

ACCOMMODATION GUIDE



FOURTEEN
SCHOOLS
EIGHT
CAMPUSES
THREE
COUNTRIES
ONE
UNIVERSITY



Welcome to BIMM UNIVERSITY

At BIMM University, we recognise the importance of finding the right accommodation for a fulfilling student experience. Use this guide to help you discover the perfect place to live during your time studying with us.

While BIMM University doesn't own any student halls, we provide resources to assist you in finding private housing or accommodation.

All of our UK campuses are based in locations offering a choice of accommodation: flats, shared houses and private halls. Given their popularity among students, it's wise to begin your search early to secure a place that works for you.

When should I start to look for accommodation?



As soon as you receive your offer to study, you can begin your search for privately-rented accommodation in the city where you'll be studying.

Make sure you search safely online, do not provide your bank details or provide payment before you have viewed the space and agreed to the terms and conditions.

Popular student accommodation websites and portals:

Student Cribz

Provides high-quality student accommodation in various locations with modern amenities.

Homes for Students

Offers a wide selection of student housing options, from private rooms to shared apartments.

Rightmove (Use the student filter)

An online platform that allows you to filter and search for student-friendly properties in Manchester.

Spareroom.co.uk

A website dedicated to advertising both rooms and flatmates across the UK.

Accomodationforstudents.com

Well established site to find search for student accommodation nationwide.

Purple Frog Property

Offers a range of student-friendly properties in different neighbourhoods in Birmingham and Bristol.

Also it's a great idea to join local student groups or forums to connect with potential housemates and get recommendations for private rentals.

What's important when choosing somewhere to live?



Make your own checklist – here are some things to consider:

- Location of the property, what's around the area, public transport, and distance to campus.
- The size of building and number of tenants you'll be sharing with or will be in the same building.
- Facilities and utilities, such as postal mail, laundry, TV license, wifi and responsibility for bills and repairs.
- Noise levels, safety and security around the property and access to your living space.
- Whether you plan to have guests over and the conditions refering to that in your contract.
- Take someone with you or let someone else know exactly where you are when you visit a property, particularly if you're going to a location you haven't been to before.
- Compare a range of different landlords and properties to fit your budget and lifestyle.
- Take your time viewing and don't let landlords pressure you into renting a property that you are not completely satisfied with.
- Don't be afraid to ask lots of questions - it's a big decision.
- Can you speak to the current tenants and find out if they are happy with the landlord?
- Take notes and photos and use our checklist to make sure you don't miss anything.

Get informed – knowing your rights will help you view properties more critically and put you in a stronger negotiating position.



Accessibility

When it comes to finding your student accommodation it's important to find somewhere that meets your needs and offers maximum comfort.

Here are a few things to consider for students with access needs.

- A studio apartment will often have a more accessible layout and additional space.
- Make sure you look at the kitchen facilities: Are utilities and counters accessible to you?
- You may be more comfortable with an ensuite bathroom, or wet room.
- See if the room has a mini-fridge for any medication you may need to store.
- If you are deaf or hard of hearing check if there are visual alarms and doorbells fitted.
- Consider whether a ground floor studio or apartment will be more suited to your needs.

Most accommodation providers are happy to make reasonable adjustments, so if there is anything you may find challenging about living in student accommodation, get in touch with BIMM and your accommodation provider early on. We'll see if we can tailor our support and whether additional funding is available to you.



Bristol

Bristol is a city with a fiercely independent spirit and a diverse creative community. The city has a strong festival culture and its streets shimmy to the west countries' most prominent festivals including Glastonbury, Forwards Festival, Love Saves the Day, St Pauls Carnival and 2000trees.

You'll find BIMM's campus in the creative quarter of Stokes Croft. On our doorstep, you'll find a range of independent shops, café's, bars, pubs, cinemas and venues to explore, along with Stokes Croft's renowned street art. Bristol has a large student population so you'll find a whole host of student promotions throughout the week along with plenty of green spaces to enjoy.

There are a few places to live in Bristol that are particularly popular with students:

City Centre

A range of different private halls and private rented flats are available to choose from in the city centre. Choosing to live in the city centre means you are only a short walk from university and all the amenities that living in the centre offers.

Stokes Croft & Gloucester Road

A range of different private halls and private rented flats are available to choose from in the Stokes Croft and Gloucester Road. Stokes Croft is where our campus is located so you'd be around the corner from BIMM Music Institute Bristol.

