfare and personal support
- Financial advice, including bursaries

Services available include:

- One-to-one advice and guidance
- Drop-in sessions
- Careers workshops



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The Residential team are here to support the residential learners and ensure their safety and wellbeing. These are some of the things we do:

The Residential team are here to support all residential learners and ensure their safety, wellbeing and overall experience while studying at Oaklands College.

Our role is to provide safe, supportive and well-managed environments that allow learners to thrive both academically and personally. This support is in place across all accommodation types, with structures tailored to each setting.

The Residential team will:

- Maintain regular communication with parents and carers, supporting a collaborative approach to learner progress
- Ensure all learners experience a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment
- Be available seven days a week during term time
- Provide pastoral care, welfare support and regular learner check-ins
- Offer advice and guidance on a wide range of topics, including independent living
- Support learners in developing key life skills, such as managing laundry, routines and personal organisation

- Deliver a varied enrichment programme to encourage engagement and personal development
- Ensure all health and safety requirements are met across accommodation, learner behaviour and residential life
- Provide First Aid and support access to medical services when required
- Facilitate access to additional support services, including the Student Advice team
- Encourage student voice through forums and regular feedback opportunities
- Monitor behaviour and ensure College policies are upheld

Where applicable to accommodation type, additional measures include:

- Regular welfare checks
- Overnight security and on-call staff
- Cleaning and maintenance of accommodation areas.



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Here at Oaklands College our Residential team all work within our mission, vision and values to focus on ensuring that our residential learners have the best possible experience during their time with us, and are well prepared for their future when they leave.

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

We are committed to creating a safe, supportive and enriching environment where learners can make the most of their time at Oaklands College.

Residential life plays a key role in the overall learner experience. Alongside academic and academy programmes, it provides opportunities to grow in confidence, develop independence and build the skills needed for life beyond College.

Everything we do is guided by the College's mission, vision and values, ensuring every learner is supported to succeed both personally and academically.

OUR VISION

We are committed to providing an outstanding learner experience, with high-quality learning that prepares students to take on the world.

Within residential life, this means creating an environment where learners feel settled, supported and able to grow. Not only in their studies, but as individuals.

OUR MISSION

To prepare every learner for work, a rewarding career and life's opportunities.

This is achieved by recognising each student as an individual and supporting them with care, professionalism and understanding in an environment that is both structured and engaging.

OUR VALUES

Learner success sits at the centre of everything we do, shaped by four key values:

- Excellence and Innovation
- Collaborative Learning
- Inclusion and Happiness
- Integrity and Accountability

These values guide all aspects of residential life, from daily support through to enrichment, wellbeing and learner development.



HOMESTEAD RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

FOOD

Across both sites breakfast and/or lunch can be taken from 08:00AM-14:30PM

Meals can be substituted or rearranged with a minimum of 24 hours' notice. If a meal is missed without prior notice, learners will need to make their own arrangements, as we are unable to retain or replace meals.

All accommodation is equipped with fridges and freezers, with additional chest freezers available for extra storage. Cooking equipment is also provided, enabling learners to prepare their own meals.

The Residential team will support learners in learning how to cook safely and prepare balanced meals as part of induction and throughout the year. 'Cook and Eat' workshops are also delivered by qualified staff.

SHOPPING TRIPS

Learners have the opportunity to attend grocery shopping trips once or twice per week, using a College minibus and driver to visit a local supermarket.

Learners should budget approximately £30-£40 per week for additional food and personal items.

SAFEGUARDING

Learner safety is our top priority, and daily checks are in place to ensure all learners are safe and accounted for.

- A group text system is used each morning before lessons
- Learners must have access to a mobile phone and respond to check-ins
- Dinner is supervised, allowing staff to identify any absences
- Evening room checks take place between 10.00pm and 11.00pm, with an online register completed

Learners are required to be in accommodation by 10.30pm each night.

Parents and carers must inform the Residential team if a learner is leaving site and confirm their return. Failure to do so may result in sanctions.

Overnight absences (Sunday-Thursday) are not permitted, except in exceptional circumstances. These require:

- At least 24 hours' notice
- Written parental / carer consent
- Approval from the department head and director

TELEVISION LICENCES

There are no dedicated TV points in learner rooms. Smart TVs are permitted and can be connected via Wi-Fi.

