RESIDENTS’ HANDBOOK

2018–19
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## WELCOME TO RESIDENTIAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT

### THE RESIDENTIAL SERVICES AND SUPPORT TEAM

### RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT
Helpful hints to make it work

### FIRE SAFETY GUIDANCE

In the event of fire
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- Flammable substances
- Fire safety in kitchens
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### A–Z OF GENERAL INFORMATION

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- List of Damage and Replacement Charges
- Planned Preventative Maintenance Schedule
On behalf of Residential Services and Support (Estates and Facilities), we would like to offer you a very warm welcome to the residences at Queen Mary University of London (QMUL).

Your accommodation is a very important part of your university experience, and we aim to provide a comfortable, safe environment, promoting a spirit of community, in which people can learn, work and interact freely without fear of discrimination, prejudice or harassment.

To make the most of your time here, please read this Handbook carefully, and refer to it, as and when needed, during your stay with us. If you have any queries relating to your accommodation, please contact the Residential Services and Support Team.

Please note that this Handbook and the Licence Agreement, which you sign electronically when accepting your offer of accommodation, constitute the Halls of Residence Regulations, which are referred to in QMUL Codes and other publications.

Our residences are managed in accordance with the Universities UK Code of Practice for the Management of Student Housing. For further information visit: www.thesac.org.uk

We hope your stay will be a happy and rewarding one.

For further information about the Estates and Facilities Directorate and the services that we provide visit: www.estates.qmul.ac.uk
We have 3 main teams to look after you and the accommodation that you live in, based at the Mile End campus:

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<td>alternative housing options</td>
<td>issues.</td>
<td>and complaints.</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:residences@qmul.ac.uk">residences@qmul.ac.uk</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:residential-support@qmul.ac.uk">residential-support@qmul.ac.uk</a>*</td>
<td><a href="mailto:residential-support@qmul.ac.uk">residential-support@qmul.ac.uk</a>*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tel: +44 (0)20 7882 6474</td>
<td>Tel: +44 (0)20 7882 6470</td>
<td>Tel: +44 (0)20 7882 5064</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday to Friday 09.30–16.30</td>
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The Security Service is also available to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day and can be contacted on 020 7882 5000.

**Aspire Point** residences (Stratford) have their own dedicated on site team for all queries relating to the facilities management of the building, including; reporting of repairs, postal deliveries, cleaning issues and security, 24 hours per day.

Email: aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu
Tel: +44 (0)330 0050030

Where operating practices or procedures differ for Aspire Point from the other QMUL residence, these will be referenced in light blue throughout this Handbook and abbreviated as ‘AP’.

* This email is monitored 09.00–17.00. If the matter is urgent please present in person or call the Reception at France House.
Coming to university can be both exciting and challenging. We hope to help you make the transition process as smooth as possible when settling into your new home.

One of the most rewarding aspects of living in QMUL residences is the opportunity to meet and establish close friendships with people from a variety of backgrounds. Residential Support staff aim to provide support for the well-being of students living in halls, encouraging a spirit of community and cooperation that supports success in students’ personal and academic lives. Supporting students is about encouraging them to make decisions for themselves by providing a reliable support and guidance service to those who need it.

Student well-being is vitally important to us. We want our students to be equipped with all the skills, knowledge and experience they need to lead fulfilling careers and personal lives. Creating a stimulating and supportive environment helps our students to thrive in every way.

The service we provide coordinates a range of pastoral services, including an agreed approach to the management of behaviour in communal accommodation.

All students are expected to behave in an orderly manner, both on and off the campus. They must abide by both the regulations set out in the licence agreement, this Handbook and QMUL’s general regulations governing student conduct.

Residents must not, at any time, use their room or the building in such a way as to cause nuisance or annoyance to any other person in the building, QMUL or the owners or occupiers of the buildings or adjoining premises, nor may they use their room or building for illegal or improper purposes.

For many, sharing accommodation is a new experience, and it is not always easy to adapt to. Getting along usually requires work, but the benefits of establishing friendships make that work worthwhile. Even if a lifelong friendship is not established, living together and learning to tolerate each other’s differences can be a valuable part of your education.

HELPFUL HINTS TO MAKE IT WORK

» Communicate
The key to successful relationships is communication. Sit down and talk about habits, preferences, moods and values. If something is bothering you the sooner you talk about it, the sooner it can be resolved.

» Be understanding
Everyone has days when everything seems to go wrong and bad moods can result. Try to be understanding and tolerant.

» Establish some ‘Flat Rules’
To avoid misunderstanding, it is important to set ground rules regarding each other’s belongings, kitchen cleanliness, visits by guests etc. You will learn where others stand on these matters and avoid possible conflict.

» Give each other some space
Consider others’ need for time alone and establish your own quiet time too. All residents are individuals, with different interests, opinions and habits; you should respect work and rest periods particularly at night.

Sometimes no matter how hard you try, you cannot make it work. If, after talking it through with others, you still cannot resolve a conflict talk to someone from Residential Support.
The QMUL Fire Safety Standard and Management Procedures have been developed to minimise the risk of fire and its consequences.

The policy and procedures are available at:
qm-web.ohsd.qmul.ac.uk

The following guidance is intended to supplement the QMUL procedures.

IN THE EVENT OF FIRE

- If the alarm is not already sounding, raise the alarm by shouting ‘FIRE’
- Activate a red break glass – found at the fire exit from the flat, block or hall

IF THE ALARM SOUNDS

- Leave the building immediately by the nearest available fire exit
- Close, but do not lock all doors behind you to prevent the spread of fire
- Do not use the lift – lifts automatically go to the ground floor and will not operate when the alarm sounds
- Report to the assembly point (as stated on the notice on the back of the room door) and remain there until the ‘all clear’ is given by the Security Service team (for Varden Street residents, please refer to the Notice inside the accommodation)
- Anyone who fails to evacuate immediately when the fire alarm sounds will be dealt with under the Residences Disciplinary Procedure

INFORMATION ON THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

FIRE DETECTION

The fire detection devices on the ceilings in the bedrooms and corridors can be activated by heat, steam or other vapours. Residents should take the following precautions to avoid false alarms:

- Keep the shower door closed when showering in en-suite rooms and communal bathrooms
- Stay away from the detection device when using aerosols, hairsprays, hair dryers, curling and straightening tongs

FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

The fire extinguishers provided in the halls are for use as a last resort if your exit is blocked. Otherwise only trained persons should use them. Residents should focus on raising the alarm and evacuating the building.

Fire blankets should be used (according to the instructions on the casing) to smother small cooking fires, if it is safe to do so.

There is a zero tolerance policy in QMUL residences regarding the misuse of, or tampering with, any fire alarm systems or equipment, this includes covering detectors. Any resident who commits this offence (or whose guest commits this offence) will be issued with a Notice to Quit halls and a charge of up to £100 will be applied and police action may be taken.
FIRE DOORS

Fire doors, including kitchen doors are fitted with door closers and smoke seals to prevent the spread of fire and smoke. Kitchen doors are alarmed and the alarm will be activated if the doors are left open. All residents must comply with the following fire safety instructions:

- Keep all fire doors shut – doors must not be wedged open
- The use of door stops is strictly prohibited
- Do not tamper with kitchen door alarms or related fire safety equipment
- Report all fire door faults to Reception at France House (or to Reception at Aspire Point)

Regular room inspections are carried out and any evidence of tampering with equipment will be fully investigated and charges made for repair or replacement.

FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCES

The use and storage of any flammable substances or items is prohibited in all areas of the halls, this includes but is not limited to:

- Candles, tea lights, hookah/shisha pipes and incense sticks etc

Residents will be required to remove such items from the accommodation or, if found posing an immediate risk, the item will be confiscated.

FIRE SAFETY IN KITCHENS

To minimise the risk of fire and avoid unnecessary fire alarm activations, please follow these guidelines:

- Never leave cooking unattended
- Keep the oven, grill and hob clear of accumulated grease and ensure they are switched off after use
- Open the window or run the mechanical extraction to clear cooking smoke
- Keep the kitchen door closed
- Chip pan, deep fryers or utensils holding large quantities of oil are not permitted in any area of QMUL accommodation.

FIRE ALARM TESTS

Fire alarm tests will take place weekly and will result in a few seconds of the fire alarm sounding. It is not necessary for residents to evacuate the building during these sound tests.

FIRE DRILLS

Fire drills take place at least once during the academic year and any resident who fails to evacuate within the time frame will be issued with a first written warning and a minimum charge of £50.