Clifton, Cotham & Redland

Clifton, Cotham and Redland are approximately a 20 minute walk or a 10 minute cycle from campus. These areas are all popular with students and have a range of student lets available.

Because of the large student scene in Bristol, accommodation is in high demand. We'd advise you to look as early as possible to find a place that suits your needs and get in touch with us if you need any support. Bristol is home to a range of different student halls and letting agents. We have picked out a few to give you an idea of what the options are and to give you some suggestions to look at.

Halls:

Hotwells House

- Price range: £160pw - £220pw (depending on choice of room and what time of year you book).
- Distance to BIMM University Campus: 20 min walk (located by the harbourside).

Any added extras: Bills included, contents insurance included, 24h security, onsite laundry.

Canvas Accommodation

- Price range: £190 - £250 pw (depending on choice of room and what time of year you book).
- Distance to BIMM University Campus: 1 minute walk (CANVAS are our next door neighbours).

Any added extras: Bills included, roof top terrace, free Wi-Fi, social and workspaces, onsite laundry, games room.

King Square Studios

- Price range: £190 - £250 pw (depending on room type and what time of year you book).
- Distance to BIMM University Campus: 2 minute walk.

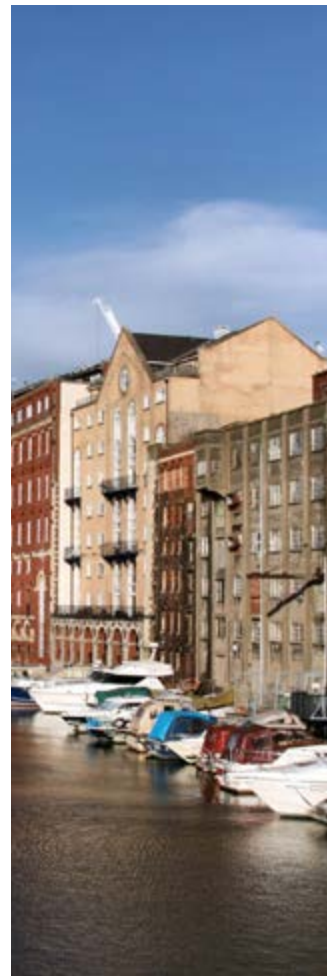
Any added extras: Bills included, gym, free Wi-Fi, social and workspaces, onsite laundry, games room.

Private Rentals & Student Lettings Agents:

If you cannot find a suitable space in halls or if it's not your preferred option, there are plenty of letting agents within the city to support you finding a student house share or flat share. The cost per week of living in a shared flat or house is much less than halls, you'll be able to pick properties based on your budget. Most letting agents will require you to be in a group before you approach them for a property. To make connections and find housemates you can join our BIMM Bristol freshers group which we email out to all offer holders in Spring.

Once you have a group together, you can approach the below local student lettings agents to find properties:

- HYBR
- Joint Living
- Bristol SU Lettings
- Anthony James Lettings
- Rightmove (filter to students)







London

The capital city that needs little introduction, where music is part of its DNA. Stormzy, Mercury Prize winner Dave, Black Midi, The Clash, Queen, Fleetwood Mac, Pink Floyd as well as countless venues, labels, promoters, agents, managers and publishers call this legendary city home. Now, it's your turn. London is often seen as more of a collection of villages than a coherent city; a collision of different communities. Spend any amount of time in Brixton's electric atmosphere or the charm of Dalston, and it's incredible to realise that you're just a few miles away from the glass towers of Canary Wharf or townhouses of Kensington. But best of all is when all these diverse communities come together and share each other's passion as the house lights dim at Camden Koko or Amazing Grace.

BIMM Music Institute London has a site at Barclay House, Effie Road, Fulham, SW6 1EN.

- The nearest tube station is Fulham Broadway on the District Line. It is also walkable from West Brompton Overground station.
- The following bus stops are also very close to our college: 11, 14, 28, 211, 295, 391, 414 and 424.
- Please note there are no parking facilities available at Fulham.

Many of our students live within a short walking distance or bus/tube commute from the college, but some travel from further afield; especially if they are already settled in London or the outskirts.

Remember that you will need to take into consideration the cost of travelling, and the time it will take to get into college.