The Homestead building is covered by a TV licence, so no additional licence is required.

INTERNET ACCESS

Wi-Fi is available throughout the accommodation, with content filtering in line with College policy.

- Internet access in residential blocks is switched off at midnight
- The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) provides access to computers until 8.00pm on weekdays
- The student lounge offers access until 9.30pm on most days, including weekends

OUT-OF-HOURS STAFFING

Overnight support is in place from 11.00pm to 8.00am

Weekend cover is provided 24 hours a day

Students can contact staff via the duty phone: 07788 420 061

HOUSEKEEPING

Learners are expected to:

- Use provided bins
- Wash up regularly
- Store food appropriately

Food left out may attract pests and breach hygiene standards.

CCTV

The College has CCTV cameras in place outside the residential and in communal areas for the safety and protection of our residents. The cameras are not monitored but record all activity for designated staff to view if necessary should there be cause to review.



SECURITY

There will be a security guard on campus during term time between 8pm and 6am, seven days a week. Learners can call the security guard during these hours if they have any issues or require assistance.

The gate at the entrance to campus and the gate on East drive will be locked at 11:30pm until 7:00am each morning. If there are exceptional circumstances where learners are arriving back late or leaving earlier than these times, they are to inform the Residential team to make arrangements for the security guard to open the gates.

KEYS

Each learner will receive a bedroom door key and electronic fob for access to the individually coded bedroom wings. A fee of £30 will be charged for any lost key or fob that needs replacing. For safety the room should remain locked at all times when not in use. Learners must carry keys on them at all times. If a learner does not keep their room secure, any damages or losses will be charged to you and the College will impose sanctions for failure to comply with the tenancy agreement.

COMMUNICATION

The Residential team also welcome communication with parents / carers as moving away from home can be a difficult transition. Updates on progress to parents / carers are provided in addition to a regular termly newsletter. Parents and carers can contact the head of residential by phone or email (see page 6). For out-of-hours or emergencies, parents / carers can call the residential duty phone number which is available 24 hours-a-day on 07788 420 061.

COMMUNAL FLOORS

All communal floor areas are vacuumed and mopped every day; these areas include public toilets and stairs.

ENRICHMENT

The residential team work 7 evenings per week supervising dinner (Monday to Thursday) and evening enrichment across the campus, including gym, sports hall, and inhouse activities in the homestead. Enrichment activities offer life and social skills alongside more recreational trips and activities. These activities are based on learner interest.

As part of the student induction, the College provides a series of workshops to help learners settle into College life and build positive skills in working together. These workshops include cooking, communication and negotiation skills, health and safety, anti-alcohol and drugs, living in a farm environment and housekeeping.

As part of the College's engagement with the local community, visits to local schools and organisations are arranged for learners who give talks or coaching sessions. Outside agencies also come in and deliver talks to students on specific subjects such as health information.

HOMESTEAD RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

TENANCY AGREEMENT

By accepting a place in residential accommodation, learners and parents/ carers agree to the Oaklands College Tenancy Agreement.

A parent/carer will be required to sign this agreement, which is a legally binding contract. Any breaches may result in the withdrawal of accommodation and/or additional charges.

By taking up residence, learners and parents/carers confirm that they accept:

- The terms and conditions of the tenancy agreement
- Oaklands College policies
- Residential team expectations

INSURANCE

All rooms must be locked when not in use and keys should not be given to anyone else whether a residential learner or not. Learners are strongly advised to take out room insurance, as the College will not be held responsible for theft from rooms or damages caused when rooms are left unlocked.

BINS AND RUBBISH

The communal bins will be emptied daily. Any bedroom bins that are left just outside the bedroom door on these days will also be emptied. Recycling tubs are within the accommodation for paper, plastic and cans and learners are expected to rinse their recyclable waste and place it in the correct tub.

DAMAGES

If there is deliberate damage to anything in the accommodation, the cost of replacing it and the work undertaken will be invoiced to the parents / carers. Where invoices are not paid, the charges will be deducted from the deposit; additionally the learner and behaviour policy and process may be implemented.