COMPLIANCE

The QMUL Fire Safety Standard and Management Procedure ensures that arrangements and legal requirements for fire safety are strenuously enforced. Infringements will be dealt with in accordance with the relevant disciplinary or legal procedures. **It is a criminal offence to tamper with any fire alarm or fire safety equipment.** Anyone found to be doing so will be issued with a Notice to Quit halls and police action may be taken.
The licence agreement that you signed electronically via the online accommodation system is your contract to reside in halls. The licence agreement is legally binding, and combined with this Handbook outlines the terms and conditions for living in QMUL Halls of Residence, and constitute the Halls of Residence Regulations.

The licence agreement provides you with your full postal address, the dates you can legally occupy the room, and the residential fees that you are required to pay.

QMUL halls of residence are offered to full-time, enrolled students of QMUL only. You are not eligible if:
- you are a part-time student, re-sitting out of attendance
- or if you withdraw or interrupt your studies.
- We do not offer housing on a short-let basis.

Once you have signed your licence agreement, you will be legally bound to pay the full residential fees due until the expiry date of the agreement.

### CANCELLATION POLICY

You may cancel the licence agreement up to 2 working days (working days are deemed to be Mondays to Fridays) after the day you accept your housing offer online. In this case you will be refunded the deposit in full (minus an administration fee of £30 (inclusive of VAT) for the processing of the refund). This condition does not apply if:

- you have had ‘face to face’ contact with a member of the Housing Services team (prior to signing the licence)
- the licence agreement commencement date has begun
- you have collected the keys, or stayed overnight in the accommodation

### MOVING IN LATE

If you intend to move into your residence more than seven days after the start of your licence agreement, please inform the Housing Services team by email.

Additional information can be found at www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/currentresidents/residentialfeepayments
MOVING OUT EARLY

If you wish to leave before the expiry of your licence you will remain liable for the full residential fees until the end of your licence agreement, unless the room is re-let to another QMUL student, not currently living in halls, who fulfils the housing eligibility criteria. If you wish to leave your room during the licence period you must complete a ‘Notice of Intention to Vacate’ form (NIV) available in person or by email from Housing Services. We will then seek to re-let your room, considering the following:

- True voids will always be let first (i.e. rooms that are not under liability)
- After ‘true voids’ are filled, we will re-let rooms in date order of NIV submission
- If you are living in a room with particular criteria (i.e. it is in a single sex flat/corridor or an undergraduate or postgraduate designated building), this may affect the time taken to re-let your room, depending on the needs of those applying for rooms

NB: There is no guarantee that we will be able to re-let your room, particularly in Term 2 (Spring Semester) or the Exam Term.

If you formally withdraw, interrupt or are de-registered from QMUL, you must inform Housing Services immediately and provide the necessary paperwork from your department and confirmation from Registry. In these circumstances you will not be eligible to remain in QMUL housing. You will be required to complete a ‘Notice of Intention to Vacate’ form (NIV) giving 28 days written notice of your intention to vacate. You will remain liable for residential fees for the full 28 days, once this period has expired and you have returned your keys, your liability will cease.

If you are issued with a 28 day Notice to Quit your residential accommodation, you will be held liable for residential fees for the full period of the notice, even if you move out earlier than the 28 days.

An administration fee of £30 (inclusive of VAT) will be charged if a resident leaves a QMUL residence before the original expiration date of the licence agreement.
ACCESS TO ROOMS AND FLATS

Residents must permit QMUL staff, or recognised contract staff of QMUL to enter bedrooms at any reasonable time to inspect the room/flat/building and/or carry out works or repairs to rooms, furniture or equipment. All staff wear uniforms and carry identification. Surveys regularly take place for planned and preventative works.

YOU CAN FIND A LIST OF THE PLANNED PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE ON PAGE 31

When you report an issue, you will receive a job reference number and regular updates by email of the progress of the works performed. If you report a maintenance fault you are agreeing to grant access to allow the works to be completed. You do not have to be present for work to be undertaken, however failure to allow reasonable access may result in your request being cancelled and a minimum charge of £50 charge being applied for a cancelled/subsequent visit.

The halls access procedure can be found at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/currentresidents/policies/index.html

ALCOHOL

Taken to excess, alcohol can endanger your health and the safety of those around you. It is against the law for anyone under the age of 18 to buy or consume alcohol. Anyone over the age of 18 are breaking the law if they supply alcohol to someone under the age of 18 or if they are deemed to encourage a young person to consume alcohol.

Please remember to drink sensibly.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated, when this occurs disciplinary procedures in line with the QMUL’s Code of Student Discipline will be applied.

Anti-social behaviour can be construed as any behaviour that affects the general well-being of other residents or behaviour which compromises the health and safety of others or QMUL property.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR CAN LEAD TO:

- Disciplinary action leading to eviction from halls
- Academic departments being informed
- Academic Registry being involved
- Police action
- Future references for private accommodation being affected
- No future offers of QMUL accommodation
**BED BUGS**

Bed bugs are becoming an increasing concern around the world especially in hotels, hostels and environments that house a large number of residents. Bed bugs are very small insects that generally feed on their host, however they can live in folded clothing, bedding, furniture and travel baggage and go un-noticed for some time. Bed bug bites are typically similar to mosquito bites and can appear over the body randomly or in a line of bites.

Anyone who travels frequently and shares living and sleeping quarters where other people have previously slept has a higher risk of being bitten and/or spreading a bed bug infestation, especially those who travel to international destinations such as North and South America, Asia, Africa and parts of Europe. Bed bugs and their bites do not usually pose a medical threat to people and will not normally require medical attention however they can be upsetting and concerning for anyone affected.

QMUL has procedures in place to quickly manage any reports of bed bug activity. All QMUL accommodation is monitored for bed bug activity and your room will be free of any infestations at the time you move in. If you experience insect bites whilst staying at QMUL please report this immediately to the Estates and Facilities Helpdesk (EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu) so we can implement measures to carry out an inspection and, if required, carry out a treatment to prevent any possible bed bug infestations from spreading to other residents.

Advice and guidance will be provided at the time a resident reports any suspected bed bug activity and we ask that residents adhere strictly to this guidance and carry out their responsibilities which will normally involve:

- preparing the room for access and treatment by a professional Pest Control Technician, and
- laundering of all bedding and clothing as recommended.

Residential Support will contribute a maximum of £30 towards laundry costs. Any dry cleaning costs are the responsibility of the resident.

Please help us keep QMUL free from bed bug infestations by reporting any sign or insect bites, and especially when these occur following any international travel or when you have slept anywhere other than in your QMUL accommodation.

**BED LINEN**

Residents are required to provide their own bed linen. Residents can purchase bed linen and kitchen packs from us prior to arrival. Information of how to order bed linen and kitchen packs will be sent with your accommodation acceptance confirmation.

**BICYCLES**

Bicycles must not be kept inside any of the residential buildings. External bicycle storage facilities are provided at all campuses. Bicycles are not covered under the Halls Block Insurance and additional cover must be arranged.

**CLEANING**

A regular weekly cleaning service is provided for all communal kitchens, communal bathrooms and shared access areas within the halls.

Waste and recycling will be removed from kitchens and bathrooms daily, Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays and University closure days).

AP: Kitchens will be checked and graded weekly, using a traffic light system according to the planned schedule and agreed standards which are displayed in each kitchen.

Residents are responsible for removal of all waste and recycling to the appropriate bin storage area.

Residents in the Varden Street flats are responsible for the cleaning of all internal areas of these premises, including the removal of waste and recycling.

Residents must ensure there are no obstructions or hazards that might affect the cleaning process. This includes removing personal possessions from floors and surfaces on the dedicated weekly cleaning day. To ensure residents safety, access to communal kitchens, bathroom and corridors may be restricted to enable cleaning to take place for up to 60 minutes each week.

Areas will be cleaned according to the planned schedule and agreed standards which is displayed in each kitchen.

Residents are responsible for keeping their accommodation in a safe, clean and presentable condition at all times. Additional charges will be applied to residents and/or flats where additional cleaning is required during your licence agreement.

At the end of the licence agreement residents must remove all personal items and carry out a thorough
clean of their bedrooms and kitchens. Rooms that are not cleaned at the end of the licence agreement will be charged the cost for cleaning/rubbish removal.

Any concerns about cleaning in halls should be made to: EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu

**RESIDENTS CLEANING RESPONSIBILITIES**

The following summary has been provided as a guide to inform residents about their cleaning responsibilities.

