

Shropshire Council Student Accommodation

TV Licence Policy

Our Facilities Support Service is fully committed to creating and promoting a healthy lifestyle for students and guests to enhance their experience whilst with us.

This policy is designed to reinforce a culture within our Accommodation where a positive and supportive environment is created where students can excel in their academic studies while developing social and life skills that will support their future careers and guests can enjoy a quality experience.

As a result of this, it's important that guests are made aware of and abide by the law relating to TV Licensing. The following information is taken directly from the TV licensing website to enable you to comply with TV licensing regulations;

When do I need a TV Licence?

Please be aware that it doesn't matter what channel you choose – it could be terrestrial, cable or satellite. It doesn't matter what equipment you use – traditional TV, games console, laptop or mobile phone. You still need to be covered by a licence if you are watching programmes at the same time as they are shown on TV.

If you are found to be watching TV programmes without a licence, you may be prosecuted and fined up to £1,000.

This means that if you are watching or recording programmes via the BBC iPlayer at the same time as they are shown on TV, you need to be covered by a TV Licence. If you are only watching or downloading programmes that have already been broadcast using the iPlayer or other internet services, a licence is not required.

In some cases you and your neighbours will each require your own separate licence for the TVs in your room (for example in student hall type accommodation), and in others one licence may be sufficient between all students for (example in a shared privately rented house), regardless of the number of devices in the property.

For more details refer to guidelines listed here;

<http://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/check-if-you-need-one/for-your-home/students-aud1/>

or call 0300 790 6090.

Am I covered by my parent's / home TV Licence?

Your parents' home TV Licence won't cover your use of any TV receiver in our student accommodation, except in the following rare and limited circumstances:

- You only use TV receiving equipment that is powered by its internal batteries; **and**
- You have not installed it (e.g. connected it to an aerial or plugged it into the mains) to receive TV; **and**
- Your permanent address (non term-time) is your parents' home; **and**
- Your parents have a valid TV Licence for their home.

If you do not satisfy all of these requirements, you will need to buy your own TV Licence while you stay in the accommodation. To check whether this exception applies to you, please call TV licensing direct on **0300 790 6098**

What if I am moving out of student accommodation?

If you are moving out of halls or other student accommodation, remember that your TV Licence does not move with you and you will need to notify TV Licensing of your new address. You can update your details by visiting the website and following the instructions. It only takes a minute or two. You'll be asked for your TV Licence number and new address.

<http://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/check-if-you-need-one/for-your-home/students-aud1/>

I don't need my TV Licence over the summer, can I get a refund?

If you are not staying at college over the summer and do not need your TV Licence again before it expires, you are entitled to a refund of any unused quarters (three full calendar months). So long as you purchased your TV Licence in October and don't need it for July, August and September, you could be eligible for a refund.

Most students would need to buy a TV Licence at the beginning of term in October in order to allow enough time at the end of the year to qualify for a refund. Assuming that a TV Licence is purchased in the month it is needed, it will expire 12 months from the first of that month.

To check if you are eligible for a refund, visit the TV Licensing website:

<http://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/check-if-you-need-one/for-your-home/students-aud1/>

or call 0300 790 6090.

How will anyone know if I don't have a TV Licence?

TV Licensing's database lists addresses that don't have a TV Licence, including student accommodation and enquiry officers do visit unlicensed properties.

If you use television-receiving equipment without a valid TV Licence, you risk prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000, plus court costs. A colour licence costs £145.50. For further information contact TV Licensing direct on 0300 790 6090.

To find out about the many ways you can pay for your TV Licence, including Direct Debit, visit the TV Licensing website

(<http://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/check-if-you-need-one/for-your-home/students-aud1/>)