

Grey College

New Postgraduate Student Welcome Handbook 2025-26



Welcome to Grey!

The staff and students at Grey College are looking forward to welcoming you into our special community. I hope you are excited to join us! This handbook contains all the information you'll need to plan your arrival and complete your pre-arrival tasks.

I look forward to welcoming you all to Grey College towards the end of September."

Rhian Davies, Vice-Principal

Grey prides itself on being an inclusive, diverse, and welcoming college, with plenty of different opportunities. We hope that you make the most of your time here, joining in with the Middle Common Room (MCR) and participating in our many sports teams, societies and events at Grey.

Tabitha Trigger, MCR President (outgoing)

Whether you will be living in college, Ernest Place or in & around Durham, I hope you find your place at Grey. This autumn is an opportunity to define yourself in any way you wish. Grey aims to be as welcoming, inclusive, and fun as possible! Me and the wider Grey community, cannot wait for you to all arrive in September: it's going to be fantastic.

Freddie Bloom, JCR President

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PRE-ARRIVAL CHECKLIST

Task	Deadline for Completion
Return Licence Agreement and pay £400 Advanced Rent	Within 5 (five) days of receiving the Accommodation Offer
Complete the University Enrolment & Registration Process (including Right to Study if you are not British or Irish) - Becoming a Durham Student - Durham University	As soon as you get your username and password!
Complete Medical Registration— Medical Registration and Advice - Durham University	Prior to arrival at Durham
Complete the College Online Registration Form (after reading the whole of this Welcome Booklet).	17th September 2025
Read and Sign College Social Code	26th September 2025
Complete College Optional Online charges e.g. JCR/MCR membership, Welcome Week, Gowns etc.	26th September 2025
Complete the MANDATORY online Consent Matters Course, and complete the Respect, Values and Behaviours module	30th September 2025
Attend in person with ID to complete your student verification at Grey College on Friday 26 September	On 26th September 2025

Definitions:

College — The physical site located on South Road, outlying buildings, grounds and shared communal spaces, and all members of the College, both students and staff.

College Officer — The College Officers are the Principal, Vice-Principal and Assistant Principal.

Members — Undergraduates and Postgraduates who are members of the College.

Resident — A student Member living in College accommodation.

Our students pride themselves on their Grey Spirit: creativity and a strong sense of belonging to an inclusive community, with passion for making the most of the opportunities that College life brings

UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS & MATRICULATION

Matriculation is a ceremony held in Durham Cathedral to admit new members of the University. At the Matriculation Ceremony, one undergraduate Member of the College and one postgraduate Member of the College sign the Matriculation Book on behalf of all new Members entering the College and University. By this act, and by registering with the University, each Member makes the following declaration:

I agree to be bound by all University Statutes, Regulations and Rules (available at [Governance Documentation - Durham University](#)), as amended by the University from time to time. This includes the [Student Pledge - Durham University](#).

- **Before Matriculation**, all Members are required to complete the MANDATORY **Consent Matters: Boundaries, Respect and Positive Intervention module** on Blackboard, see link here — [EDI hub - Home](#)
- The University's Statutes, Regulations, and Rules are set out in General Regulation IV ([Governance - Durham University](#)). The University's Policies may be found on the Policy Zone SharePoint and the Student Support and Wellbeing SharePoint.
- The Principal of the College (or her delegate) is an Authorised University Officer (AUO) and will investigate reported breaches of University policies under the University's Discipline Regulations ([Non-Academic Misconduct and Discipline - Durham University](#))

UNIVERSITY ON-LINE ENROLMENT & REGISTRATION TASKS TO DO

To become a fully registered Durham student, you'll need to complete our Enrolment and Registration process. There are three elements to Enrolment and Registration and more information can be found here—[Becoming a Durham Student - Durham University](#) :

- 1 Enrol with the University:** as soon as you receive the username and password for your IT account, log into Banner Self Service and complete Enrolment. Read more about Enrolment in our [Welcome and Orientation - Durham University](#) section.
- 2 Verify your identity:** once you've arrived in Durham, you'll need to take your ID to your College. You can read more about Verification in our [Verifying your Identity](#) section.