KITCHENS AND OTHER COMMUNAL AREAS

These are cleaned throughout the week. This includes the wiping down of all work surfaces, the outside of kitchen appliances and all cupboard doors. Learners have responsibility for cleaning the cooking appliances and for washing up.

Please note that if the washing up is not done then the cleaner cannot gain access to clean the sinks and worktops. Kitchens will not be cleaned until the washing up has been finished and put away. Sanctions and charges may be initiated if this is not undertaken. The en-suite toilets, basins and showers are cleaned and disinfected once a week but it is the learner's responsibility to keep them in a clean and hygienic condition.

LEARNER RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the learner's responsibility to vacuum their own bedrooms and keep them in a tidy and hygienic manner.

Learners are reminded that the cleanliness of their bedroom is their own responsibility.

Inspections are carried out periodically to ensure safety and hygiene of learner rooms and communal areas. Failure to keep rooms clean and tidy may lead to sanctions which may include a missing a training session or a match.

RESIDENTIAL END OF TERM PROTOCOL

On the final day of each term all learners are required to ensure that their rooms are tidy with objects lifted from the floor. All perishable foods to be removed and washing up completed. The Homestead will close at 5pm unless otherwise notified.

REPORTING PROBLEMS

Any problems or concerns must be immediately reported to a member of the Residential team by text to the duty number or in person. This includes domestic matters such as breakages, wear and tear, light bulbs, toilet rolls, lost keys and cleaning issues. This is particularly important for incidents where someone could be hurt or potential health and safety issues. Issues with the accommodation which take place out of hours can also be reported by email (Servicedesk - titled 'Residential') to ensure a timely response: residential@oaklands.ac.uk

CLEANING AND HYGIENE

Items left in hallways and stairs will be confiscated as they create a fire hazard. Learners are responsible for washing their own dishes and cleaning of appliances, including the fridges, microwaves, grills etc. Where kitchen appliances are not kept clean, they may be confiscated due to health and safety requirements and to avoid sickness. Learners will also be expected to keep their bedroom clean and tidy. Weekly checks are carried out to monitor each learner's room and the results will be reported back to the relevant tutor / academy coach; sanctions may be applied. The student accommodation is supplied with a washing machine and specially designed drying rooms.

RETURNING TO CAMPUS AFTER HOLIDAY PERIODS

Returning to college residential staff will be available from 5 - 10pm on Sundays and occasionally on bank holiday Mondays prior to the new term starting on the Monday (or Tuesday) morning.



UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

FOOD

The cost of accommodation includes catering during the week. Catering is provided through nearby food outlets located within close proximity of the accommodation.

Meal provision includes:

- 08:00-14:30 for both breakfast and or lunch
- 17:15-18:15 for dinner

SHOPPING TRIPS

This will be available twice a week timings will be agreed on the day.

Learners should budget approximately £30-£40 per week for additional food, snacks and personal items.

SAFEGUARDING

Learner safety and wellbeing remain our top priority across all accommodation settings.

Support includes:

- Regular check-ins and communication with learners
- Daily contact points to ensure learner wellbeing
- Clear expectations around attendance and whereabouts

Learners are expected to:

- Maintain regular communication with the Residential team
- Inform staff of any absence from accommodation
- Follow agreed sign-in and sign-out procedures

CURFEW / EVENING CHECK-IN EXPECTATIONS

Overnight absences during the week (Sunday-Thursday) are not permitted, except in exceptional circumstances. These require:

- At least 24 hours' notice
- Written parental / carer consent
- Approval from relevant College staff

TELEVISION LICENCES

Learners may bring smart TVs for use within their rooms or communal areas.

Smart TV will not require license in bedrooms.

INTERNET ACCESS

Wi-Fi is available throughout the accommodation.

- Connection is provided within bedrooms and communal areas
- Usage is subject to appropriate content filtering in line with College policy

OUT-OF-HOURS STAFFING

Residential support is in place to ensure learner safety and wellbeing outside of standard hours.

- Oaklands staff are present on-site at weekends
- Additional support arrangements are in place during evenings and overnight

Learners can contact the Residential team via the duty phone:

07788 420 061

HOUSEKEEPING

Learners are expected to maintain their own living spaces and shared environments.