**Kitchens**

Residents are responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of their kitchens at all times.

- Keep all work surfaces and sinks clear.
- Immediately wipe up any spillages on tables, work surfaces, appliances or floor as they occur or when it is safe to do so.
- Use the correct containers for disposing of general waste and recycling.
- Store all food items in cupboards, fridges and freezers as appropriate ensuring all surfaces are left clear.
- Wash up and put away all crockery, cutlery, pots, pans, utensils etc after use. Do not leave dirty dishes in the sink. **This must be completed by 9am on the allocated weekly cleaning/checking day.**
- Report any problems in kitchens to EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu

**Communal Bathrooms**

Residents are responsible for the maintaining the cleanliness of communal bathrooms at all times.

- Rinse the bath, shower and washbasins after each use, ensuring plugholes are free from hair and other debris.
- Ensure that personal toiletries are not left in the communal bathing facilities and that the facilities are kept clean and tidy.
- Place all waste in the bins provided.
- Mop up any spillages immediately after they occur.

**En-suite Bathrooms**

Residents are responsible for the cleaning of their en-suite bathroom and it is recommended that this should be completed at least once a week.

- Cleaning chemicals are not provided, please use appropriate cleaning chemicals and cleaning cloths.
- Toilets should be cleaned using a specific toilet cleaning chemical in addition to the brush provided.
- Basins, taps, tiles, walls and floors should be cleaned using a multi-purpose bathroom cleaner and a soft dry cloth.

**Shower curtains should be laundered regularly (every 1–2 months).**

**Tiles and walls must be maintained clean and free of mould.**

**Bedrooms**

Residents are responsible for the cleaning of their bedrooms on a regular basis.

- Bedroom bins must be emptied daily. **Rubbish from rooms is to be taken to external waste and recycling points – not left in kitchens**
- Keep the floor tidy and vacuumed or swept regularly. Immediately mop up any spills and report large carpet stains to EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu so that they can be removed.
- Wipe down washbasins immediately after use.
- Ensure the mattress covers are used correctly and laundered regularly with other bed linen.
- Always maintain the room in a clean and tidy condition, where clothing and trailing wires do not present trip hazards or a danger to your visitors and university staff.
- Defrost bedroom fridges regularly (every 3 months).
- Dust window ledges and shelves regularly.

**Corridors, Stairs and Lifts**

To ensure the safety of all residents and staff please:

- Keep the corridors free from any obstructions
- Pick up any litter found and dispose of in the bins provided
- Clear up all spills immediately after they occur.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), we are **not** permitted to discuss any details of your residential agreement with any other person (including parents or guardians), unless you provide written permission to do so.

**CONFISCATION OF ITEMS**

If any member of staff sees an item, which may affect the health and safety of others, they are obliged to inform management who will contact you requesting that the item is removed by a given date. If the item is not removed within the specified time, it may be confiscated, without further warning and stored for a period of 7 days after which time it will be disposed of. If the item is confiscated you will be charged for the expense of storing the item(s), plus a charge to cover the cost of administration.
COUNCIL TAX

Students are exempt from Council Tax if they live in a property that is occupied exclusively by students. QMUL accommodation is exempt from this tax, but occasionally you may be requested to submit proof of student status to the local authority. A certificate of student attendance can be obtained from the Student Enquiry Centre (or The Student Office in the case of School of Medicine and Dentistry students). The certificate is only valid if you are in full-time attendance.

DAMAGES

Assigned damage: Represents the cost of damage/loss, which is attributed to a named person(s). Unassigned damage: Represents the cost of damage/loss, which cannot be attributed to a named person(s) and is divided between all the residents of a house/flat/corridor. Residential Services and Support (acting reasonably) will decide who is to be charged for any damage/loss.

DEPOSITS

You are required to pay a deposit as an integral part of the acceptance process to book your room in halls. The deposit is held during the period of licence agreement to offset cleaning charges, lost keys, disciplinary charges and assigned or unassigned damages to, or for the loss of, QMUL residential property and residential fee arrears.

The deposit is non-refundable, the payment is reserved and credited against your final instalment of residential fees (minus any deductions or charges).

All or part of the deposit may be retained by QMUL as a contribution towards any loss or costs suffered by QMUL, as a result of a cancellation made outside of the licence cancellation period.

DRINKING WATER

Drinking water is supplied to all kitchens (including kitchenettes in studio flats) throughout the residential buildings. Drinking water outlets are labelled accordingly.

DRUGS

- QMUL has a legal responsibility to ensure that it does not allow its premises to be used for illegal drug activities. If you, or your guests, are involved in illegal drug activities you could be reported to the police. This extends to the use or storage of any New Psychoactive Substance (often referred to as NPS or ‘Legal High’).

- We take a particularly serious view of anyone involved in the supply of illegal drugs (this includes giving them to your friends). Remember that (despite popular misconceptions), possession and use of cannabis is illegal.

- Any matter involving illegal drugs will lead to action under the Residences Disciplinary Procedures and could be referred to Academic Registry to be dealt with at College level under the Code of Student Discipline.

INFORMATION ON THE DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 22

- The issue will usually be reported to the police which can result in a criminal record; this will impact on academic progression and international travel.

- There is no maximum charge for these offences and penalties can include being issued with a Notice to Quit Halls and being excluded from Queen Mary.

- If you are concerned about your own or other students’ drug use, please come and ask us for advice or contact the Advice and Counselling Service at: www.welfare.qmul.ac.uk

ELECTORAL REGISTRATION

You must register with the relevant local authority to be eligible to vote in UK/EU elections. At the start of the academic year, a list of halls residents (who are eligible to vote in UK/EU elections) is sent to the relevant local authority.

ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

To comply with Health and Safety regulations residents are not permitted to bring fan heaters or deep fat fryers into the residences. Kettles, toasters and microwaves are provided in every kitchen, communal freezers are also provided, as are fridges (in halls where they are not supplied in the study bedroom). Electrical cooking appliances and irons
are strictly prohibited from use in bedrooms this includes, but is not limited to, kettles, toasters, rice cookers and hot plates.

Residents are responsible for ensuring that any personal electrical appliance (e.g. extension and charging leads, hair styling equipment, laptops etc) are maintained in a safe condition with a resilient suitably sized fused plug or adaptor marked with the British Safety Standard. The Electrical Safety Council recommends only using electrical equipment purchased in the UK. Any equipment purchased overseas must have a correctly fused and BS Standard marked adaptor and/or electrical converter (the standard domestic supply in the UK is 240 volts). Any electrical appliances that do not meet these standards may be removed from the accommodation as they pose a safety risk. A minimum charge of £50 may be applied to cover removal and storage.

Some basic precautions can prevent fires and injury:

» Switch off electrical equipment when leaving a room, including items on charge or standby/sleep mode
» Avoid using multi-plug adaptors
» Use suitably fused and BS standard marked extension sockets
» Keep trailing wires off the floor
» Mains operated fairy lights are not allowed in any part of the accommodation
» Report all electrical defects to: EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

QMUL is committed to addressing its environmental, social and economic impact on the environment and use opportunities to build a sustainable future.

A part of our work is promoting the importance of sustainability to the students staying in our halls of residence.

Along with QMUL Sustainability and the Students’ Union, we support a number of energy saving initiatives in the halls of residence and across Queen Mary. Follow QMUL sustainability for updates, as well as Twitter @QMSustain to learn more.

Further information can be found at www.qmsu.org/green

FIRST AID PROVISION

First Aid provision is available on all campuses 24 hours per day. If this is required please call: 020 7882 3333.

FOOD AND KITCHEN SAFETY

Food preparation areas, storage and cooking facilities are provided in every kitchen. No cooking is permitted elsewhere in the halls. Cooking should never be left unattended. Maintaining a good standard of hygiene in shared kitchens is very important and will minimise food hygiene risks and avoid pests (bugs, mice etc). Please follow these guidelines at all times:

» Defrost and clean fridges/freezers regularly. This should be done once every 3–6 months.
» Always keep food preparation surfaces and floors clear of debris by removing crumbs and wiping surfaces clean.
» Keep all food in sealable containers and store it correctly in your cupboards. Food must not be left out on surfaces.
» Dispose of waste and recycling in the correct bins that have been provided.
» Residents personal items and food should be stored and kitchen surfaces and sinks left clear by 9am on the allocated cleaning day, to enable the housekeepers to thoroughly clean/check the kitchen.