Please update or confirm your personal information and accept the University's regulations above. It's really important that you complete this before arriving in Durham (in particular your personal details and tuition fee information) otherwise it may delay getting your campus card etc. **ALL information can be found at this link** [Checklist for New Students - Durham University](#).

Please check your Junk/Spam folders so you don't miss them. If you don't receive the emails, please contact our Student Records Team at student.records@durham.ac.uk .

If you have received the emails, but are having difficulties logging in, please contact [IT Service Desk](#)

ARRIVAL AT DURHAM

The University official Welcome and Orientation period for new students starts on Monday 29th September 2025, for postgrads at Grey we start on Friday 26th September and if you are an international student you can arrive from 24th September, Please see below for arrival dates to Grey College.

Students with a residential contract with Grey in College or Ernest Place

All postgraduate students who have signed licence agreements for accommodation within Grey College or our additional accommodation at [Ernest Place In Durham](#) should arrive at the College on Wednesday 25th or Thursday 26th September. Upon arrival, at Grey College/Ernest Place please report to Reception. You will be given your room key, and notified of your room number/accommodation block and shown there. During the day, students will be around to meet you, but if you arrive out of hours, we'll provide information on what to do. Postgraduate welcome activities commence on the evening of Friday 26th September.

Students coming from outside the UK are asked to indicate their planned arrival day and time to the College on the registration form to help our planning.

All new Postgraduates, regardless of where they choose to live should arrive in Durham in time to participate in all the college orientation activities. Remember, we are all members of Grey College Community!

Please note that all postgraduate students must have arrived in Durham by 9am on Friday 26th September to enable them to attend the mandatory College Registration and Welcome events and be inducted into the life of both the College and their academic department.

Students who are not UK residents

Students coming from overseas may wish to use the **University's free Meet and Greet** (welcome) Service available on the 24th and 25th September for those who arrive at Newcastle Airport, details of which can be found at www.durham.ac.uk/study/international/arrivals/

Early Arrivals

Any student who wishes to arrive at Grey College earlier than the commencement of their Licence Agreement should email grey.pgadmissions@durham.ac.uk to check availability and book this, for which there will be a charge.

Non-Resident Students

Postgraduates who will be "living out" are encouraged to arrive in Durham in time to participate in all the college orientation activities.

Please note that all postgraduate students must have arrived in Durham by 9am Friday 27th September to enable them to attend the College Registration and Welcome events and be inducted into the life of both the College and their academic department.

VERIFICATION OF IDENTITY

This is completed at College on Friday 26th September at our 'Registration & Verification' events. More details will be in college emails. Don't forget to bring your Passport or Photo Driving License with you to Durham for verification so you will then be able to collect your campus card.

COLLEGE PRE-ARRIVAL TASKS

The tasks below can all be completed online. Relevant links to some of them will be circulated in further communications over the coming weeks.

ON-LINE REGISTRATION (Deadline 09:00 BST on Wednesday 17th September)

All new students should complete the Online College Registration by 09:00 BST on Monday 9th September. This will be sent to you via College email and covers the following:

- Date and approximate time of arrival at Grey College and Ernest Place (resident students only);
- Dietary Requirements for catered students;
- Attendance details for Postgraduate Welcome Events;
- Information on on access needs for fire evacuation;

MCR WELCOME LETTER

Please make sure you've read our Middle Common Room (MCR) from MCR President Tabitha Trigger—[MCR-Welcome-Letter-2025.pdf](#). The MCR may need some additional info from you to plan their welcome activities—please make sure you provide any information requested by the deadline. More details about the MCR can be found on page 13.

COLLEGE SOCIAL CODE

This has been developed by the College and JCR (our student body) in partnership to ensure that the social life of College clubs, societies and committees adds to the wider College Community. This will be emailed to you and should be **completed by ALL new students by 26th September 2025**.

MEDICAL REGISTRATION AND VACCINATIONS

All students should register with a local medical practice as part of the National Health Service. It is vitally important that all students coming to Durham register so that they are able to access health care in Durham when they need it, and is especially important if you have an ongoing health condition. More information can be found at [Medical Registration and Advice - Durham University](#)

Most students choose the [Claypath and University Medical Group](#). Pre-registration is by an online process, which can be done before you arrive in Durham. Pre-registration is available here, [Student Pre-Registration – Claypath and University Medical Group \(durhamstudenthealth.co.uk\)](#)

As part of the registration, you will be asked whether you have an NHS number or not. You will only have



a number if you have previously registered with a doctor in the UK, but you can still complete this online registration if you are an overseas student and don't already have an NHS number.