We recommend the following areas; some of which are within walking distance or a short commute:

- Clapham/Wandsworth
- Hammersmith/Shepherds Bush
- Acton/Ealing
- Putney/Southfields
- West Kensington
- Fulham

We also strongly recommend that you apply for a Student Oyster card at the start of the new academic year to save 30% against the price of adult rate Travelcards and Bus & Tram passes.

Private Student Accommodation

As we don't have our own Student Halls in London, we want to do our best to help you find accommodation that's right for you.

Here are suggestions for Private Halls that are popular with our students.

New Orient House

- Price range: £255pw - £405pw (depending on choice of room and what time of year you book).
 - Distance to campus: 16 min walk.
- Any added extras: Bills included, CCTV, study area, cinema room, onsite laundry and much more.

Prince Consort Village

- Price range: £216pw - £449pw (depending on choice of room and what time of year you book).
 - Distance to campus: 1 hour walk or 30 min bus journey.
- Any added extras: onsite gym and music practice rooms, 24/7 Security, fixed rent & energy costs, contents insurance, cinema room, onsite laundry and much more.

Find Digs

- Price range: £192pw - £309pw (depending on choice of room and what time of year you book).
 - Distance to campus: 45 min journey via public transport.
 - Free shuttle bus service running every morning and evening to the nearby underground station (Tooting Broadway).
- Any added extras: All bills included in rent prices, onsite gym and common rooms, 24/7 security, onsite laundry.

For even more student halls accommodation options, these two websites will show you student halls options across London:

- Student.com
- Mystudenthalls.com





Brighton

Brighton is a hub of creativity and an epicentre for the arts. It has a thriving industry which inspires creatives to study in this city. It's open-minded community and diverse cutting-edge culture is one of the many reasons students choose to study in Brighton.

Brighton also made it into the 2022 Sunday Times Best Places to Live and the happiest. When the sun sets, Brighton's legendary night-time scene comes alive. The city boasts over 200 pubs and bars, alongside some iconic music venues, such as The Brighton Centre, Concorde 2 and The Old Market.

It holds key industry events such as Cinecity, Brighton Fringe and The Great Escape. These events bring musicians, artists, actors, and creatives from all around the globe to the city each year.

Brighton's magnificent and historic culture is deeply rooted throughout the city. Featuring our famous Royal Pavilion, Brighton Palace Pier, The Lanes, The South Downs and of course, our notorious pebbled beach.

Living in Brighton

Some of our recommendations for Student Accommodation are as follows:

Private Rentals

Independent Accommodation Advice

Jackie Phillips is an independent accommodation adviser who is affiliated with BIMM Music Institute Brighton; she charges a small fee for advice and help finding suitable accommodation for our students. Jackie is able to provide information on flat or house shares, bedsits and host family accommodation in the area, and connect students who are looking for shared accommodation.

email: jackiephillips@bimm.ac.uk

Joint Living - jointliving.co.uk

Joint Living Lettings Agency are dedicated to ensuring that tenants have an exceptional living experience in newly renovated, interior designed shared houses and are focused on improving their wellbeing through a small, friendly & supportive team. Maintenance issues are reported through an easy-to-use app with a dedicated 48-hour response time, all bills are included as well as a cleaner and gardener. One of their partners are Sound Asleep Club, a mediation app that all tenants get free access too and they provide helpful guides such as monthly meal plans to assist with budgeting. They offer low deposit and alternative guarantor options, welcome international and UK based students and can accommodate groups and individuals.

- Price Range: £175pw-£220pw depending on your choice of room.
- All bills included.
- All properties are either located within walking distance of the universities or close to key bus routes and train stations meaning your route to campus is nice and easy. You will also be within a short distance to Brighton town centre.

Harringtons - harringtonslettings.co.uk

- Price Range: £144pw-£2670pw depending on your choice of room and location.
- Bills are not included.
- All properties are either located within walking distance of the universities or close to key bus routes and train stations meaning your route to campus is nice and easy. You will also be within a short distance to Brighton town centre.



Student Halls

Pavillion Point - amberstudent.com

- Price Range: £250pw-£360pw depending on choice of room.
- All bills included.
- Located in the centre of Brighton which makes travelling to University very accessible and easy. You could jump on a bus or walk and you will reach your destination within 25 minutes.

IQ Student Accommodation:

Sawmills - iqstudentaccommodation.com

- Price Range: £300pw-£330pw depending on choice of room.
- Bills are not included.
- Located in the centre of Brighton which makes travelling to University very accessible and easy. You could jump on a bus or walk and you will reach your destination within 25 minutes.

