

Living in self-catering accommodation

Each house and its facilities are different, but all have a live-in LSI House Manager to help look after you and keep the house organised, and to make sure it is a happy place in which to live. However, in all of our self-catering houses, the following guidelines apply.

- Bedding and cooking utensils are always provided. However, you should bring your own toiletries and towels.
- The rent includes electricity and gas but not a telephone line; however, all the houses have Internet Wi-Fi access.
- Cleaning. You are expected to keep the accommodation clean and tidy yourself. We do not employ professional cleaners and so students are expected to work together to keep kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms clean and tidy. A cleaning rota is always a good idea!
- Washing. There is a washing machine and tumbler dryer in all the houses, and a washing line in the garden for fair weather days.
- Visitors. Make sure you understand the house rules/guidelines regarding visitors and guests.
- No parties! Also, please keep noise to a minimum and respect your housemates and your neighbours at all times.
- Smoking is not permitted.

Pros and cons of living in self-catering accommodation

Pros

1. You will live with many other students from the school so they are a sociable place to live.
2. You have the independence and freedom to decide what you want to eat and choose your own meal times.
3. You can come and go when you want and not have to worry about letting a homestay family know that you're going to be late.
4. You will be living with people from lots of different countries and cultures.
5. All our houses have a live-in House Manager to help you if there are any problems.

Cons

1. You, together with the other students, will have to do the cleaning. This includes your bedroom (and ensuite bathroom if you have one) and the communal areas - kitchen, living room, bathrooms and corridors. The house manager is not a cleaner!
2. You will have to share a kitchen and maybe bathrooms with other students who might not be as clean and tidy as you would like them to be.
3. The accommodation is not a social area of the school – please check with the House Manager whether they are happy for you to have a visitor and what time they will be expected to leave.
4. You cannot decide when or for how long the heating is turned on. Normally, the heating switches on automatically for a few hours in the morning and most of the evening in winter. It is never on all night and the on and off times are changed when the temperature/seasons change.