All students are advised to check that their required vaccinations are up to date. Check Further information is available here, [Vaccinations - Durham University](#)

PAYMENT OF OPTIONAL CHARGES

There are a variety of optional fees that students can opt-into paying. These can be paid in advance of arrival by accessing the appropriate web link from our arrival information, taking you to the online payment platform which will be made available during the first week of September. Further details about these charges can be found on page 13 of this booklet.

STUDENT COMMUNITY INDUCTION

At Durham, we are committed to creating a welcoming, respectful, and inclusive community where every individual feels valued and supported. We've built a package of training and resources for our students to help us achieve this. This package is called the **Student Community Induction** and includes:

- **CONSENT MATTERS COURSE** - This course is **COMPULSORY** for all new starters, including UG, PGT and PGR students. All new students will be automatically assigned to the course which includes 3 modules and 1 quiz.



- **RESPECT, VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS COURSE** - has been developed for staff and students to provide the knowledge and skills to create a respectful environment across the university community. In line with the [University's Values](#) and recommendations from the Respect Commission Report, the programme aims to support staff and students to work towards the University's Respect Project vision of ***“creating a respectful environment where everyone can flourish and feel that they are valued and a respected member of our University community”***. This work is a fundamental building block to help create an inclusive culture at Durham.

Before the conclusion of Welcome and Orientation Week, all new students are therefore required to complete the online course, ‘**Consent Matters**; Boundaries, Respect and Positive Intervention’, which is available on Blackboard before participation in College-based clubs, societies or committees, or activities with Experience Durham. You will also receive an email with a link to the course.

During the College Registration Day on Friday 26th September, staff at Grey College will require you to confirm that you have, or will, complete this course by Tuesday 1st October 2024. This needs to be done before Matriculation on the 2nd October 2024. We hope that all students will find the course interesting and commit to maintaining our valued culture of respect at Durham University. For more information, visit [EDI hub - Home](#)

For more information, or to view Durham University's Sexual Misconduct and Violence Policy, visit durham.ac.uk/sexualviolence

POLICE, FIRE AND HEALTH & SAFETY

All students will need to be aware of Police and Fire Safety, and complete our Health and Safety modules prior to arrival.

- **Fire Safety:** Being aware of fire safety advice is extremely important. All students are asked to watch this [video](#) in advance of their arrival at Durham.
- **Police Liaison:** The University enjoys a positive working relationship with Durham Constabulary, including making sure all new students have the best and safest experience possible in the City. All new students should access information & watch a video **by PC Gary Thompson, our Police Liaison Officer** [here](#).
- **Health and Safety for Resident Students:** There are a number of things all our residents should be aware of before arriving in Durham. Further information will be circulated in September and can be accessed [here](#).

UNIVERSITY REGISTRATION PROCESS

All students should complete the following to enrol for their programme of study at Durham and to enable them to be registered as students at Durham. If you do not complete registration, there may be an impact on the following:

- Accessing your University email, exam information and results;
- Getting a campus card.

Enrolment for Postgraduate Students becomes available 6 weeks prior to the commencement of your programme. Further details about this process can be found as follows:

- [Postgraduate Taught Students;](#)
- [Postgraduate Research Students.](#)

ON-LINE ENROLMENT

You will receive via email your Durham username and password for your University IT account so you can start to Enrol with the University. This information will be sent in two separate emails that will be one day apart. They will be from noreply@durham.ac.uk and will be different from our usual emails.

Please check your Junk/Spam folders so you don't miss them.

If you have received the emails, but are having difficulties logging in, please contact [the IT Service Desk](#). Once you receive both emails:

- Visit our [Change Password page](#) and update your password;
- [Set up Multi Factor Authentication;](#)
- Log in to [Banner Self Service](#) to enrol with the University;
- Complete online Enrolment and upload a photo for your campus card.



- You will need the following information to hand to complete Enrolment:
 - Term-time address
 - Emergency Contact Details;
 - Let us know if you would like to be registered to vote;
 - Confirm that your student fees are correct;
 - A photograph to upload so that your campus card can be prepared ready for collection when you are Identified during the College Registration.

