Welcome

This guide will help you find the perfect accommodation that suits your needs for the period from September 2020 to July 2021.

Click on the page links below for useful information:

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We’re looking forward to welcoming you to the UK soon. Our dedicated accommodation team is here to support you and guide you through the options that best suit your individual needs.

LIVE WITH CONFIDENCE
We're here for you

The world has changed a lot recently, and the accommodation we offer has adapted with it. Our dedicated accommodation team will support you and guide you through your options whenever you’re ready to travel. We’ll help make sure you have an amazing time here in the UK.

**Best time to book**
We are welcoming students to our residences. However, we advise you to book your accommodation only once you have received your CAS, and you know that you are definitely coming to the UK (travel restrictions permitting).

If you have confirmed your place to study in the UK, then you will be able to reserve your room in Kaplan-booked accommodation.

You will be guaranteed a room when you are ready to come to the UK (in line with accommodation contract start dates), and we will do everything we can to find you a fantastic place to stay during your pathway course.

**Spring, Summer and Autumn 2020 starters**
If you started your course remotely between April 2020 and December 2020, and planned to join us in person later on, for most programmes we are offering 3 different accommodation contract start dates for you to choose from: 6 January 2021, 27 February 2021 or 17 April 2021. All accommodation options and total costs are available on our Accommodation Form.

**Spring 2021 flexible starts**
We understand the current global situation demands some flexibility. That’s why we are offering 3 different arrival dates for you to choose from: 6 January 2021, 27 February 2021 or 17 April 2021. These flexible accommodation start dates correspond with our study programme start dates. This means that you can begin your programme remotely if you wish on 6 January 2021, and then move into your UK accommodation later on 27 February 2021 or 17 April 2021.

**Summer 2021 early arrival**
If availability allows, you might be able to arrive early at your accommodation for courses starting in Summer 2021. Please let us know at pathways.accommodation@kaplan.com when you expect to arrive, and we can confirm further details along with any costs.

Learn more about flexible start dates and arrivals [here](#).

**Your accommodation options**
In this guide you’ll find detailed information about your accommodation options in the UK. Once you are ready to travel, you can submit the online Accommodation Form indicating your preference.

We operate on a first-come, first-served basis and all options are subject to availability. Therefore you may be offered another accommodation type or location, or we may refer you to one of our trusted third-party providers.

**Find the latest updates**
We’ve answered some common questions about accommodation during this period. Please visit our [accommodation FAQs](#) webpage for more information.

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**Please note:** access to and experience of some of the facilities and attractions featured in this guide may be affected by changing government guidance and the global situation.

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**Health and safety**
Keeping all our students safe is our top priority. We will continue to follow UK government health and safety guidelines at all times, so you can rest assured that our residences and accommodation partners are taking the necessary precautions to protect your wellbeing.

- Hand sanitiser stations
- Frequent and thorough cleaning routines
- Extra cleaning procedures for high-traffic areas
- One-way systems
- Floor markings and signage for social distancing
- 24-hour support staff available to help

Please visit our [accommodation FAQs](#) webpage to learn more about residence safety measures.

─ Watch a video about how we’re making sure you can live with confidence.
Experience Essex

History
Essex has a rich and fascinating history for you to explore. In fact, Colchester is the oldest recorded town in Britain. Even now, it still retains the feel of a medieval market town, and the rest of Essex also has plenty of sites of historical interest to see: you can visit impressive castles, fascinating museums and even a hidden nuclear bunker!

Shopping
Essex is a great place to go shopping, with traditional food and clothes markets and bustling high streets selling everything you could need! There are major retail parks to explore, and Essex’s towns are great places to find everything from designer brands to arty boutiques. Plus, with London so close, you will have one of the world’s best shopping destinations on your doorstep.

Sport
Sports such as football, rugby, tennis and cricket are very popular in the UK. You’ll have lots of opportunities to get involved, and the University of Essex itself has a great range of sports facilities that you can use. For exercise that’s a little more relaxed, Colchester is home to many lovely routes for walking and cycling, including the Wivenhoe Trail.

Food
If you start to miss food from your home country while you’re living in the UK, don’t worry! Essex is a multicultural county, and you will find great variety, from Indian curries to Chinese dim sum and more. Of course, you can also try traditional British food at Essex’s many restaurants and pubs, and its coastline is the perfect place to eat fresh fish and chips.

Events
Throughout the year, there is a wide range of fairs, festivals and events that you can discover in Essex. From seeing the world’s biggest music artists at V Festival, to the Brightlingsea Food and Drink Festival in Colchester, there’s so much going on!

