



Fire Safety

Your Responsibility

The West Midlands Fire Service would like to congratulate you on getting into university and welcome you to Coventry.

Please read this information prior to moving in to halls of residence.

Keeping you safe

By taking a few sensible precautions, you can help protect yourself from injury – or worse:

- know where the smoke alarms are located.
- be aware of the escape route in your premises.
- pay attention to fire drills. NEVER ignore alarms. Failure to evacuate will result in disciplinary action.

Reducing incidents

Every year there are a number of fire and fire alarm related incidents. The University has several rules in place to try and prevent this as it can cause unnecessary problems for both the university and the Fire Service.

You are able to make a difference with these safety measures. You could reduce the amount of false alarms:

- do not use candles.
- do not wedge doors open. Your bedroom and kitchen doors are 30 minute fire doors.



“The number of fire false alarms attended in the UK was 399,000 during the year ending 31 December 2008.”

Department for Communities and Local Government.

- never leave cooking unattended, if you need to leave the kitchen take the pans off the cooker.
- do not use hair spray under detectors.
- do not use hair straighteners or hairdryers under detectors.
- do not leave shower doors open after a steamy shower.

Consequences of malicious false alarms

This will result in prosecution and the following penalties may apply:

- penalty notice for disorder – £80 ticket.
- if taken to court – up to 51 weeks imprisonment and/or a fine not exceeding £2,500.
- loss of your accommodation.
- and your place at university may be at risk.
- if a fire starts and you are found to be responsible, you may have to pay for the fire damage. Recently a kitchen fire cost £16,000 for refurbishment.

Penalties



Halls of residence images supplied by University of Wolverhampton.

Help promote fire safety at your university

To find out how you can help promote the fire safety message on campus, contact your local Fire Station, or visit:

www.wmfs.net

Each year, the 'Fire Kills' campaign also recruits a limited number of students at selected universities as 'student brand ambassadors'. They raise awareness of fire safety among fellow students by:

- getting publicity through student magazines.
- distributing leaflets and posters.
- working with local fire stations to organise special events.

To find out more about the 'Fire Kills' campaign visit:

firekills.direct.gov.uk

We hope you enjoy your time in halls of residence!



Coventry
University