Residents are responsible to maintain their kitchen and communal area to a clean and hygienic standard. Where kitchens are found to be poorly maintained and additional cleaning is required residents may incur charges.

ELECTRICITY AND GAS

Residential fees include the cost of both electricity and gas. Residents can help in reducing the carbon footprint of our halls by turning off all appliances and switches wherever possible.

EMERGENCY

In case of emergency call 999 to request the Police, Ambulance Service or Fire Brigade. This service is free. Please ensure you answer their questions clearly and exactly.

Ensure you also contact the QMUL Security Service as soon as possible on 020 7882 5000 or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu
FURNITURE AND FITTINGS

All bedrooms are carpeted and equipped with a bed, wardrobe, desk and chair, as well as storage space and bookshelves. A personal refrigerator is provided in all of the en-suite rooms at Mile End and in all rooms at Dawson Hall and Floyer House. Exceptions to this include the limited number of twin rooms, studios and family flats. No items must be removed from the room or relocated. No additional furniture is permitted.

GROUNDS

To maintain a litter-free environment, students are requested to use the litter bins provided on campus and in accommodation areas.

During cold weather students are advised to take extra care, as surfaces may become slippery. QMUL regularly reviews MET Office forecasts during winter months. If there is a risk of snow or ice, main walkways, entrances and steps will be gritted. Following snow fall these areas will be cleared (as soon as practically possible) and regularly checked.

In high winds, extra care must be taken to keep windows closed.

GUESTS

For your own safety and wellbeing of others you are advised not to bring guests into residences unless they are known to you. If you invite friends around, please be aware you must be present at all times and you will be expected to take full responsibility for their actions. Guests must be 18 years of age or older.

Residents are limited to one overnight guest at any time; guests are allowed to stay on one occasion per calendar month for a maximum of two nights. Residents are responsible for the conduct and behaviour of their guests at all times. No guest should ever be left unattended within the halls or given a resident’s keys and/or ID card. Residents should consult their flatmates before having an overnight guest.

We reserve the right to refuse access to any non-resident, if we feel that individual poses a threat to the welfare of other residents, staff and/or the fabric of the building/fixtures and fittings.

HEALTH AND MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS

All residents living in QMUL accommodation at the Mile End or Whitechapel campuses must register with the Student Health Service, this can be done online at www.studenthealth.qmul.ac.uk, within the first 2 weeks of their arrival. International students are eligible for full, free NHS treatment, if they are on a course in the UK that lasts for six months or more. Those who are resident for less than six months may still be eligible for some NHS services and full details are available in the Pre-Arrival Guide for International Students, or from the GP surgery staff at the Student Health Centre.

Residents at Dawson Hall (Charterhouse Campus) and Aspire Point (Stratford) will need to register with a local GP practice on arrival.

The NHS operates a number of ‘no appointment needed’ walk-in centres throughout London.

For further information on NHS walk-in centres, go to: www.nhs.uk/Service-Search

Residents who are experiencing emotional or psychological problems may seek professional support from the QMUL Advice and Counselling Service, please refer to: www.welfare.qmul.ac.uk

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and safety ensures the necessary precautions are taken in the halls to provide a safe and secure environment for residents and staff to live, study and work.

Any concerns about Health and Safety should be referred immediately to EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or for AP to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu

The QMUL Health and Safety Policy is available at: qm-web.ohsd.qmul.ac.uk

HEATING

Heating times will vary depending on the time of year and the weather conditions, but are normally timed to be on between October and May:

Monday to Friday 6am to 10am and 4pm to midnight
Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays 10am to midnight

In buildings where individual control is not available, heating times are set to cover principal times during the day with the aim of optimising energy usage. Residents are not permitted to bring their own heaters into halls. Any problems or issues with regard to heating should be reported to: EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or for AP to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu
INSURANCE

The residential fee includes basic insurance cover insurance which is provided by Endsleigh Insurance.

Details of the cover provided are available at: www.endsleigh.co.uk/reviewcover

Please read the details of the policy carefully before arrival to ensure it is adequate for your needs. Additional cover can be arranged with Endsleigh if required.

INTERNET ACCESS

Wi-Fi service in the residences allow residents to connect their computer or laptop to the QMUL network and the internet (this is not included in the Varden Street family flats where residents can set up a private wireless connection.).

If you experience difficulty with the Internet connection, please report the problem to the QMUL IT Services Helpdesk at helpdesk@qmul.ac.uk or call 020 7882 8888.

Please note that to use the QMUL wireless network you will need your IT Services login and password which you obtained during pre-enrolment/enrolment.

At Aspire Point the internet service is provided by ASK4, information on how to access the service or report a fault will be provided locally in the building.

IRONING

Ironing boards are provided in all halls of residence. Irons are not provided. Please ensure irons are switched off and unplugged at the socket when not in use.

The use of ironing boards and irons is prohibited in bedrooms.

KEYS

Your licence agreement will show the date you can move into the halls. You can collect keys, and move your belongings into the room, on this day or any day after this date; instructions for key collection can be found at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/college/arrival

Each resident will be issued a full set of keys/access card on arrival (including a post box key where applicable).

Residents should carry their keys and student ID card with them at all times.

Under no circumstances are residents permitted to obtain duplicate copies of the keys or cards issued, or to change or install additional locks to their flat or room.

Staff will lock any room which they find unlocked. They are not authorised to unlock doors for any individual. Any resident who is locked out must report this to Reception, France House and will have to wait for a key holder to attend and allow re-entry; this may involve a lengthy wait. In addition, whilst there is no charge for a first lock out, subsequent lock outs will be charged at £30 (inclusive of VAT) per incident to cover the cost of administration. Repeated lock outs will result in an invitation to attend a meeting with Residential Support and may result in disciplinary action.

If you are locked out of your room or your keys have been lost or stolen, you will be required to complete the relevant form and on the following conditions:

1. Production of photo ID – preferably your Student Card. If this is not available, it must be something with your full name on.

2. You must report to Reception, France House (or Reception at Aspire Point) the next day if replacement keys are required. If you return replacement keys within 72 hours of issue, you will not be charged.

3. You take full responsibility for the possessions in your room if you leave it unlocked, until you obtain replacement keys.

Lost or damaged keys and cards must be reported to Reception, France House (or Reception at Aspire Point) immediately. A charge, including an administration fee, of £25 per key and £10 per access card will be applied.

KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

Kitchens are equipped with electric cookers, microwave ovens, freezers, kettles, toasters, sinks, and storage cupboards. Fridges are provided in all en-suite bedrooms at Mile End, as well as in rooms in Dawson Hall and Floyer House. In all other residences fridge/freezers are provided in kitchens. Residents must provide their own crockery, cooking utensils, detergents, cleaning and drying cloths.

Kitchen equipment and crockery can be purchased from the QM online shop prior to your arrival.

Further information can be found at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/college/arrival
LAUNDRY FACILITIES

There are laundry facilities at each site. Washing and drying machines are on a pre-paid card system. Once purchased, credit can be added to the cards on-line at www.circuit.co.uk

Any faults should be reported directly to Circuit Managed Laundry Systems on freephone 0800 032 0070

LAUNDRY LOCATIONS

- Mile End – Ground floor of France House and Feilden House (open to all Mile End residents) and at Stocks Court, Ifor Evans Place and Lindop House
- Dawson Hall
- Floyer House
- Aspire Point – located on the 1st and 25th floors

LEAVING INSTRUCTIONS

Detailed guidance and procedures can be found at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/currentresidents/leavinginstructions

Residents planning to leave halls before the end of the licence agreement must be aware of their contractual obligations.

On departure rooms must be clean, clear of all personal possessions and rubbish and left in the same standard as found.

MAINTENANCE

All maintenance faults should be reported to: EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu

If you are not satisfied with the service provided or you do not feel faults are rectified in a timely fashion, please contact: residential-support@qmul.ac.uk

NOISE

One of the most important things to consider when living with others is noise levels. In large communities, there will be unavoidable levels of background noise but consideration for your fellow residents will make residences a more enjoyable place to live for all.

If you are disturbed by noise levels, in the first instance you should talk to those you think are responsible. You should do this before you become so distressed that you are liable to become unreasonable! If you continue to be disturbed by noise out of hours you can contact Security who can help you.