Outside Essex
While Essex has a lot to offer, you will also have a great chance to explore the rest of the UK. London, with its many museums, galleries and events, is just a short train ride away, as are Oxford and Cambridge. You can also see some of the UK’s areas of outstanding natural beauty, or even take a trip to continental Europe from Stansted or Southend Airport.
Getting around

The residences are conveniently located close to the University, within easy reach of the College, supermarkets, cafés and restaurants.

**Transport**

㎡ Buses
The University of Essex has its own bus stop, and there are frequent services to and from the centre of Colchester. You can also use local bus services to explore more of the Essex region. As a student, you can travel cheaply with a student bus pass.

㎡ Trains
The nearest train station to the University's Colchester campus is Hythe (Essex), which is a 20-minute walk away. There are also frequent train services between Colchester and London.

㎡ Taxis
The city also has a reliable taxi service, with taxi ranks located all around the city. They're great for short trips, or for when you have heavy luggage.

**Typical walking time to the International College:**
The Meadows 20 minutes
University Quays 30 minutes
University Quays

Your modern riverside accommodation, with great transport links to the town centre and the College.

**Location**
Conveniently located close to the Colchester campus and the town centre. University Quays is a 30-minute walk from the College, or a short bus journey to campus (buses run every 20 minutes). In addition, there is a large supermarket just a short walk away and easy access to the train station for trips out of town.

**Private bedroom**
Private bedrooms in a shared flat of up to 8 students. All rooms have a single bed, desk, chair, bookshelves, storage and a bin.

**Private bathroom**
Fully equipped private bathroom with toilet, shower and washbasin.

**Kitchen**
Fully equipped, shared kitchen with fridge-freezer, cooker, microwave, oven, kettle, ironing board and storage units.

**Social life**
There are a number of social events hosted by the Residence Life team.

**Other facilities**
On-site laundry room (usage charges apply), bicycle storage and car park. A free shuttle bus runs after events at the Students' Union.

**Internet**
Free fast and stable broadband and WiFi access.

**Bills included**
All bills are included in the accommodation price.

**Security**
Secure door entry to buildings, flats and rooms, and on-campus patrol officers overnight.

**Cleaning**
The kitchens are cleaned weekly during term times and the rubbish is collected from the kitchens daily.

**Please note:** Health and safety measures such as extra cleaning, closure of communal spaces, social distancing rules and additional signage are in place to protect everyone. Click here for more information about how we are prioritising your wellbeing.

**All private bedrooms | Close to the College and town centre | Large supermarket just a short walk away | Social events and activities**

**Standard ensuite**
Approximate bedroom size: 14.5m²

Review the price and dates of this type of room for your pathway course

Please note: images intended for illustrative purposes only. Actual room layout, contents and furnishings may differ.
The Meadows
Modern and stylish living with a real sense of community.

Location
Based on the Colchester campus, close to the University’s Business School, and a 15 to 20-minute walk from the College.

Private bedrooms
The premium ensuite features a private bedroom and bathroom in a shared flat of up to 7 students. The Townhouses accommodate up to 12 students and have private bedrooms with bathrooms shared between 2 students. All rooms have a small double bed, desk, chair, bookshelves and storage.

Bathrooms
Fully equipped bathrooms with toilet, shower and washbasin.

Kitchen
Fully equipped shared kitchens with fridge-freezer, cooker, microwave, oven, kettle, ironing board and storage units.

Social life
There is an on-site café, a common room, and a number of social events are hosted by the Residence Life team.

Other facilities
On-site laundry room (usage charges apply), secure bicycle storage, car park and a shop.

Internet
Free fast and stable broadband and WiFi access.

Bills included
All bills are included in the accommodation price.

Security
Secure door entry to buildings, flats and rooms, and on-campus patrol officers overnight.

Cleaning
The kitchens are cleaned weekly during term times and the rubbish is collected from the kitchens daily.

Please note: Health and safety measures such as extra cleaning, closure of communal spaces, social distancing rules and additional signage are in place to protect everyone. Click here for more information about how we are prioritising your wellbeing.

All private bedrooms | On-site ‘grab-and-go’ café | On-campus location | Common room for social activities

Premium ensuite
Approximate bedroom size: 12.5m²

Review the price and dates of this type of room for your pathway course

Modern student accommodation

Private bedroom

Social space
Free sports membership

A great way to socialise, have fun and enjoy healthy activities along with your studies.