VERIFICATION OF IDENTITY

This is completed at the College Registration event on Friday 26th September upon your arrival at Durham Don't forget to bring your Passport , Photo Driving License or your current Biometric Residence Permit with you to Durham. You will then be able to collect your campus card.

MODULE SELECTION

It is essential you don't begin selecting optional modules until 1st September, and after your Department has been in touch to offer you guidance, so you can make informed choices about your module choices.

- Postgraduate taught students need to be registered for 180 credits of modules, and many programmes have “core” modules, which must be studied by all students on that programme. Programme regulations are available at this link—[Programme and Module Handbook: Postgraduate Programme and Module Handbook 2025-2026](#)
- Most postgraduate research students do not have to choose any modules, but if this section of the form is showing as incomplete, please contact your department to advise you on the most appropriate choice of “optional” modules.

WELCOME AND ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES

Postgraduate Welcome and Orientation Week contains a range of activities. Some are compulsory, and you need to attend them to be properly inducted into your College and Department. We also have a wide range of fun social events to help you to settle in and to get to know your fellow postgraduate students - we encourage you to attend as many of these as possible.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT INDUCTION

Induction activities take place in departments from Monday 30th September. Your department will contact you directly with details of these activities. You can also find them using the online [Induction Planner](#).

Taught programme teaching begins on or after Monday 2nd October. Your academic departments will provide you with all necessary details of teaching times for your programme of study.

COLLEGE WELCOME AND ORIENTATION TALKS

The College Orientation and Welcome for our new postgraduate students takes place at 16.00hrs (4pm)

on Friday 27th September, in Holgate House, Grey College. This is compulsory for all new postgraduate student members of the College. At this, you will meet College staff, find out about the facilities and support mechanisms available at the College, and be introduced to postgraduate life at Grey.

The orientation talks will be followed by dinner through the servery in dining hall and drinks reception, and the College bar will be open following this, when you can meet other new postgraduate students. All students are asked to indicate their attendance through the College registration form which we will send you to complete via email to aid our planning.

ID VERIFICATION AND REGISTRATION

College Registration will be held on the morning of **Friday 26th September 10am—12noon** in Fountains Hall. You will need to bring your Passport or UK Photo Driving License with you. Once we have verified your identity you can collect your campus card. You can also collect your gown if purchased.

PG FORMAL WELCOME DINNER

The first formal dinner of the academic year, which is free to attend for all new postgraduate students, will be held on **Tuesday 7th October 2025**. This forms an important part of your College welcome and your attendance is encouraged. Please let us know whether you will be attending and confirm dietary requirements, by completing the relevant section on the College Online Registration form.

The dress code is smart dress (jacket and tie, or equivalent) and academic gowns. Further information will be circulated to attendees at the end of Welcome Week. .

OTHER ORIENTATION ACTIVITIES

The Middle Common Room (MCR) and PG Mentors/Freps will organise a variety of social activities for new postgraduates, including film nights, tours, and talks. These are not compulsory, but we encourage you to make the most of this experience and attend as many events as possible. You are also welcome to join in Freshers activities at Grey. There is an MCR wristband you can purchase in optional charges.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Important financial information, including details of costs and financial support options, can be found at this [webpage](#).

TUITION FEES

Students confirm how these are being paid as part of the online registration process

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Students confirm how these are being paid as part of the online registration process.

RESIDENCE INVOICES AND OTHER COLLEGE CHARGES

All sums due to the College, are assembled on a single invoice which will be e-mailed to your Durham e-mail account.

The advanced rent payment for accommodation will be taken off the total costs.

Payment is then requested in three equal instalments over the course of the year. Most students opt to set-up a Direct Debit to pay this invoice, which is the University's preferred method of payment. In this case, payments are taken on 1st December, 1st February and 1st June. If you don't set-up a Direct Debit you are responsible for paying the fees on time, on the dates given on your invoice (before the Direct Debit dates).

The residence charge itself will depend on the type of room allocated. In addition, the international early arrival charge will also be added where applicable. It is anticipated that the invoice will be raised and emailed to your Durham email address early in the academic year.