TIPS FOR REDUCING NOISE

- Your flatmates may be trying to work or sleep so please keep voice/music to a reasonable level at all times. Bass notes on audio equipment as well as mobiles and Skype noise can be especially disturbing particularly to those living next door
- Noise does travel, especially at night and through open windows
- Avoid slamming doors and running down corridors
- Use headphones late at night/early in the morning
- Always be considerate and avoid congregating in communal areas whether inside or outside

If Security attend the flat following a noise complaint, please ensure you respond in a positive manner. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

PARKING

There are no student parking facilities on any campus, except during moving-in and moving out weekends.

Exceptions are made for students displaying an authorised blue disabled badge (who have also applied for and received a QMUL parking permit). Contact the Disability and Dyslexia Service for advice on 020 7882 2756.

Residents at Mile End, Floyer House or Varden Street can apply for a Tower Hamlets Resident’s Parking Permit. This will allow you to park on public roads within the borough of Tower Hamlets.

Further information can be found at: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk

Residents at Dawson Hall should contact the London Borough of Islington Permits Department.

Further information can be found at: www.islington.gov.uk

Residents at Aspire Point (Stratford) should note there is no parking at the building (or on surrounding streets) with the exception of Blue Badge holders, in this instance there are two dedicated spaces at the premises.
PARTIES

Coming to university is about having fun and we accept that residents will want to socialise with others. However, we do not permit parties in halls because they can lead to uncontrollable situations, risk to others and damage to property. If a gathering you have arranged leads to an incident, which causes disturbance or harm to others, you will be held fully responsible. This could lead to a Notice to Quit your residence being issued, substantial charges and affect your academic progression.

Security Officers have full authorisation to shut down any social situation they consider to be getting out of hand or causing a major nuisance. They will also report any such cases to Residential Support, who will deal with the issue according to the Residences Disciplinary Procedures.

PERSONAL CONTACT DETAILS

Any changes in your personal details (address, email addresses or mobile phone numbers) should also be made via MySIS to ensure all QMUL administration departments have the correct up to date details at: mysis.qmul.ac.uk

PESTS

During your stay should you experience any concerns regarding pests experience (mice, insects etc) a pest control service is provided across all QMUL properties to help control and eliminate these unwanted visitors. Pest sightings should be reported to EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk immediately or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu

Depending on the type of pest we aim to have a pest control technician attend to all call-outs within 24 hours of receiving the report, with the exception insect bites where we aim to attend to these within 6–8 working hours.

Good housekeeping practices will help prevent pests, such as cleaning up food waste from kitchen and bedroom surfaces immediately and by disposing of food packaging and waste in the correct bins. When eating outside of buildings please also remember to dispose of all food waste in a litter bin to avoid attracting pests such as rats and squirrels.

PETS

Under no circumstances are pets to be kept in bedrooms or any other part of the residence. Guide dogs and hearing dogs are permitted by prior agreement. Only assistance animals that are trained by a body registered with Assistance Dogs (UK) www.assistancedogs.org.uk

POST

QMUL is under no legal obligation to sign for or accept post/parcels on behalf of any student. QMUL will accept no liability for postal items left unattended in communal areas by courier staff. Residents can, and should, make alternative arrangements with courier companies, the majority of whom operate parcel ‘drop off/pick up’ points at local commercial outlets.

Residents should ensure incoming post is correctly addressed. Post should be addressed as follows:

Name of resident
Flat number (if applicable)
Room letter
Followed by your hall address and postcode:
Albert Stern House and Cottages,
253 Mile End Road, E1 4BJ
Aspire Point, 210 High Street, E15 2ZL
Beaumont Court, Westfield Way, E1 4NX
Chapman House, Westfield Way, E1 4PD
Chesney House, Westfield Way, E1 4PD
Creed Court, Westfield Way, E1 4NY
Dawson Hall, Charterhouse Sq, EC1M 6BQ
Floyer House, 60 Philpot St, E1 2DP
Hatton House, Westfield Way, E1 4PD
Ifor Evans Place, Mile End Road, E1 4BL
Lindop House, 432 Mile End Road, E1 4PE
Lodge House, Westfield Way, E1 4PD
Lynden House, Westfield Way, E1 4PR
Maurice Court, Westfield Way, E1 4PL
Maynard House, Westfield Way, E1 4PD
Pooley House, Westfield Way, E1 4PU
Richard Feilden House, Westfield Way, E1 4NP
Selincourt House, Westfield Way, E1 4PD
Sir Christopher France House, Westfield Way, E1 4QA
Stocks Court, 4-54 Stayners Road, E1 4AH
Varden Street, E1 2AW
Varey House, Westfield Way, E1 4PD

Post received after your departure from halls will be ‘returned to sender’.
POSTERS AND DISPLAY MATERIALS

Posters, photographs, decorations, etc must be confined to the pin boards where supplied. This applies to both bedroom and common areas. Failure to comply will result in cleaning and redecoration charges being levied. No alterations or additions to the decoration or fittings of the room are allowed.

PRIVATELY RENTED ACCOMMODATION

Housing Services provide support and advice on preparing to move from halls into the private sector. Comprehensive notes, video guides, an online property search and student share message board as well as other forms of alternative housing can be found at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/alternative

RE-APPLYING FOR QMUL HOUSING

Most students are only eligible to spend their first year in halls.

Full details of the current Housing Policy can be found at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/college/application

REFUSE AND RECYCLING

QMUL is committed to the principles and practices of environmental protection and sustainability. Residents are asked to dispose of their waste in the correct waste containers and not to contaminate any recycling containers with food or other non-recyclable waste. Recycling and general waste bins are located in all kitchens. Larger wheelie bins are located close to all residential buildings and residents are responsible for taking their waste to these bins over weekends. Large cardboard boxes must be broken down and placed into the large external recycling bins.

Residents are responsible for removing and disposing of bottles and glass from kitchens and placing them into the green glass recycling wheelie bins provided in the bin areas. Residents should not place glass in the kitchen bins. Additional charges will be applied to residents (or flats) in cases where glass removal from kitchens is required.

KITCHEN AND BATHROOM WASTE

Residents are required to use the appropriate waste and recycling containers provided in each kitchen. There is a bin for mixed recycling and a bin for general waste.

What should go into the kitchen recycling bin:

- Mixed Recycling
- Metal cans and tins
- Paper and card
- Plastic containers (where applicable)
- Cartons

All waste put into the Mixed Recycling bin should be rinsed out and any liquids tipped down the sink, to prevent contamination within the bin.

What should go into the kitchen waste bin:

- General Waste
- Food waste
- Contaminated food packaging
- Polystyrene
- Used tissues
- Coffee/teabags
- Anything else not on the mixed recycling list

There is no cleaning service at weekends and residents are responsible for the removal of their waste to the bin areas. Waste must not be allowed to accumulate in the kitchens. Additional spare waste and recycling bags will be provided at weekends (including Bank Holidays). When bags are full residents are expected to place them in an external waste container.

Please do not allow bins to overflow as this may cause a safety hazard to others and can attract unwanted pests.

RESIDENT BEDROOM WASTE

Residents are responsible for removing their own waste from their rooms and placing it in an external general waste or recycling container.

Additional charges will be applied for the removal of room waste placed in kitchens or communal areas.

Proper care should be taken when disposing of ‘Sharps’ and other hazardous waste.
ROOM CHECKS

The furniture, equipment and fabric of each room, will be checked prior to arrival, on a regular basis throughout the year and at the end of the licence period. Any faults or damage must be reported immediately to: EAF-helpdesk.qmul.ac.uk or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu

Residents are responsible for the condition and cleanliness of their rooms and all communal areas including furniture, equipment and fittings.

Room checks will be carried out on a regular basis to check for general cleanliness, maintenance issues and Health and Safety compliance. Residents will be notified in advance. Rooms must be in a reasonable condition so the checks can be completed quickly and with minimal intrusion. Following the inspection, residents will be informed of any non-compliance and action required.

ROOM SIZE

Due to the varied nature and age of our housing stock, it is difficult to give a standard room size but generally the rooms have ten square metres of space. Exceptions to this include the limited number of twin rooms, studios and family flats.