When you book your accommodation with Kaplan, you will receive a free, annual Essex Sport Silver Membership at Colchester that will give you access to excellent facilities, including the brand new, state-of-the-art Essex Sport Arena, which features a cutting-edge gym, a choice of over 300 fitness classes each month, and an extensive range of sports.

The Essex Sport membership is a service provided by the University of Essex and is subject to its terms and conditions. The annual Student Essex Sports Silver Membership at Colchester is valid from September 2020 through to August 2021.

Find more on www.essex.ac.uk/sport/membership/student-membership
Compare your options

Use the table below to see which options suit you, and select your preferences when booking your room.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room type</th>
<th>University Quays</th>
<th>The Meadows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Approximate size</strong></td>
<td><strong>Standard ensuite</strong> 14.5m²</td>
<td><strong>Premium ensuite</strong> 12.5m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Students per flat</strong></td>
<td>up to 8</td>
<td>up to 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bedroom</strong></td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study desk, chair, wardrobe, shelves, under-bed storage, notice board and wall heater</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single beds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small double bed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bathroom</strong></td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>Private</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower cubicle, washbasin and toilet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Kitchen</strong></td>
<td>Shared</td>
<td>Shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooker, fridge-freezer, microwave, oven, kettle, rice cooker, iron board and storage units</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WiFi and broadband</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>On-site common room</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Walking time to the College</strong></td>
<td>30 minutes</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Free annual sport silver membership</strong></td>
<td>Access to sport facilities, gym, fitness classes and an extensive range of sports</td>
<td>All students aged 16 and over</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Available to</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are lots of benefits when you book accommodation with Kaplan

**For your comfort**
- All private bedrooms
- Your own study space
- Free WiFi

**For your convenience**
- On-campus location
- Great transport links
- Access to laundries

**For your safety**
- Patrol officer overnight
- Secure door entry
- Free contents insurance

**For your enjoyment**
- Annual sports membership
- Access to common rooms
- Social events

While every effort will be made to allocate your first choice, we cannot guarantee this. We operate on a first-come, first-served basis and all options are subject to availability, therefore you may be offered another accommodation type or location, or we may refer you to another provider.
Student starter pack

Free items for your arrival
To make your move as easy as possible, we provide a free ‘student starter pack’ with many of the basic items you’ll need as soon as you move in. It means that you won’t have to rush around the shops on your first day, and can settle right into your new accommodation.

Your bedding, cooking equipment and tableware items

- Dinner plate
- Glass tumbler
- Spoon and fork
- Pillow
- Cereal bowl
- Fitted sheet
- Pillowcase
- Small plate
- Mug
- Vegetable peeler
- Saucepan
- Ladle
- Plastic spoons
- Frying pan
- Duvet
- Colander
- Tin opener
- Hand towel
- Duvet cover
- Toilettries pack
- Toilet roll

In addition, we will also provide:
- Face mask
- Personal bottle of hand sanitiser

Please note: For legal reasons, knives are not provided.
Actual contents of the student starter pack may vary.
How to book

You don't need to book accommodation until you're sure you can join us in the UK. When you're ready, you can book your accommodation by following the steps below.

**Step 1  Choose your room**

Check the dates and prices on the accommodation page on our website, and choose the option that matches your course dates.

**Step 2  Submit the Accommodation Form**

You can complete the online Accommodation Form to indicate your accommodation preferences

OR

You can indicate your preferred room type when applying for your course on the application form. We will send you further information with your tuition offer letter.

**Step 3  Accept your offer**

Once you have accepted your offer, we will be able to confirm your accommodation. We will reserve a room for you and send you an email with an Accommodation Pack containing your Accommodation Agreement and the Accommodation Terms and Conditions.

**Step 4  Sign and return the agreement**

You (the tenant) and your guarantor will need to read, sign and return the documents in the Accommodation Pack by the accommodation confirmation date, which can be found in the Accommodation Pack. A third person must also witness the signatures, and provide their own details on the document.

**Step 5  First payment**

If you have not done so already, you will also need to make a minimum first payment of £1,000 to secure the room. This will be credited towards your overall accommodation fees.

First payment of £1,000 (minimum): To be made before you arrive in the UK. Includes a £250 security deposit and £750 accommodation fee.

Remaining payments: Depending on your accommodation option, pay the remaining amount when you just arrive in the UK and before your second term (if applicable).