Abacus House - iqstudentaccommodation.com

- Price Range: £217pw-270pw depending on choice of room.
- Bills are not included.
- Located in the centre of Brighton which makes travelling to University very accessible and easy. You could jump on a bus or walk and you will reach your destination within 25 minutes.

iQ Brighton - iqstudentaccommodation.com

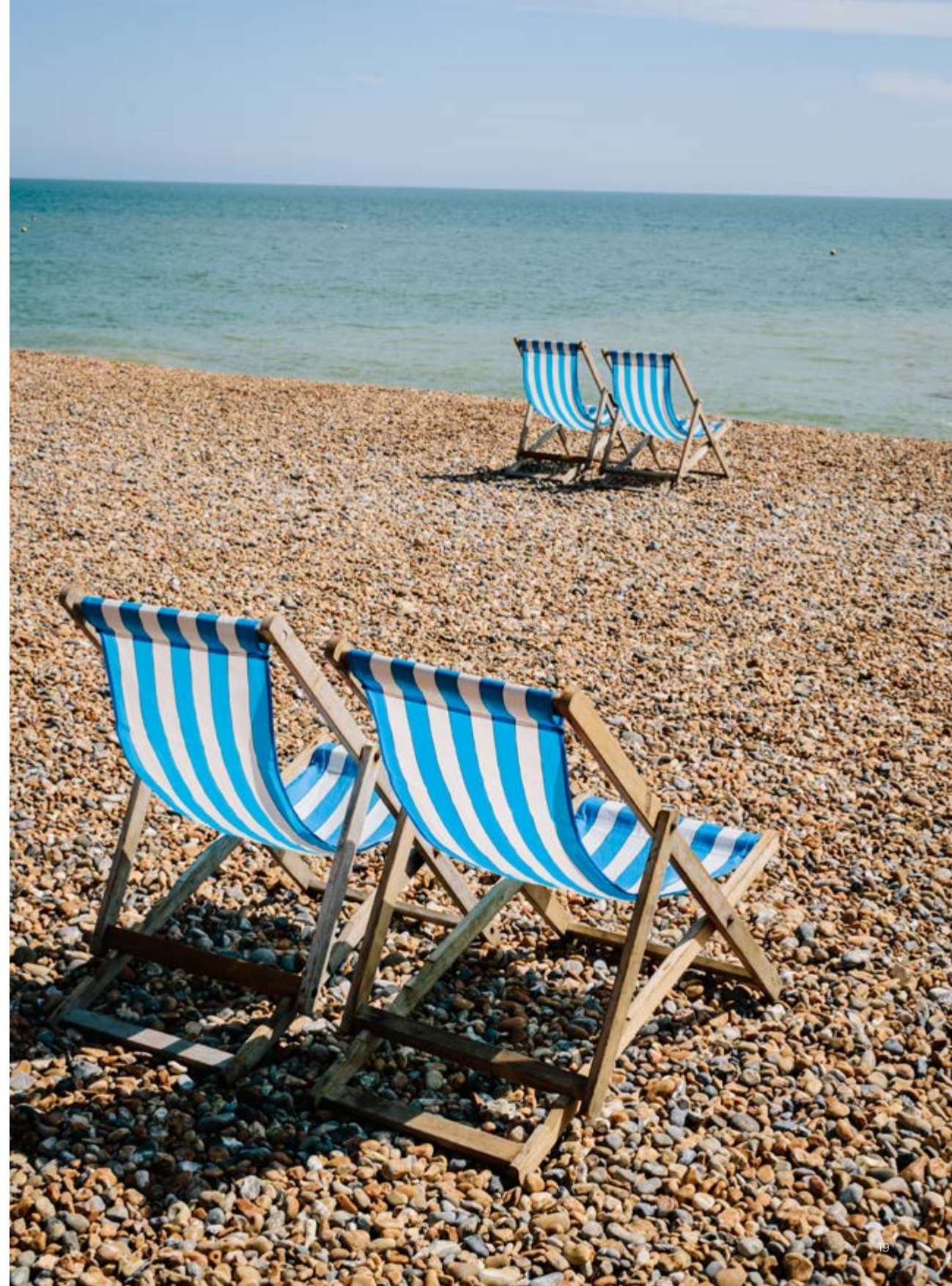
- Price Range: £230pw-£415pw depending on choice of room.
- Bills are not included.
- Located in the centre of Brighton which makes travelling to University very accessible and easy. You could jump on a bus or walk and you will reach your destination within 25 minutes.