Virtual tours for each hall can be found at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk

SECURITY

The QMUL Security teams are available 24/7 and located at the three main campuses:

- Mile End (Reception, France House)
- Whitechapel (the Garrod Building)
- Charterhouse Square (Dawson Hall)
- Aspire Point have their own dedicated security team on site

Their main function is to maintain the safety and security of all campus users. Staff undertake regular patrols and their presence is augmented by other measures such as CCTV and access control. Whilst their presence and that of CCTV is there to deter criminal activity, residents and campus visitors can minimise their exposure to potential criminal activity by ensuring that they take adequate steps to ensure their own personal safety and wellbeing and that of their personal effects and valuables. All campuses by their nature are ‘open’ environments therefore all campus users should be alert to who may be present on campus and report any suspicious activity/person(s). Care should also be taken regarding leaving any item unsecured and/or unattended anywhere on campus. Please ensure that you

- Secure any ground floor windows before leaving your flat
- Keep your bedroom, flat and hall doors locked
- Be aware of ‘tailgaters’ – unauthorised persons following you into your hall or flat

Further advice can be obtained from security staff in person or by email to: mile-end-security@qmul.ac.uk or in the case of Aspire Point to aspirehelpdesk@derwentfm.eu

The following links also provide useful information and crime prevention advice.

www.security.qmul.ac.uk
www.immobilise.com

In case of emergency the Security Service can be contacted on: 020 7882 5000 or 020 7882 3333. Aspire Point will provide emergency phone numbers on site.

SMOKING

The Smoking on Campus policy prohibits smoking on all QMUL’s premises, except in the designated smoking shelters provided. Smoking is prohibited in the halls of residence. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, e-cigarettes, vapes and the use or storage of shisha pipes.

Anyone who is found smoking, or allowing their guests to smoke in halls will be dealt with under the Residences Disciplinary Procedures.

A minimum charge of £100 will be applied and a Final Written Warning issued for a first offence.

A minimum charge of £100 will be applied and a Notice to Quit issued for any subsequent offences; this sanction may also be applied for a first offence where smoking occurs in a communal area (e.g. kitchens, communal bathrooms corridors, lifts and building entrances).
SNOW AND ICE CLEARANCE

During the winter months we actively monitor weather conditions and have systems in place to prepare our external areas in the event snow and ice condition are forecast. When necessary we will display snow and ice warnings in building entrances. During freezing conditions we ask all residents to take care when moving around campus where snow and ice is present.

SUMMER ACCOMMODATION

Residents requiring housing during the summer vacation period will be required to complete a new application via Housing Services. Postgraduate students, who have lived in halls during the academic year and whose courses run on until September, will be contacted directly by Housing Services in March. Priority for summer housing goes to applicants who require it for academic purposes. Places will be allocated subject to availability, and a satisfactory payment and disciplinary record. There are no guarantees regarding the style, cost or location that will be offered. Current residents may be required to move residences due to planned refurbishment / change in use of residences.

TRANSFER OF ROOM REQUEST

If you feel, for any reason, that your allocated room is unsuitable, you will be required to complete a ‘Transfer Request Form’ (TRF) outlining the reasons why. Forms are available from Housing Services. Room transfers will be made subject to availability and the payment of a £30.00 administration fee.

The waiting list for room transfer requests opens on the first Monday in October each year. Transfers will not be considered before this date.

Room transfer prioritisation will be given to requests that are supported by Residential Support.

UNDER 18’S

We are unable to assume parental responsibility for a student under the age of 18. All students living in halls are expected to behave like adults and to assume adult levels of responsibility. Places in halls are offered on the understanding that the student will be able to adapt to living away from home and to look after themselves in all practical matters.

Further information can be found at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/support/policies/index.html

WINDOW RESTRICTOR

Window restrictors are fitted to most windows to enhance safety, whilst allowing for ventilation. The restrictor will stop the window opening beyond the point that has been determined as the maximum safe opening distance. This safety device must not be removed. Regular inspections are carried out and any evidence of tampering or removal will be fully investigated and charges made for repair.

In high winds, extra care must be taken to keep windows closed.

TELEPHONES

Residents are not permitted to have individual telephone lines installed in their rooms.

TV LICENSING

Residents who have a television, or watch television through a computer are required by law to have a valid TV licence.

A licence is obtainable online at: www.tvlicensing.co.uk

Failure to have a licence may result in you being fined and/or taken to court by the TV Licensing Authority. Bedrooms do not have television aerials.
The Residents Handbook and the Licence Agreement constitute the Halls of Residence Regulations, which are referred to in QMUL Codes and other publications.

This Disciplinary Procedure, part of the Halls of Residence Regulations, is in operation at all times and is referred to in the QMUL Code of Student Discipline.

A copy of the QMUL Code of Student Discipline can be found online at: www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/students/student-appeals/index.html

The Residents Disciplinary Procedure is managed by the Residential Support Team and is based on the principle that good conduct by residents is essential to maintain a good quality living environment for all. Residents are expected to show courtesy and consideration to staff and other residents at all times and to respect QMUL property. It is hoped, therefore, that the need for disciplinary action will be a last resort as our aim is to offer support and guidance in the first instance.

Where it is necessary to take disciplinary action the aim is:

» To be fair and consistent
» To allow the resident to present their case in person
» To ensure the resident has access to support throughout the process by informing them of their right to be represented
» To allow the resident to request a review of any decision made

Failure to attend a scheduled meeting with the Residential Support Department without advising us of this in advance could result in a decision being made in your absence, which could include disciplinary action and charges.

Depending on the incident, one or more of the following actions may be taken, please note one level of sanction need not follow another. The sanction applied will depend on the gravity/severity of the offence:

**INFORMAL WARNING**
Will be noted on the resident’s file and be taken into account in any further incidents.

**WRITTEN WARNING**
Will be placed on the resident’s file and will be taken into account in any further incidents.

A written warning is appropriate for an infringement of the Halls of Residence Regulations (examples include, but are not limited to; continued noise disturbance, accidental damage, failure to evacuate during a fire alarm, or two or more minor infringements).

A minimum charge of £50.00 per person may also be applied to cover administration costs.

**FINAL WRITTEN WARNING**
Will be placed on the resident’s file and a copy may be sent to the Academic Head of Department. A final written warning will be taken into account in any further incidents.

A final written warning is appropriate for a major infringement of the Halls of Residence Regulations (examples include, but are not limited to; smoking in any part of a residential building, reckless damage, bullying and/or harassment or two or more previous infringements).

A minimum charge of £100.00 per person may also be applied to cover administration costs.

If you are issued with a final written warning, you will not be eligible to apply for QMUL halls in the future.
NOTICE TO QUIT

A Notice to Quit will be issued where there is behaviour that endangers the welfare of other residents, staff or visitors or where a criminal offence has occurred, examples include, but are not limited to:

- tampering with the fire alarm system or any fire safety related equipment or fittings, including covering detectors
- threatening behaviour, which includes both verbal and physical actions
- use or possession of illegal substances
- continued infringement of the Halls of Residence Regulations after receiving a final written warning.

When a Notice to Quit is issued the resident will be given 28 days’ notice to leave halls. A copy of the Notice to Quit will be sent to the Academic Head of Department and the Academic Registry and Council Secretariat. Future requests for QMUL housing will be denied and the information declared in any private landlord reference requests.

A minimum charge of £100.00 per person will also be applied to cover administration costs.

It is possible for a resident to be given a Notice to Quit if they fail to control the conduct of their guest(s). In this situation, guests may be asked to leave a hall of residence immediately by the Security Service and/or the Police may be contacted to escort the individual(s) off-campus.

FIRE REGULATIONS

A resident who causes a fire alarm activation or breaches the fire regulations will be subject to disciplinary procedures. Depending on the severity of the offence this could include, but is not limited to:

- a minimum charge of £100 per person to cover administration and maintenance work involved in resetting and checking the system
- a Notice to Quit being issued
- sanctions under the QMUL Code of Student Discipline
- being reported to the Police, for criminal investigation

There is a zero tolerance policy at QMUL in relation to the misuse or tampering with any part of the fire alarm system or fire safety equipment, which includes covering fire detector heads. This constitutes a criminal offence and poses a serious risk to individuals and QMUL property.

FIRE EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Residents must leave the building immediately when the fire alarm sounds. Security Officers are authorised to carry out roll calls and check rooms to ensure all residents have evacuated. Residents who fail to evacuate within the time frame set by the QMUL Occupational Health and Safety Directorate or who re-enter a building before the Security Officers have told residents to do so, will be dealt with under the disciplinary procedures. This will result in a written warning and a minimum charge of £50 to cover administrative costs. Subsequent offences could lead to a Notice to Quit being issued.

RESIDENCES DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE REVIEW PROCESS

Whatever the reason for disciplinary action, every individual has the right to be treated fairly and with dignity and respect. A resident who feels they have not been treated fairly, or who wishes to challenge a decision, can request for the original decision to be reviewed.