This includes:

- Regular cleaning of personal and shared areas
- Proper food storage
- Responsible waste disposal

Kitchen facilities are shared between approximately ten learners and include:

- Lockable storage units
- Two cookers and hobs
- Two microwaves

Learners are advised to purchase a lockable fridge box for personal items.

CCTV

CCTV operates within accommodation buildings and communal areas to support safety and security.

Recordings may be reviewed by authorised staff if required.

SECURITY

The Oaklands accommodation at the University of Hertfordshire is located within a dedicated residential block, positioned close to university facilities and support services.

Security arrangements:

Learners must follow all access and safety procedures in place within the accommodation.



KEYS

Learners will be provided with secure access to their accommodation, including:

- Room key or access card
- Access to designated living areas

Lost key / access replacement fee:

Check in and Check out times will be confirmed at start of term.

Learners are responsible for keeping their rooms secure and carrying access items at all times.

COMMUNICATION

Regular communication is maintained with learners, parents and carers to ensure a positive residential experience.

Support includes:

- Ongoing updates and guidance
- Access to Residential staff for support and advice
- Opportunities for feedback and student voice

Parents and carers can contact the Residential team during working hours. For emergencies or out-of-hours support, the Residential Duty Phone (07788 420 061) is available.

COMMUNAL FLOORS

Each accommodation wing includes shared living spaces, including:

- Kitchen and dining areas
- Seating and social spaces
- Television
- Recreational items such as board games

Learners are expected to respect shared spaces and other residents at all times.

ENRICHMENT

Learners will have access to a comprehensive enrichment programme aligned with the on-site residential offer.

This includes:

- Evening and weekend activities
- Social and recreational opportunities
- Personal development sessions

Oaklands staff will organise activities and engagement opportunities, particularly at weekends.

Learners also benefit from access to nearby facilities and amenities, including:

- Hertfordshire Sports Village
- The Galleria
- University social and recreational spaces

UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

TENANCY AGREEMENT

By accepting a place in residential accommodation, learners and parents/ carers agree to the Oaklands College Tenancy Agreement.

A parent / carer will be required to sign this agreement, which is a legally binding contract. Any breaches may result in the withdrawal of accommodation and/or additional charges.

By taking up residence, learners and parents / carers confirm that they accept:

- The terms and conditions of the tenancy agreement
- Oaklands College policies
- Residential team expectations
- Any additional site-specific regulations relating to the University of Hertfordshire accommodation

INSURANCE

Learners must ensure their room is locked when not in use. Access cards or keys must not be shared with anyone, whether an Oaklands learner or not.

Learners are strongly advised to arrange personal contents insurance, as neither Oaklands College nor the University of Hertfordshire can accept responsibility for:

- Loss or theft of personal belongings
- Damage to items where rooms have been left unsecured
- Bins and Rubbish
- Waste and recycling facilities are provided within the accommodation.

Learners are expected to:

- Use the correct bins for general and recyclable waste
- Rinse recyclable items before disposal
- Dispose of waste regularly and responsibly

DAMAGES

Any deliberate damage to accommodation or equipment will be charged to parents/carers.

Where invoices remain unpaid, costs may be deducted from the deposit. In addition, the College's behaviour policy may be applied.

Learners are also expected to follow any additional accommodation guidelines set by the University of Hertfordshire.

KITCHENS AND OTHER COMMUNAL AREAS

Communal areas are cleaned in line with accommodation standards.

Learners are responsible for:

- Washing up after use
- Cleaning cooking appliances
- Maintaining shared spaces

Please note:

- Cleaning may be delayed if washing up has not been completed
- Shared spaces must be kept clear and usable for all residents
- Failure to maintain standards may result in sanctions or charges

Learners are expected to maintain these in a clean and hygienic condition.

LEARNER RESPONSIBILITIES

Learners are responsible for:

- Keeping their bedrooms clean and tidy
- Maintaining a safe and hygienic living environment
- Respecting shared spaces and other residents

Room inspections may take place periodically to ensure appropriate standards are maintained.

Failure to meet expectations may result in sanctions in line with College and Residential policies.

