

Student Voice



At some point during your time at university you will most likely live in private rented accommodation. This may be after your first year on campus like me, or from day one. It can be a very daunting task of knowing what to look for and what to expect.

Firstly, make sure you know who you're going to live with and then this will narrow how many bedrooms you are looking for in a house. Secondly, location may be important to you. For me, as long as I was only a short walk away from the university campus. Next is probably price. This will be dictated by what maintenance loan you receive and any other income you may have. It is worth talking to the other people you plan on living with and check that you are all on the same page price wise.

Once you've got a few houses that fit all your criteria next is house viewings. This gives you a chance to have a look around the house and see if it's for you, at this point you may get to meet the landlord. This is your chance to ask them any burning questions you have as different landlords may have different rules they wish you to follow. At this point don't commit to any house if you aren't definite on them. Go away and have a discussion and see what your friends think. The next step is contracts, when a landlord or agency sends it over to you to read through it. If you can't seem to make sense of it, have someone read through it with you, this could be a parent or accommodation support at your university. They can help you check that the landlords are acting in good faith, and with your best interests at heart.

After you've done this it's time to sign and pay any deposits. Then, your landlord will let you know when you can move in and then, you're all set!



Georgina