Hollingbury House - abodusstudents.com

- Price Range: £185pw-£250pw depending on choice of room.
- All bills included.
- 10-minute bus ride to Brighton centre.
- 10 minutes bus ride to seafront.
- Not on a main road.
- Easy access to transport links around Brighton and beyond, including under an hour to London.

Please Note

Halls of Residences are managed independently by the accommodation companies and not BIMM University. It is your responsibility to manage your accommodation whilst a student at BIMM University and all contracts signed, agreed, and adhered to are between you and the student housing company.





Manchester

Manchester, UK is famous for its vibrant and buzzing student scene making it an excellent destination for students who wish to experience living away from home. Manchester city centre offers a wide range of accommodation options to suit your needs.

Manchester is a popular choice for students who want to begin their careers within the creative industries. The city is home to many famous music legends such as, Oasis, The Stone Roses and The Smiths! The city boasts a huge variety of music venues from smaller venues such as Deaf Institute to unique spaces like the Albert Hall and astronomical venues such as Manchester Arena and The Warehouse Project- there's always a gig to see somewhere in the city. From theatre and live music to bars and restaurants, Manchester has something for every student.

Popular Student Accommodation Areas:

City Centre: Living in the heart of Manchester means you are within walking distance of the university and all the amenities that urban living offers. This area boasts a variety of private halls and rented flats, from modern high-rises to historical buildings.

Fallowfield: Located just south of the city centre, Fallowfield is a bustling student area with a wide range of housing options, including shared houses and apartments. It's known for its vibrant nightlife and student-friendly environment.

Withington: Adjacent to Fallowfield, Withington offers a quieter atmosphere while still being close to the university. It is a neighbourhood known for its leafy streets and cozy student hangouts.

Finding Accommodation in Manchester:

Due to Manchester's bustling student scene, accommodation can be in high demand, especially during peak periods. Start your search well in advance and don't hesitate to seek assistance if needed.

Highlighted Halls:

Bridgewater Heights

- Description: Liberty Heights is a modern student accommodation building located close to Manchester city centre. It offers a range of en-suite rooms and studio apartments. Facilities include a gym, common room, study areas and on-site laundry.
- Price range: from £205 per week.

iQ Student Accommodation

iQ Wilmslow Park

- Situated near the University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University. It provides a variety of room types, including en-suite rooms and studios. The accommodation offers a gym, common areas and study spaces.
- Price range: from £180-£400 per week.

Unite Students Accommodation

- Description: Unite Students and offers a range of en-suite rooms in shared apartments. It's conveniently located for students attending BIMM University and provides facilities such as common areas and a study room.
- Price range: from £200 to £300 per week.

Cavendish Place

- Description: Conveniently located for students as the campus is just a short walk away, Cavendish Place is a great base to explore all that Manchester has to offer. Facilities include outdoor garden space and on-site laundry.
- Price range: from £195 per week to £275 per week

Private Rentals & Student Lettings Agents:

Manchester also offers an array of private rentals if you would prefer to live more independently. There are various letting agents to assist you in finding a shared flat or house. This option allows you to tailor your choice to your budget and preferences.





Birmingham

Birmingham is the second biggest city in the UK and is considered to be the social, cultural and financial centre of the Midlands. It is home to thousands of small workshops practising a wide variety of specialised and highly skilled and creative trades – giving it its nickname of the City of 1000 Trades.

Its central location and being able to get to 75% of the UK in under 3 hours makes Birmingham a highly popular place to live, work and study. At BIMM University, we are proud to be based in the cities Creative Quarter, Digbeth, a distinctive street art covered part of the city centre. Digbeth has been named The Coolest Neighbourhood in Britain by the Sunday Times because of its amazing independent shops, cinemas, cafes, arts venues, pubs and cafes. We totally agree!

There are a few places to live in Birmingham that are popular with students.

City Centre

A range of different private halls and private rented flats are available to choose from in the City Center. Choosing to live in the city centre means you have the option to walk to university. It also means you are close to the city centre and all the exciting things happening there!