END OF TERM PROCEDURE

At the end of each term, learners must:

- Leave rooms clean and tidy
- Remove all perishable food
- Empty bins
- Ensure all personal belongings are stored appropriately

Departure times and access arrangements:

RETURNING TO CAMPUS AFTER HOLIDAY PERIODS

Residential staff are available from 5.00pm to 10.00pm on Sundays, and occasionally on bank holiday Mondays, ahead of the new term starting.

Further arrival guidance will be provided in advance of each term.

REPORTING PROBLEMS

Any issues or concerns must be reported immediately to the

Residential team, either:

- In person
- Via the duty phone (text or call)

This includes:

- Maintenance issues
- Breakages or damage
- Lost keys or access cards
- Cleaning or hygiene concerns

For non-urgent or out-of-hours issues, please email:

residential@oaklands.ac.uk

Prompt reporting is essential, particularly where health and safety may be affected.

CLEANING AND HYGIENE

Items must not be left in hallways or communal areas, as these may present a fire risk and will be removed.

Students are responsible for:

- Cleaning kitchen equipment after use
- Keeping shared appliances (fridges, microwaves, etc.) in a suitable condition
- Maintaining their bedroom to an acceptable standard

Where appliances or areas are not maintained, restrictions or removal may apply to ensure health and safety standards are met.

Regular room checks may take place, and outcomes may be shared with relevant College staff. Sanctions may be applied where required.

Laundry facilities are available within the accommodation.





WOLVES ACADEMIES

All residential learners are part of an Oaklands Wolves Academy, meaning they are already recognised as committed student-athletes within one of our high-performance programmes.

Our 13 dynamic sports academies are exclusively available to Oaklands College learners and are led by expert coaches, supported by industry-standard facilities. Whether competing on the court, pitch or track, students are supported to reach their full potential.

LEARN MORE
www.oaklands.ac.uk/wolves/

WHY CHOOSE OAKLANDS WOLVES?
Through professional partnerships with organisations such as Saracens Rugby and England Basketball, students benefit from training environments that reflect the standards of elite sport.

- Facilities and services include:**
- Floodlit 3G pitches
 - Fully equipped gym
 - High Performance Centre
 - Hockey pitches
 - Strength & Conditioning
 - Physiotherapy
 - Show court
 - Multi-sports hall
 - Sport-specific performance environments

BALANCING SPORT, STUDY AND RESIDENTIAL LIFE
Residential life is designed to support the demands of being a Wolves athlete. Learners balance academic study, elite sport and independent living, developing the habits and mindset needed to succeed in high-performance environments.

- As part of an academy, learners are expected to:
- Demonstrate professionalism in all areas of college life
 - Maintain high standards of behaviour
 - Fully engage in both training and academic commitments
 - Represent Oaklands positively at all times

STANDARDS, CONDUCT AND ACCOUNTABILITY
Being part of an Oaklands Wolves Academy comes with clear expectations.

Behaviour within residential accommodation is taken seriously, as it reflects directly on a learner's commitment and professionalism as an athlete.

Where behaviour falls below expectations:

- Misconduct within accommodation
- Damage to property
- Failure to follow residential rules

Learners may face academy-related consequences in addition to residential sanctions.

- These may include:
- Missing training sessions
 - Removal from match-day squads
 - Reduced playing time
 - Further disciplinary action in line with College policies

This approach reflects the reality of elite sport, where discipline, responsibility and accountability are essential to success.

- OUR WOLVES ACADEMIES INCLUDE**
- Athletics Academy
 - Basketball Academy
 - Cheerleading Academy
 - Combat Academy
 - Cycling Academy
 - Football Men's Academy
 - Football Women's Academy
 - Golf Academy
 - Hockey Academy
 - Multi Sports / Emerging Athletes
 - Netball Academy
 - Rugby Men's Academy
 - Saracen's Rugby Women's Academy

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

MEDICAL ISSUES AND GENERAL HEALTH

All residential learners are required to complete a Health Declaration form before moving into accommodation. This ensures the College is aware of any medical conditions, illnesses or medications and can provide appropriate support.