A review request should be sent by email, within 14 days of the original decision to: residential-support@qmul.ac.uk with the word ‘appeal’ in the subject header.

A request for a review should clearly state the reasons for the request. The review will be undertaken by a senior manager, who was not involved in the original decision.

APPEALS

Following the Review Process a resident has the right to appeal against any decision using the QMUL Appeal Regulations.

A copy can be found online at: www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/students/student-appeals/index.html
Residential Services and Support are committed to providing a high quality service to all our guests. When something goes wrong we would like to hear from you as this will help us improve our standards.

WHAT IS A COMPLAINT?

We are confident that most issues will be relatively routine which can be resolved quickly by staff, with the person(s) directly concerned. Where a problem is not resolved or is too serious to be dealt with informally and you wish to escalate the matter, please contact Residential Support who aim to resolve all issues relating to QMUL housing at: residential-support@qmul.ac.uk

We keep a record of all complaints as this enables us to identify areas of concern and help improve the service provided. All complaints are registered, monitored and reviewed by the relevant Senior Manager.

Our aim is to ensure that:

» Making a complaint is as easy as possible
» We deal with complaints promptly, politely and in an appropriate manner

WHAT SHOULD MY FORMAL COMPLAINT INCLUDE?

» Your name, building, flat and room number
» Your student ID number
» A clear and concise explanation of what you found unsatisfactory and why you feel that it is unacceptable
» Any relevant facts including dates
» A statement of how you feel the situation could be resolved to your satisfaction

WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT?

1. We will send you an email acknowledging your complaint within 72 hours of receiving it. We will also let you know the name of the person who will be dealing with your complaint.

2. We will record your complaint in our central register and keep a file of all correspondence.

3. We will then investigate your complaint.

4. We may invite you in to discuss the complaint where possible and appropriate; otherwise we will respond to you in writing.

5. You will receive an initial response to your complaint within 14 days (this may be longer over the Christmas closure).

6. If you are not satisfied with the outcome, you can progress to Stage 2 of the College’s Complaints Procedure.

A copy can be found online at: www.arcs.qmul.ac.uk/students/student-appeals/index.html

HOW CAN YOU COMPLAIN?

Please refer to our Policies and Procedures webpage at: www.residences.qmul.ac.uk/currentresidents/policies/index.html

Complete a Stage 1 Complaint Form and return this to us at: residential-support@qmul.ac.uk
1. WHEN ARE MY RESIDENTIAL FEES DUE FOR PAYMENT?

Your licence agreement is your residential fee confirmation. You will also receive, by email, an invoice for the full period of the licence agreement, on or near the commencement date of the licence agreement. We cannot issue invoices before the start date of the licence agreement. Residential fee reminders will be sent by email.

Residential fees should be paid each term in full on, or within 14 days from, the commencement date of each period on the licence.

2. WHEN IS PAYMENT DUE FOR THE DEPOSIT?

The deposit payment is due by the deadline date to accept your online accommodation offer, it is an integral part of the acceptance process. You will need to enable a ‘3D Secure Code’ for Mastercard payments and a ‘Verified By Visa Code’ for VISA card payments.

If you are unable to do this, please contact Housing Services for further instructions.

3. METHODS OF PAYMENT FOR RESIDENTIAL FEES AND OTHER CHARGES (NOT ROOM DEPOSIT PAYMENTS)

a) ONLINE PAYMENT

Go to www.qmul.ac.uk/epay

There are no fees for online payments. You will receive an automated email receipt as proof of payment. You will need to enable a ‘3D Secure Code’ for Mastercard payments and a ‘Verified By Visa Code’ for VISA card payments.

b) PAYMENT IN PERSON AT THE QMUL CASHIERS OFFICE (Mile End Campus, Room W118 Queens Building)

The QMUL Cashier accepts payments by

i) credit card MASTERCARD or VISA only
   (currently there is no additional charge)

ii) debit card VISA DELTA, MAESTRO and VISA ELECTRON

You are recommended to contact your card company in advance to alert them of the amount you wish to authorise (particularly if you are using an overseas card).

c) CHEQUES

Personal cheques are NOT accepted. Bankers drafts and building society cheques are accepted and must be made payable to Queen Mary University of London or QMUL, in pounds sterling. Non-sterling cheques will NOT be accepted. Please write your full name and student ID number on the back of the bank draft.

d) DIRECT BANK TRANSFER

You must email a copy of your bank transfer remittance advice to residences-finance@qmul.ac.uk immediately, as proof of payment to enable the payment to be credited to your account. The bank must quote your surname and your student ID or applicant number in the transfer details. Please note, for international transfers both the sending and receiving bank will charge you for this service, you
must add at least £15 per transaction to cover these fees. To avoid late receipt of the payment, bank transfers should be sent from your bank 7 days before the residential fee deadline date for UK transfers, and 14 days for overseas transfers. Once the transfer is received we will send you confirmation in the form of an email.

NB: QMUL cannot receive money by Western Union Transfer.

QMUL RESIDENTIAL FEES
– BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS
Account name: Queen Mary University of London
Sort Code: 20 – 57 – 30
Account Number: 70211729
Bank and Address: BARCLAYS,
240 Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1BS, U.K.
Non UK banks will need the following information:
IBAN GB 79 BARC 205730 70211729
and/or SWIFT NUMBER BARCGB22

4. LATE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS
(OR LATE PAYMENT PLAN)
You can arrange to pay your residential fees on a variable instalment plan in agreement with Residences Finance, after your arrival. You will be required to countersign the payment plan.

You may be asked to provide documentary evidence to support your request for a payment plan. Payment plans are at the discretion of the Residences Finance Manager. An administration fee of £30 (inclusive of VAT) will be charged for failure to adhere to the agreed payment arrangement.

5. WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I NEED A RECEIPT?

a) Online payments or payments in person at the Cashier’s Office will automatically generate a receipt. Bank transfer payments will be confirmed by email receipt, once funds are received.

b) If you require an official receipt to obtain a visa to study in the UK, please contact the Student Enquiry Unit. An official receipt will be issued for advance residential fees only (not deposit payments). Please allow 14 days to receive this, prior to applying for your visa. You need to make this request by email to casrequest@qmul.ac.uk, please quote Visa Letter Required in the subject line.

c) Please note, if you are applying for Tier 4 (General) Student immigration permission, and you would like to pay money for your QMUL accommodation in advance, a maximum of £1265 of this can be shown on your Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS), even if you have paid more than £1265. This means that a maximum of £1265 in accommodation fees can be offset against the amount of money that you have to show for maintenance to the UK Visas and Immigration department as part of your Tier 4 immigration application.

For more information go to: www.welfare.qmul.ac.uk/international/immigration

6. ARE THERE ANY ADMINISTRATION OR HANDLING CHARGES?

An administration fee of £30 (inclusive of VAT) will be charged for credit/debit card payments/refunds that are not authorised, the issuing of a Notice to Quit and the failure to adhere to any agreed payment arrangement.

Bank handling charges incurred by, or charged to QMUL, will be passed on to you for reimbursement.
7. WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE DIFFICULTY MAKING PAYMENTS?

Contact Residences Finance before you miss any payment deadlines.

For confidential financial advice contact QMUL’s Advice and Counselling Service (www.welfare.qmul.ac.uk). You are also advised to make the Advice and Counselling Service and your Academic department, aware of any financial difficulties or delays you may be experiencing. They can offer you advice and in some cases financial assistance.

8. WHAT ARE THE PENALTIES FOR LATE OR NON-PAYMENT OF RESIDENTIAL FEES?

Late payment of residential fees (without an agreed payment plan) may incur a £30 administration fee.

Non-payment of residential fees will result in you being required to leave your accommodation. An administration fee of £30 (inclusive of VAT) will be charged if a Notice to Quit is issued. An unsatisfactory payment record will jeopardise any future eligibility for the QMUL housing and private sector references. Debt collection agencies will be used to recover any outstanding debt (additional costs to QMUL will be passed onto the debtor).

9. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE DEPOSIT PAYMENT?

The deposit is held against non-payment of residential fees, cleaning charges, lost keys, disciplinary charges and assigned or unassigned damages to, or for the loss/replacement of, QMUL residential property.

Assigned damage represents the cost of damage/loss, which is attributed to a named person(s). Unassigned damage: Represents the cost of damage/loss, which cannot be attributed to a named person(s) and is divided between all the residents of a house/flat/corridor. Residential Services and Support (acting reasonably) will decide who is to be charged for any damage/loss.

