

Housing Advice

Achieve Wonders

To speak to a member of the Student Services Team please call 01494 585555 and ask to be put through to Student Services.



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Equal Opportunities

Amersham & Wycombe College positively respects, promotes and develops the diversity and ability of its current and potential learners, and values the contributions which people from a range of backgrounds bring to the institution.



Amersham & Wycombe
College

If you are homeless or about to become homeless please see Student Services for advice.

The Student Advisers are available to give advice & guidance either by telephone or in person as follows:

DEE SHOCK:

Flackwell Heath Campus
01494 585580

GLYN SAUNDERS:

Amersham Campus
Information Hub
01494 585248

If you are under 19 you may wish to contact a Connexions Personal Adviser. Student Support can put you in touch with the College PA .

You may qualify for help from the Council but if you don't then you may be able to claim Housing Benefit/Local Housing Allowance to help you pay rent if you are on a low income. Contact your local Housing Benefit Office to claim help with rent or with paying Council tax.

The Housing rules are complicated. The Council has to decided you are 'homeless' within the legal definition of the term, eligible for assistance, a priority need and not 'intentionally' homeless.

If you are a priority need for example you are responsible for dependent children, suffering domestic violence, are pregnant or live with someone who is pregnant, have lost your home due to a disaster e.g. fire or flood, are 17 years old, or are 18-20 years old and leaving Social Services Care or vulnerable.

You may have to satisfy certain immigration and residency rules. Finally they will look for a local connection so it is probably best to go to the Local Council in which you live or lived in before you became homeless.



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Finding accommodation by yourself. The best places to start looking for somewhere are:

Shop windows (such as newsagents)
Local papers e.g.

- Bucks Free Press
- Wycombe/Chiltern Star
- The Buckinghamshire Examiner
- The Buckinghamshire Advertiser
- Local Estate Agents

Renting websites:

- www.fish4homes.co.uk
- www.findahome.co.uk
- www.rightmove.co..uk
- www.bucksfreepress.co.uk/homes
- www.easyroommate.com

HOUSING BENEFIT

If you are claiming Housing Benefit you may wish to discuss this with your landlord as it takes up to 4 weeks to process the payments.

You should also ask your Council for a Pre Tenancy Determination form to find out the maximum housing benefit payable for a property. Landlords may ask for a deposit and rent in advance.

If you are in receipt of welfare benefits you may be able to apply for a loan from the Social. Some local housing projects may have some type of Rent Deposit Scheme available.

Remember if you go to see a property alone tell someone you are going and why you expect to be back.

Listed below are some contact details:

Wycombe District Council	01494 729000
Chiltern District Council	01494 729000
YMCA High Wycombe	01494 465700
Youth Enquiry Service (YES)	01494 437373
Old Tea Warehouse	01494 753920
The Guinness Trust	01494 535823
Padstones	01494 464787
Housing Interactive Trust (HIT)	01494 792870
Connexions High Wycombe	0845 217 1368
Connexions Aylesbury	0845 313 3413
Shelter	0808 800 4444
Asylum Support Helpline	0845 6021739
Centrepoint	0207 423 6838 0207 297 9330
Childline	0800 11 11
Stonham Aylesbury	01296 718859
Stonham High Wycombe	01494 535860
Stonham Watford	01923 819914



PHONE
01494 585555



www.amersham.ac.uk



E-mail:
info@amersham.ac.uk