**Step 6  Your arrival confirmation**

When you are ready to come to the UK and have booked a flight, you will need to confirm your arrival details by completing the online Pre-Arrival Form. The College will be able to book and confirm transfers for you; details are provided in the Pre-Arrival Guide. Please submit your arrival details at least 2 weeks before you fly to ensure the College and your accommodation are prepared for your arrival.
How to pay

Before you arrive, you can make your first payment using one of the methods below:

**Method 1**
Bank transfer / credit or debit card to Flywire.
1. Visit UEIC Essex flywire.com
2. Choose your country and the amounts you are paying in Pounds Sterling
3. Choose your payment method and make your payment to Flywire
4. Enter the payer details and those of the student you are paying for
5. Track and confirm your payment by email, SMS or by logging into UEIC Essex flywire.com

**Method 2**
Bank draft or electronic transfer in Pounds Sterling to:
Bank Account Name: Kaplan Essex Limited
Bank Name: HSBC Bank plc
Sort Code: 40-11-60
Bank Account Number: 71052233
BIC: HBUKGB4B
IBAN NO: GB26HBUK40116071052233
Bank Address: 60 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4N 4TR

Don't forget...
Remember to include evidence of your first payment when you return your signed Accommodation Agreement to reserve your chosen accommodation option. You should include your family name and student number (found on your offer letter) as payment reference.
Useful information

You can find some helpful information below to guide you through your accommodation application.

**Accommodation Agreement**
The Accommodation Agreement is a contract confirming the details of your accommodation. By signing your Accommodation Agreement, you are agreeing, under UK law, to pay for your accommodation for the full length of the accommodation contract.

**Accommodation confirmation**
You must complete the required steps in order to secure your booking. If you fail to do so by the accommodation confirmation date, your agreement may be cancelled and your room given to another student to book. If your Accommodation Agreement is cancelled, and you tell us that you would still like to book Kaplan-arranged accommodation, you will be offered the next available room.

**Accommodation length change**
You may not change your contract length after you have booked and signed your Accommodation Agreement.

**Evidence of payment**
Evidence of payment can be a copy of the payment receipt, bank statement, banker’s draft or via Flywire.

**First payment**
The first payment is to secure your accommodation along with the signed accommodation agreement. The £1,000 first payment is then divided into £250 for the security deposit and £750 towards your accommodation fees. Your security deposit will be fully returned when you move out of your accommodation. It will not be refunded if the room is damaged or left in bad condition, or if there are any accommodation penalty charges outstanding.

**Guarantors**
A guarantor is someone who will be legally responsible for any accommodation fees you are unable to or fail to pay.

**Moving into your room**
You will be able to move into your room from the start date of your contract, but only if you have sent us your signed Accommodation Agreement and first payment.

**Refunds**
When your Accommodation Agreement is cancelled and you decide not to take another offered room, refund of any fees paid will only be granted in line with Kaplan International Pathways’ Terms and Conditions, and may be subject to an administration fee being deducted. If you leave the College for any reason after you arrive, accommodation fees will not be refunded.

**Under 18s**
The College will accommodate students under 18 years of age in a single-sex flat with other students under 18 years old. Students who are under the age of 18 on arrival in the UK may be asked to pay all their accommodation fees before they arrive, and are advised to stay in either Kaplan or university-arranged accommodation.

**Visa**
If your visa application is unsuccessful, please send a copy of your visa refusal documents (or other evidence) to your Admissions Adviser for review. A decision will then be made regarding eligibility for refund in line with the company’s terms and conditions.

**Accommodation guarantee**

**Spring and Summer 2021**
If you start your course between January and July 2021, you will be guaranteed a room when you are ready to come to the UK (in line with accommodation contract start dates). We advise you to only book your accommodation once your CAS has been issued and you know that you are definitely coming to the UK (travel restrictions permitting).
Find out more
Visit the links below or contact us for more information.
We look forward to welcoming you to Essex!

Useful links:
- Accommodation in Essex
- Prepare for your studies at the College
- University of Essex
- Student life in Essex

Social media:
Search: UEICEssex
facebook-f twitter-instagram
#KaplanLife

Contact details:
✉ University of Essex International College
  Constable Building
  University of Essex
  Wivenhoe Park
  Colchester, CO4 3SQ

✉ pathways.accommodation@kaplan.com

For accommodation queries with the Central Accommodation Team:
☎ +44 (0)20 8727 3500

For arrival queries with the College:
✉ UEIC.Arrivals@kaplan.com

All information is correct at time of publication and is subject to change.
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