All damage charges will be added to your residential account and an invoice sent via email to inform you of the charge. Small charges will be deducted from your damage deposit. Any damage charge(s) of more than £50 will not deducted from your deposit, you will be required to pay this amount immediately.

The deposit, in most cases, will be credited against your final instalment of residential fees. Once the credit to your residential fee account has been made, you will receive email confirmation of this.

There will be some exceptions to this procedure: residents who have incurred damage or disciplinary charges or whose home institution have paid their deposit. In these cases the deposit or balance remaining will be refunded after the licence has expired, room vacated, room check completed, all keys returned and all necessary deductions made (including the cost of any extra cleaning and building related repairs). The balance of the deposit will be returned as soon as it is practicably possible. This will usually take four weeks in the majority of cases, unless there are extenuating circumstances. Please note, refunds cannot be made in cash, or on the day of departure.

Under UK financial regulations refunds must be returned directly back onto the card used to make the initial payment. If a deposit is paid by a third party on your behalf, the refund will be made back to their card, so it is important that you remain in contact with them, in order to receive the refund. If the card used to make the deposit payment has expired or is no longer active, you will need to contact Residences Finance to make alternative arrangements. In these cases the refund can either be made onto another card that has been used to pay residential or tuition fees or by bank transfer. Refunds into overseas bank account will incur a charge of £25.00.

All or part of the deposit may be retained by QMUL as a contribution towards any loss or costs suffered by QMUL, as a result of a cancellation made outside of the licence cancellation period or no-shows.

10. HOW CAN I CONTACT THE RESIDENCES FINANCE TEAM?

Email: residences-finance@qmul.ac.uk
QMUL has a mobile app to support current students. The app has features such as live timetables, library access – such as renew and reserve books, campus maps, information about our student services and much more.

Students can find out more about the app and how to download it here: my.qmul.ac.uk/online-resources/qmul-mobile-app/

Registered students will receive QMUL Student, the monthly e-newsletter, featuring lots of news, events, updates and profiles of our student societies, volunteering and much more.

Up to date news, events and services at QMUL can be found on my.qmul, the student portal: my.qmul.ac.uk

MySIS is the QMUL student records system and can be used to: re-enrol, register for modules, view and maintain personal and financial details, view exam timetables, amongst other things

More information can be found at: mysis.qmul.ac.uk
We undertake an annual test of all portable electrical appliances supplied by the university within the residential buildings. We can provide a copy of our ‘Portable Appliance Testing Policy’ upon request if you would like further information. However, this testing does not cover items owned by residents as it is your responsibility to ensure that these are safe to use. The user guide below provides advice on how to check your own electrical items.

### PLUG
- Not loose in socket-outlet and can be removed from socket-outlet without difficulty
- Free from cracks or damage
- Flexible cable secure in its anchorage
- If the plug is of the non-rewireable type or moulded-on type, the cable grip should be checked by firmly pulling or twisting the cable. No movement should be apparent
- Pins preferably sleeved, particularly where young children may touch the plug
- Pins not bent
- No cardboard label on the bottom
- Plug does not rattle

### FLEX OR CABLE
- Good condition
- Free from cuts, fraying and damage
- Not in a location where it could be damaged
- Not too long, too short or in any other way unsatisfactory
- No joints or connections that may render it unsuitable for use, such as taped joints
- Only one flex connected into one plug (a 13A plug is designed for one cable only – not two)
- Not too tightly bent at any place

### SOCKET-OUTLET OR FLEX OUTLET
- Free from cracks or other damage
- No sign of overheating
- Shutter mechanism of socket-outlet functioning
- Not loose (ie properly secured)
- Switch, if fitted, operates correctly

### ADAPTOR OR EXTENSION LEAD FITTED WITH AN RCD
- Inspect device and verify it has a rated residual operating current not exceeding 30mA
- Check device by plugging it in, switching it on and then pushing the test button. The RCD should operate and disconnect the supply from the socket-outlet(s)
- Switches on and off correctly
- Works properly
- Sufficient space to permit cooling. Not positioned so close to walls and partitions that there is inadequate spacing for ventilation and cooling
- No sign of overheating
- Not likely to overheat. No books or files on top of a computer or towels over a convector heater. 100W lamps should not be fitted in a 60W luminaire
- Cups and plants are not placed where their contents could spill into equipment

### APPLIANCE OR ITEM OF EQUIPMENT
- Free from cracks, chemical or corrosion damage to the case, or damage that could result in access to live parts
- Equipment is operated with protective covers in place and doors closed
- Able to be used safely
- Switching on and off correctly
- Works properly
- Sufficient space to permit cooling. Not positioned so close to walls and partitions that there is inadequate spacing for ventilation and cooling
- No sign of overheating
- Not likely to overheat. No books or files on top of a computer or towels over a convector heater. 100W lamps should not be fitted in a 60W luminaire
- Cups and plants are not placed where their contents could spill into equipment

### ENVIRONMENT
- Equipment suitable for its environment
- No indiscriminate use of extension leads or multiway adaptors
- Equipment normally not left on overnight

### SUITABILITY
- Equipment suitable for the work it is required to carry out
Where there is loss or damage to College property, which is not due to ‘fair wear and tear’, a charge will be raised to the resident(s) concerned. Charges will reflect the cost of the repair or replacement, the disposal of the old item, plus a reasonable administration charge. Repairs to electrical, mechanical or plant equipment will be charged at standard external contractor rates.

Where the damage is accidental or where residents report the incident quickly to the Residential Support team, this can reduce the time spent investigating the cause of the damage. This can, in turn, lead to a reduction in the charge; any reduction is always at the discretion of the Residential Support Team.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost inc. VAT (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REDECORATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redecorate window sill or frame</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redecorate door, one side, includes hook removal</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redecorate average size room/kitchen – one wall</td>
<td>250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redecorate average size room/kitchen ceiling</td>
<td>250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FLOORING</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of carpet tile (per square metre)</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of room carpet (whole room)</td>
<td>485.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CARPENTRY/GLAZING</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of flat, room, bathroom or kitchen door</td>
<td>762.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replace a window pane</td>
<td>200.00 – 5000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FURNITURE AND FITTINGS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of wardrobe door</td>
<td>157.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of kitchen table</td>
<td>230.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of standard mirror</td>
<td>90.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of desk chair or kitchen chair</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of notice board</td>
<td>72.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of shower curtain</td>
<td>19.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of desk lamp in bedroom</td>
<td>32.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bathroom vanity shelf</td>
<td>70.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattress</td>
<td>140.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curtains</td>
<td>From 180.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet seat</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste bin (room)</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waste bin (kitchen)</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ironing board</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattress cover</td>
<td>20.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet brush</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost inc. VAT (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of room mini fridge</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of large upright fridge/freezer</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement microwave</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement kettle</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement toaster</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement hob</td>
<td>226.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement oven</td>
<td>350.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIRE AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of fire extinguisher or fire blanket</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of window restrictor</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire alarm engineer call out (minimum per hour)</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>KEYS/ACCESS CARDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement key (room or post box)</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement access control residential access card</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost inc. VAT (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HOURLY CHARGES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hourly charge to investigate damage</td>
<td>42.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hourly charge for additional cleaning + supervision</td>
<td>42.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hourly charge for a maintenance technician</td>
<td>42.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hourly charge for a security officer</td>
<td>42.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost inc. VAT (£)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
There are a number of regular operations and checks that we undertake to ensure your safety and to comply with legislation.

The following list is a summary of some of these operations and checks which may require our trades people or technicians to enter your room or flat at the predetermined intervals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE OF CHECK</th>
<th>FREQUENCY</th>
<th>WHERE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fire Alarm Testing</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>Common Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lift Alarms</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>All Areas Where Fitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Lighting Test</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Common Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Doors</td>
<td>Bi-Annual</td>
<td>All Areas Except Bathrooms and Toilets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Extinguishers and Blankets</td>
<td>Bi-Annual</td>
<td>All Common Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighting Operation Checks</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Common Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Temperature Checks/tests</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Kitchen and Bathroom/En-Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distress Alarms</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Where Fitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extractor Fan cleans</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>All Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Alarm Service</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>All Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Window Restrictor Test</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>All Areas Where Fitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Window Fastenings</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>All Areas Where Fitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shower Descales</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>Bathroom/En-Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition Surveys</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>All Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical Equipment Testing</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>All Areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Should you require any further information please email: EAF-helpdesk@qmul.ac.uk