OTHER FEES (NOT PART OF RESIDENCE INVOICE)

There are a variety of optional fees that students can either opt-into or opt-out of paying. These can be paid in advance of arrival by accessing the appropriate web link from the college arrival pages, which will be made available in early September when further information is circulated.. These will be payable via the University e-commerce system, which is also used for payment at attendance at other events through the year, and should be signed-up to using your Durham email address.

STUDENT COMMON ROOM CHARGE (£60 for one year inc. VAT)

The University and College assume that the majority of our students wish to fully participate in the life of the **Middle Common Room (MCR)** to benefit from what it has to offer; further information on the benefits can be found below. Students are strongly encouraged to pay for their MCR membership in advance of arrival at Durham via the online platform, details of which will be circulated to students in the second week of September.

MCR Member Benefits: The MCR membership fee is £60 per year, and upon joining you'll become a member of a community of over 150 students. The MCR is run by students for students, and whilst MCR

membership is optional we strongly encourage all students to join to make the most of their time at Durham. Membership fees go towards subsidising the running of the MCR and its activities. Additionally, members of the MCR also benefit from automatic membership of the undergraduate Junior Common Room, the JCR, who run many other sports and societies. Membership of both Common rooms allows members to:

- Participation in over 50 different JCR-run sports, societies and committees (apart from our Rowing Club)
- Join practices, performances (or equivalent) and meetings of college societies and clubs, including the right to stand for office of the society/club. Non-members can only participate if they pay a yearly joining fee for each club/society they wish to be part of.
- Vote at MCR (and JCR) meetings and stand for elected office.
- Represent the MCR on college committees, through taking on unelected roles supporting and organising MCR activity;
- Priority booking period along with the payment of preferential members' rates to events organised by the Common Rooms (including Balls, Formal Dinners etc.).
- Access the use of MCR and JCR equipment (musical instruments, sports, tech).
- Discounted price for access to our on-site Gym

Opting-out of the MCR If you are thinking of not joining the MCR we would encourage you to first contact greymcr.president@durham.ac.uk or grey.president@durham.ac.uk, or treasurer@greyjcr.co.uk if you would like to apply for support with paying for the Membership Fee.



Please check out our website [here](#) if you would like any further information. Make sure to follow @grey_sabbs on Instagram to not miss out on the latest news.

GOWN (£50)

The wearing of a gown is compulsory at Grey College when attending Formal Meals during term time. Gown collection is during the College registration process, and you will be able to purchase a gown in advance of arrival at Grey,

We have a limited supply of second hand (laundered) gowns, available priced at £25. If you would like to be considered for a second hand gown, please email grey.pgadmissions@durham.ac.uk and we will check availability, on a first come first served basis

LINEN PACKS (OVERSEAS/ISLANDS STUDENTS ONLY)

Students arriving from Overseas and the Islands, who are resident in the College can order and pay for a Linen Pack including duvet and cover, pillow and pillow case and one sheet (singles cost £35, doubles cost £53) and payment made in advance of their arrival. These will be in your room ready for your arrival. Payment should be made via the website below before **Monday 23rd September**. Links will be shared in email.

At Ernest Place, there are plenty of shops nearby where linen can be purchased. We do have some spare sets in stock if needed they can be order by emailing: ErnestPlace@mansionstudent.co.uk

NON-ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

In accepting an offer of a place at the University students agree to be bound by the University's regulations, which include Section IV Discipline. Students are expected to adhere to the University's regulations on conduct; failure to do so can result in disciplinary action.

Students are expected to treat all members of the community with respect including their peers, staff, and visitors to the University and members of the local community, as outlined in the Student Pledge. Students are also expected to behave in a way that does not interfere with or cause disruption to the normal operations of the University and community. Where there is reason to believe that rules and regulations have been broken, and/or when the behaviour of a student falls below the expected standards, these Disciplinary Procedures will be used.

More information can be found from the student conduct office web page—[Non-Academic Misconduct and Discipline - Durham University](#).

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS—SPECIFIC INFORMATION

TRAVELLING TO DURHAM

To help with your travel plans, please see [this website](#).

MEET AND GREET PROGRAM

New international students who arrive at Newcastle Airport on 24th and 25th September can book our free Meet and Greet Service. More information can be found at this [website](#).