It is essential that all relevant medical information is disclosed. Where information is not shared in advance, learners may be asked to temporarily leave accommodation until a suitable care plan and risk assessment can be put in place.

Learners are encouraged to speak to the Residential team if they have any health concerns, so that the appropriate support can be provided.

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

Learners are advised to register with a local GP surgery before arriving at College to ensure quick access to medical care if needed.

You can find local GP surgeries here:

www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-gp/results/AL40JA

Learners will need their NHS number to register.

For medical advice, learners can contact NHS 111, which also provides information on local services, including 24-hour pharmacies.

MEDICAL SUPPORT IN RESIDENTIAL

Each communal area is equipped with a first aid kit, which is checked and restocked regularly. Learners must inform a member of the Residential team if additional supplies are required.

If a learner becomes unwell and requires a doctor's appointment, they should contact the Residential Duty Phone. A member of staff will support with arranging an appointment and, where necessary, provide a chaperone.

Contact details for local GP surgeries are also displayed within accommodation and in the Residential Information Folder.

It is important that any prescribed medication is reported to the Residential team so it can be recorded appropriately.

MEDICATION

Learners are responsible for:

- Taking their medication as prescribed
- Safely storing their medication

Learners should also ensure they know:

- Their NHS number
- The contact details of their home GP

This information should be easily accessible, ideally saved on their mobile phone.

ILLNESS AND ABSENCE

If a learner is unwell and unable to attend training or lessons, they must inform their tutors and/or academy coaches.

Where a learner is too unwell to remain in accommodation:

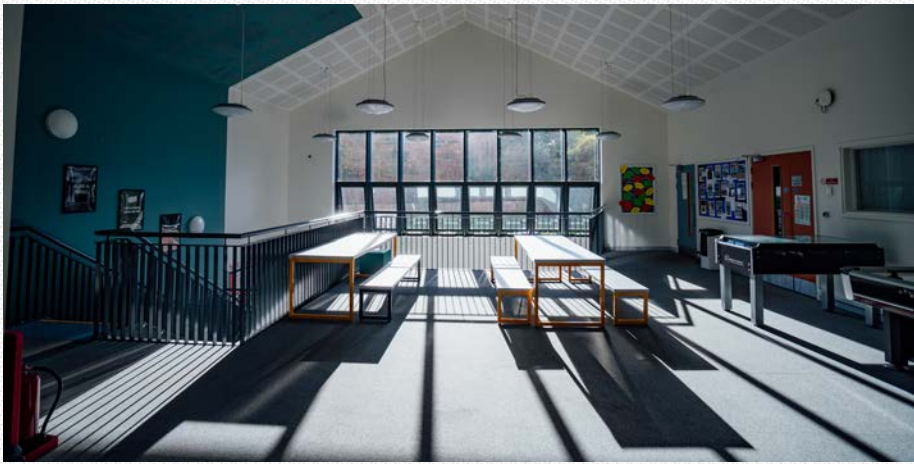
- Parents/carers will be contacted
- Arrangements will be made for the learner to return home until they have recovered.

If parents/carers cannot be contacted immediately, the learner will be supported within their accommodation by the Residential team.

In some cases, such as illness or injury, it may be determined that a learner cannot be safely supported within residential accommodation. In these situations:

- Parents/carers will be informed
- A supported return home will be arranged

This will typically involve collection by a parent/carer, although independent travel may be agreed where appropriate and authorised.



DENTIST

Learners are encouraged to register with a local dentist in advance or arrange to attend appointments at home if preferred.

For urgent dental care outside of normal opening hours, students can contact NHS 111.

Local dentists include:

- Victoria Dentist Clinic
103 Victoria Street, St Albans, AL1 3TJ
Tel: 01727 853 300
- The Maltings Dental Surgery
54 The Maltings, St Albans, AL1 3HL
Tel: 01727 837 376
- Jersey Farm Surgery
The Health Centre, 2A St Brelades Place,
St Albans, AL4 9RG
Tel: 01727 846 417



HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and safety is a fundamental part of residential life. All learners are expected to understand and follow guidance in place to ensure a safe environment for themselves and others.

The Residential team carries out weekly health and safety checks across accommodation. Any breaches of safety protocols are taken seriously.