Selly Oak

Selly is popular with students who are looking live in student houses rather than flats / halls. It is referred to locally as Student City with lots of options for house shares of all different sizes and prices. Being a short train or bus ride out of the city means there are loads of green spaces close by including the beautiful Cannon Hill Park.

Because of all the amazing things happening in Birmingham, accommodation is in high demand. We advise you to look as early as possible to find a place that suits your needs. Birmingham is home to a range of different student halls. We have picked out a few to give you an idea of what the options are and to give you some suggestions to look at.

Halls:

Bristol Street Student Accommodation

- Price range: £136pw - £205pw depending on choice of room.
- Distance to BIMM University Campus: 20 min walk
- Any added extras: Bills included, Outdoor Space, 24h security, onsite laundry.

Canvas Accommodation The Old Fire Station

- Price range: £164 - £209pw.
- Distance to BIMM University Campus: 25 min walk
- Any added extras: Bills included, gym, free Wi-Fi, social and workspaces, onsite laundry.

The Heights

- Price range: £164 - £209pw.
- Distance to BIMM University Campus: 25 min walk
- Any added extras: Bills included, gym, free Wi-Fi, social and workspaces, onsite laundry, courtyard.

Belgrave View

- Price range: £149 - £180pw.
- Distance to BIMM University Campus: 25 min walk
- Any added extras: Bills included in room price, gym, music rehearsal space, free events, free contents insurance.

Unite Students Jennens Court

- Price range: £158pw.
- Distance to BIMM University Campus: 15 min walk
- Any added extras: Bills included in room price, dedicated study space, cinema room, courtyard, laundry room.

Alternatively, there are many letting agencies and private landlords based in Birmingham. If you are going through a letting agent, you will be expected to pay a holding fee, agency fees, a deposit and sometimes one month's rent up front and provide a guarantor. If you are using a private letting agent, make sure they follow the code of practice of the National Association of Estate Agents.



Essex

Performers College Essex is based in the heart of this lovely county. With easy access to London's vibrant capital and its creative network not to mention all the various theatre and performing arts venues across Essex itself, we are perfectly situated for our students to explore the exciting world of performing arts.

Essex is a diverse county with lots to offer and whilst it borders the east side of London and is extremely commuter friendly, much of the county is rural with charming villages, lovely restaurants, and miles of beautiful coastline to explore.

As well as this, Essex is well connected to the rest of the world with two international airports.

One of the biggest advantages of training at our Essex campus is that we cater for the student that truly wants to focus on their training without distraction, with our purpose-built facilities that are specifically created for the highest quality performing arts training.

Things to consider when looking at accommodation in Essex

- Performers college recommended House/Flat Share – Are you ready for independent living? Are you sociable, clean, tidy, and a team player when it comes to cleaning the bathroom or kitchen or putting out the bins. It's important to be respectful to your other housemates.
- We have a list of landlord accommodation and estate agents we can recommend to you in and around the local areas.
- Host Family – Our lovely Host families will rent you a room, maybe cook and clean or put a bit of washing on for you. If this is what you're looking for then a Host family is for you! (We recommend this for our Under 18's, or if it's your first time away from home).

• Commute – Do you drive? Are you happy to use public transport or would you prefer a short walk? Or do you want to be a 5-minute walk to college?

• There is also a charge for the carpark here at Performers and spaces are limited, something else to factor in.

• Mixed House/Flat Share – You will be able to source accommodation through Estate Agents, Spareroom.co.uk, or other social media platforms, however, you won't always know who your housemates are. They may not be known to us or hold an enhanced DBS certificate.

How much is it going to cost?

• House/Flat Shares range from between £500 - £600pcm for room only.

• Flat Shares through Estate agents range from £625 - £650pcm for a 2-bedroom flat.

• Host Accommodation from £120pw room only to £180pw with food included.

• Some of our recommended landlords and Host families will reduce the price for the months of July & August if you are planning to return to their accommodation for the next academic year.



Student accommodation in Essex

At our Essex campus we have a dedicated accommodation expert that can help you with your journey on finding the right accommodation for the start of your training. While we may not have traditional Halls of Residence, we are committed to helping you find somewhere to live. Performers College Essex benefits from being situated in a rural small town and therefore has various affordable options available to you whilst training.