Please email international.meetandgreet@durham.ac.uk if you have any queries about the Meet and Greet Service or your booking.

LETTER REQUESTS

International students occasionally require letters of introduction. If you require either of these we will provide details with how they can be requested in September.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR RESIDENT STUDENTS

BICYCLES

Students who bring bicycles to Durham should ensure that they are stored in the College bicycle shed. You **will need to pay a £30 deposit for a bike shed key to the JCR upon your arrival at Grey College. Your deposit will be returned at the end of the year when you return the key.**

Bicycles should not be taken inside University buildings, including student bedrooms. Students who are found to have brought a cycle into their bedroom will be sanctioned. Considerable damage has been caused to College property in previous years by cycles being brought into buildings.

Students are advised to ensure that appropriate insurance is taken out against loss or theft of cycles.

CATERING

College provides three meals a day, seven days per week during periods of Undergraduate Term. All dietary requirements can be catered for, please indicate these in our College Registration Form. If your dietary requirements are complex and you need to discuss them further, please contact Food and Beverage Manager, Nicola Gittins, after arrival.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

As a member of Grey College and Durham University you are part of a community which is proud to be committed to environmental sustainability. Greenspace is the name for Durham University's environment team. The team coordinates environmental initiatives across the University focusing on: energy, including the carbon management plan; waste; water; travel; and biodiversity

You can find out more on the Greenspace webpages, [Greenspace Movement - Durham University](#)

INSURANCE COVER FOR STUDENTS

Basic contents insurance cover for items in your room is included as standard for student residents in all University accommodation by partnering with Endsleigh, the No.1 student insurance provider. Further information will be circulated in September ahead of arrival telling you how to register with My Endsleigh.

It's easy to underestimate the value of your possessions, and we're not just talking about your laptop and phone. Items such as your clothes, hairdryers and other smaller gadgets, like Fitbits and watches can all add up. There is a short video explaining student insurance [here](#).

LAUNDRY

Our washing and drying facilities are all card operated. The majority of our washing machines come pre-loaded with detergent and conditioner, but there are a few machines that will let you use your own detergent.

A wash costs £5.00; tumble driers are free of charge. You must not dry laundry in your bedroom as this will cause mould. All laundry rooms have clotheshorses to dry items that cannot be tumble dried—as such, please do not bring your own clotheshorse to College.

To use the washing machines in College you will need to download the *Circuit Plus App* and set-up an account. More details on this will be in your arrival pack.

LINEN

All mainland UK-based students must bring their own bed linen (sheets, duvet, duvet cover, pillow, and pillow case). We'd recommend bringing a double flat sheet and double duvet as these can be folded to any size bed.

Overseas students (including students from Ireland/Channel Islands) can order and pay for a linen pack if desired as described earlier. Linen Packs which have been purchased will be ready in student bedrooms upon arrival and include: 1 Duvet, 1 Duvet Cover, 1 Pillow, 1 Pillowcase and 1 Sheet.

TV LICENSE

There's nothing like that last minute goal, the nail-biting season finale or your favourite Friday night sitcom to bring students together, laughing, crying and cheering over a laptop in College.

If you plan on watching live TV, watching or streaming programmes live on an online TV service, or downloading, using BBC iPlayer, you will need a TV Licence. The College's license won't cover you and you may not be covered by your parents' license. You can check your eligibility and purchase a licence if needed [online](#).

PORTABLE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

The University has a legal duty to ensure that all electrical equipment used on its premises are safe. You will be sent a list of prohibited items later in the summer—please do not bring any of these items to College with you. For certain other items, Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) will be available in the College during Welcome Week. Some items are only allowed in the kitchenettes in each block.

There are some simple precautions you can take to prevent danger from portable electrical equipment in low-risk environments, such as University residential accommodation.

Extension leads and Bar Adaptors

- To avoid overloading sockets and risk of fire, please check the current rating of the extension lead before plugging appliances into it. Most are rated at 13 A, but some are rated at only 10 A or less - the rating should be clearly marked on the back or underside of the extension lead. If not, refer to

the manufacturer's instructions. Never overload an extension lead by plugging in appliances that together will exceed the maximum current rating stated for the extension lead. This could cause the plug in the wall socket to overheat and possibly cause a fire.

