# **Tips for parents**

Leaving home for University is a big step and, as the new term approaches, both parents and students will often experience a mixture of emotions. With this in mind we've put together some suggestions & tips on how to support your son/daughter whilst they're living away from home.

## **Parents Checklist**

- Once your son/daughter has received an offer to University, and accepts this, whether conditional or unconditional, and has made the University of Wolverhampton their firm choice, make sure they apply for their accommodation via e:Vision
- We would advise that you should look closely at our 'Where Can I Live?' webpages to make sure that you are aware of all the different types of accommodation we have to offer and how much they cost.
- When completing a preference form please ensure that it is filled in correctly, with the preferred types of accommodation in order from 1-6.
- Ensure that the student accepts their accommodation Licence Agreement and pays their Accommodation advanced rent payment online – the link for this will be sent via an email (so make sure that your son/daughter checks their emails regularly!) – If they do not accept their Licence and pay their Pre-Payment within 5 days their offer may expire and they will need to re-apply as the offer will be cancelled.
- Decide the best payment method to pay for the accommodation fees via our how to pay section webpages
- Visit our online shop to see whether you would like to purchase any items in advance of the students arrival and these will be placed in the bedroom for their arrival

### Keep calm and stay positive!

It is important to keep a positive attitude about all of the upcoming changes - your son or daughter may be feeling anxious about the new life they are about to start and you don't want to make it worse! Let them know that it is completely normal to feel nervous, but have confidence in them and there is a lot of support on hand once they arrive from the University.

### Take a step back

Encourage your son or daughter to be more independent as September approaches. Build their selfconfidence and help them to become more pro-active - they will soon need to organise themselves and make their own decisions.

Remember, the Licence Agreement is a legally binding contract between The Accommodation Hub and your son or daughter. Due to data protection and as they are 18 and classed as an adult in law, we can only discuss contractual or personal issues with them directly, regardless of who is footing the bill! If you would like to speak on behalf of your son or daughter we will need their consent in writing to undertake this.

## Prepare them for independent living

Make sure your son or daughter is able to use a washing machine, to budget for their weekly shop and to cook a few simple dishes, check out our communal living pages for more information. If your son or daughter requires any additional support for medical reasons then please advise them to contact The Accommodation Hub and Student Support & Wellbeing at their earliest convenience to discuss their requirements.

#### **Keep in touch**

Leaving home is a big step and most students will feel homesick at some point. It is important that they know you are there for them and that they can contact you if they need support. Encourage your son or daughter to give it time, and remind them that they are unlikely to be the only ones feeling low. Encourage them to use the support services available at the University, including the Accommodation Hub who offer in-house support and advice to our residents.

Some students will throw themselves into University life, and you may not hear from them as often as you would like. Try contacting them via email, social media or text message rather than phone calls - you may get an answer more often!

#### Don't rush!

If you are already concerning yourself with where your son or daughter will live after their first year, then we advise you to not rush into making any decision as yet.

There is no limit as to how long a student can live in the University accommodation; meaning that student can apply from December 2018 if they want to remain in halls and apply as a friendship group.