This includes:

- Tampering with safety equipment (e.g. fire extinguishers)
- Failing to evacuate during fire alarms or drills
- Interfering with utility access points
- Misuse of equipment provided

Any behaviour that compromises safety may result in both residential and academy sanctions.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES POLICY

All electrical items brought into accommodation must meet safety requirements.

Appliances over 12 months old must have a valid PAT (Portable Appliance Testing) certificate

New items should also be safety checked where possible

Testing can be arranged through most electricians or retailers for a small fee

Items without appropriate safety checks may be confiscated.

Learners should also ensure that:

- Extension leads are new
- Extension leads include a built-in safety fuse.



STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

LEARNER BEHAVIOUR

Learners are expected to maintain high standards of behaviour at all times.

The College takes behaviour seriously and will apply the student behaviour policy where required. Parents/carers will be kept informed to ensure a consistent and supportive approach.

The Residential team works closely with academy staff to ensure that behaviour expectations reflect the standards of an Oaklands Wolves student-athlete.

BEHAVIOUR STANDARDS AND ACADEMY EXPECTATIONS

As all residential learners are part of an Oaklands Wolves Academy, behaviour outside of training is just as important as performance within it.

Where behaviour falls below expected standards, learners may receive both residential and academy sanctions.

This may include:

- Missing training sessions
 - Removal from matches or squads
 - Reduced playing time
 - Additional disciplinary action
- Learners may also be required to complete restorative actions, such as:
- Supporting housekeeping or site teams
 - Assisting with maintaining shared spaces

This approach helps learners understand the impact of their actions and reinforces the standards expected in high-performance environments.

RESIDENTIAL LEARNER BEHAVIOUR

To maintain a safe and positive living environment, all residential learners are expected to meet the following standards:

- Maintain room cleanliness and hygiene
- Follow all residential rules and expectations
- Report damages promptly
- Respect the property and belongings of others

THE RESIDENTIAL 'BIG 8'

Working in partnership with academy teams, the following areas form our core behaviour expectations:

1. Serious incidents (including bullying, threatening behaviour, theft, alcohol or drug-related issues)
2. Deliberate damage to accommodation or property
3. Breaches of residential checks (e.g. leaving site without permission, being out after curfew, unauthorised guests)
4. Conduct during meal times
5. Persistent disruptive behaviour in accommodation or shared spaces
6. Commitment to academic work and meeting deadlines
7. Failure to follow communication expectations (e.g. check-ins)
8. Poor room hygiene

All breaches will result in appropriate residential and/or academy sanctions.





● ● *The facilities and the coaching standard really helped drive my performance to go to that next level... It gave me a real taste of what being a professional is."*

Gus Scott-Morriss
Southend United Football Player

KEY INFORMATION

TERMS AND DATES

Residential accommodation operates during term time only.

- Move-in day takes place one day prior to the start of each term
- Move-out day is the final teaching day of each term, unless otherwise advised

Accommodation is not available during half terms, holidays or bank holidays, unless explicitly communicated by the College.

Learners are expected to vacate their rooms during these periods and return home or make alternative arrangements.

Departure times are as follows. Students must vacate the accommodation no later than 5pm on the last teaching day of each term / half term. All accommodation will re-open from 5pm on the evening before teaching recommences.

Further details regarding arrival and departure times will be shared in advance of each term.

Term One

- Tuesday 1st September 2026 - Thursday 18th December 2026
- Half term: 26th October - 30th October 2026

Term Two

- Tuesday 5th January 2027 - Thursday 23rd March 2027
- Half term: 15th February - 19th February 2027

Term Three

- Monday 12th April 2027 - Friday 25th June 2027
- Half term: 27th May - 4th June 2027

USEFUL LINKS

- Oaklands College – www.oaklands.ac.uk
St Albans City Council – www.stalbans.gov.uk
All About St Albans – www.allaboutstalbens.com
St Albans Museums – www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk
Enjoy St Albans – www.enjoystalbans.com
University of Hertfordshire – www.herts.ac.uk/life/student-accommodation/living-on-campus/single-de-havilland



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oaklands.ac.uk

All information is correct at time of print.