- Only use one socket extension lead per socket and never plug an extension lead into another extension lead.
- Use a multi-way bar extension lead rather than a block adaptor as this will put less strain on the wall socket. Some block adaptors do not have a fuse, which increases the risk of overloading and fire. The use of block adaptors which do not incorporate a fuse is not permitted in University premises.

Using electrical products from other Countries

Using international appliances in UK sockets is dangerous if their plugs have not been converted for UK use, and it could result in a fire or electric shock. Travel adaptors are not appropriate long-term solutions as they are not a suitable nor safe alternative for continuous use.

Do not put yourself or others at risk by using international plugs in UK sockets!!

You can use a conversion plug to improve the safety of your international appliances. Please note that travel adaptors are not the same as conversion plugs. Conversion plugs have several benefits:

- They can be fitted easily, quickly and safely;
- They will make the electrical appliance safe for UK sockets;
- They will reduce the risk of fire;
- They will reduce the risk of electric shock.

We recommend you replace the appliance with a UK standard electrical product if the plug is not suitable for conversion.

List of Prohibited Items in study bedrooms, pantries and kitchens

To keep everyone safe, Durham University has identified that certain items are prohibited in bedrooms, pantries and kitchens. College officer may remove other items not on the list if they are considered to be a danger, if in doubt please contact the College Operations manager, Jo Bell, Please read the list before arriving in college using this link— [College prohibited items kitchens and bedrooms v5.pdf](#)

Fire Safety

If fire alarm rings continually you must evacuate the building as quickly as possible using the nearest fire exit, if on site in College the fire assembly point is at car park in front of Fountains Hall.

Please do not try to re-enter any building until told by staff its safe to do so, this is for your own safety and the safety of others.

Tampering with fire alarms is a disciplinary offence and will not be tolerated.

TRANSPORT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Durham University is doing all it can to reduce the need to use private cars, making the best use of existing facilities, managing travel demands and promoting the use of more sustainable modes of transport. So, unless you meet the needs-based parking criteria or you are a blue badge holder, it's best to leave your car at home. There are loads of great alternatives like buses, bikes and taxis for getting around. Students can travel on Arriva bus services at discounted rates. Check out the Greenspace webpages for details. Links to cycle and walking maps are also available on the Greenspace Travel webpages. [Greenspace - Home \(sharepoint.com\)](#)

Students will not be entitled to apply for a permit to park on University premises unless they can evidence how they meet at least one of the needs-based criteria set out in this link : [Student Parking](#)

Eligible students must apply by completing and submitting a parking permit application form with supporting evidence, available from [Student Parking \(sharepoint.com\)](#). Applications for Student Parking Permits for the 2025/26 academic year will open on **22nd August 2025**. The online application form will be available from this date. The application window will remain open until **22nd May 2026**. If are a blue badge holder please email student.parking@durham.ac.uk.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR NON-RESIDENT STUDENTS

Our non-resident students are vital members of our community. We encourage all students who "live out" to maintain contact with Grey by participating in events, organised by both the MCR and college, and by making use of the available facilities on site. We hope you will make the most of the many opportunities that postgraduate membership of Grey College brings.

Grey isn't just a focus for your social life and a place to collect your mail, it is also an important point of contact with the University. We offer a range of student services, including wellbeing support. These services are open to all Grey students, both resident and non-resident.

We must be able to get a message to you in an emergency, so it is essential that you keep the University informed of your correct term-time address and telephone numbers via the Banner Self-Service system.

Please familiarise yourself with the University's code of conduct for students who live out at [Codes of Practice - Durham University](#).

TERM DATES 2025-26

Welcome & Orientation Week: 27th September 2025 - 4th October 2025

Term	Start	End
Induction Week 2025	29 September 2025	5 October 2025
Michaelmas Term 2025	6 October 2025	12 December 2025
Christmas vacation 2025-2026	13 December 2025	11 January 2026
Epiphany Term 2026	12 January 2026	20 March 2026
Easter vacation 2026	21 March 2026	26 April 2026
Easter Term 2026	27 April 2026	26 June 2026
Summer vacation 2026	27 June 2026	27 September 2026

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Website:	www.durham.ac.uk/colleges-and-student-experience/colleges/grey/pgwelcome/