You can talk to our dedicated Essex accommodation specialist by emailing accommodationpc@performerscollege.co.uk

Find out more about our recommended accommodation options below:

Recommended Private landlords

We have a network of private landlords who we can introduce you to. Unlike university accommodations, these spaces are owned by individuals (landlords) whom you pay a rental fee to, usually monthly. This could include a diverse range of housing styles, from cozy flats, to shared houses, to self-contained studios. This choice grants you the freedom to select a living environment that aligns to your needs. However, it's important to understand fully the expectations of lease agreements, which can widely differ in terms and conditions. While some landlords may offer flexibility, others might require longer commitments. Additionally, students should factor in utility costs and council taxes when budgeting. Despite this, private landlord accommodation can be a good choice for independent living.

House share opportunities

You can use other independent channels such as spareroom.co.uk, local estate agents and social media to find somewhere to stay. This gives you the freedom to take control of your living situation and look for a place that works for you.

It's important to note however that these options are not vetted or approved by Performers College and will be fully independent arrangements. Performers College cannot be held responsible for your experience in any way.

Host families

A host family can be a single person or an entire family who is offering one or more rooms in their home. They will invite you into their homes and treat you as a member of their household. Anyone living in the host family who is over the age of 18 will need to hold an enhanced DBS certificate to ensure the students safety.

A host may offer room only or include some meals. They may cook for you and invite you to eat with the family, or alternatively offer independent living where you have room only and cater for yourself - or perhaps even bring in food which you prepare yourself. It is meant to feel more of a 'home from home' experience which can be fun if you're away from home for the first time.

Dedicated student housing

We have a limited number of private rooms available in Basildon. Please email us for more information.



Frequently Asked Questions

What's the difference between Halls and Private Rental?

Student halls are dedicated student accommodation, and often come with additional facilities, and sometimes, en suites.

Private rental means you will have a private landlord, and your neighbors may not be students.

There are pros and cons to both, and it comes down to personal circumstances and preference. One thing to look out for is the length of rental agreement you are taking out, and what happens if you break the contract.

Private accommodation can work out cheaper if there are a number of you doing a house share, however some student Halls costs will include things like Wifi so it's worth looking at the small print of what is included in the price.

When should I start viewing property?

The earlier you start looking for your accommodation the better, October to January is a peak time for viewings and we advise securing your chosen space with a deposit to avoid disappointment.

What is a guarantor, and will I need to sign a guarantor form?

A guarantor is someone who signs an agreement to pay for any rent or damage if the tenant fails to pay up. The guarantor will most likely be a parent or guardian.

Some landlords ask for a guarantor but not all do. So, there are still plenty of properties to choose from if you don't have someone who will be a guarantor for you – you'll just need to look around.

Can I end my student tenancy early?

The rules for ending your student accommodation agreement can vary. In some cases, you may be able to give notice or find someone to take over your

contract. It's important to read terms and conditions of contracts before signing so you are fully aware of your rights.

Difficulty paying your rent

Life happens unexpectedly, so if you find you have difficulty paying your rent, you can talk to the local citizens advice bureau for advice and to understand your rights as a tenant.

citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/budgeting/get-help-with-bills/

Student life and wellbeing

Even if you're not on campus, your wellbeing as a BIMM Student is important to us. Our Student Services Teams have access to training and resource to offer advice and guidance on life outside the college.

For example, if you have questions about your tenancy agreement, or want to make sure you're receiving the maximum funding available to you, make an appointment to come and see us. If you hit a crisis, ask us about the BIMM Hardship Fund, which is available to students who require short-term financial help in an emergency.

If you're away from home for the first time, our student support team are trained listeners and offer a safe space to talk about any of your concerns – including mental health, loneliness, personal issues, disabilities or learning difficulties.

Who do I need to update my new address with?

Once you've found a place, don't forget to let the Post Office know your address for postal mail, get registered at a local GP and register with the council so you can vote in elections during term time, and update your student record with us. International students may have additional requirements while on a student visa, so do ask.



Contact us



To apply to BIMM University, book a place at an open day or to ask us a question, contact our friendly Admissions Team at:

Email: admissions@bimm.ac.uk
Tel: 01273 840 346

BIMM Music Institute

Website: bimm.ac.uk
Instagram: [bimm_stagram](#)

Institute for Contemporary Theatre

Website: ictheatre.ac.uk
Instagram: [ictheatreuk](#)

Performers College

Website: performerscollege.co.uk
Instagram: [performerscollege](#)

Screen and Film School

Website: screenfilmschool.ac.uk
Instagram: [screenfilmsch](#)

