



Welcome!

You will soon be joining us at the University of Leicester International Study Centre, where you will have a wonderful opportunity to study in the UK, at one of Britain's excellent universities.

The University of Leicester is located in the heart of the Midlands, close to the new National Forest and with close road and rail links to all the other major cities in the region. Leicester is a Roman city and you can visit historic Roman remains a short distance from the campus.

The University of Leicester is an international centre of learning with a worldwide reputation. The University, *Times Higher Education University of the Year 2008-09*, is ranked in the top 20 out of 110 universities in the UK. In addition, Leicester has, jointly with Oxford, the highest levels of student satisfaction amongst full-time students in England. Our new state of the art library was opened by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth. The University of Leicester is a traditional British University that was founded in 1921. Citizens of over eighty countries are represented on our campus. Each year, there are more than 1500 students from outside the United Kingdom studying the full range of subjects and degrees courses available. The University has first-rate facilities for teaching, study, research, sports and leisure. The main campus occupies an attractive site just a short walk from the city centre. There are excellent student residential facilities, again only a short distance away, which are set in fine gardens.

ULISC is the perfect place for you to develop your English and academic skills in preparation for your course at the University of Leicester. All our staff are working towards one goal; to provide you with the best possible preparation for your studies at the University. We believe that you have an exciting opportunity to combine hard work and study with leisure pursuits so that you are able to make the best possible step towards to your chosen academic level.

We look forward to meeting you soon!

Gwynne Harries
Head of Centre
University of Leicester International Study Centre

Key Facts

Head of ISC:

Address of ISC:

Gwynne Harries
International Study Centre
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Leicester
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England

Office Number:

Fax Number:

Emergency Contact Number:

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+44 (0)7827 850 936

Useful Websites

If you would like to learn more about life at the ISC, The University of Leicester, the local area and other information, the following websites may be useful:

Visit Britain

UK Maps

BBC Weather Centre

Leicester ISC Webpage

Visit Leicester

University of Leicester

www.visitbritain.com

www.streetmap.co.uk

www.bbc.co.uk/weather

www.studygroup.com/isc/leicester/

www.visitleicester.co.uk/

www.le.ac.uk

Join us on Facebook

The ISC is now on Facebook. Connect with other new students at The University of Leicester ISC - see photos, ask questions, leave messages.

Not a member of Facebook?

It's free to join but you will need to click the "Sign up for Facebook" link:

www.facebook.com/r.php?

Follow the instructions on screen, and register your details.

You will then need to check your email and click on the link confirming your email address.

Once you are registered go to:

www.facebook.com/iscleicester

To join, simply click 'Join this Group'.

What to pack/bring

Essential items to bring with you include: your passport and visa, your enrolment and accommodation documents, passport sized photographs, photographs of friends and family to brighten up your new room, a towel, essential toiletries and medications and an alarm clock – for those early starts!

Arriving in the UK

Please ensure you ring home to inform your parents or agent that you have arrived safely – they will be worried about you and want to know you have arrived safely.

Please ensure the International Admissions Centre (IAC) have been advised of your expected arrival details in good time, on Telephone +44 (0)1273 339333 or Fax +44 (0)1273 339334.

Students are advised to check with the Head of Centre before booking their travel back home at the end of each term. In particular it is advised that you check with the Head of Centre before booking travel home at the end of the course in case it is necessary to remain in order to receive results and be advised of next steps in your study plan.

By plane

If you are arriving by plane and have asked for a taxi pick up, you will be met by the taxi driver in the arrivals hall, who will be holding a sign showing The University of Leicester logo, and the International Study Centre logo.

They will take you to your taxi. The taxi will then take you to your accommodation.

The taxi driver should know which accommodation you are staying in, but it is a good idea to have the details of where you are staying to hand.

Please see the attached Accommodation Guide for more detailed arrival information.

Making your own way

By train

For those arriving by train, we would suggest you take a taxi from Leicester train station. There is a large taxi rank at the main exit of the station. A taxi should cost approximately £8 to The Grange, or Nixon Court.

By car

If you are arriving by car, you should be able to drive to the residences and unload, but then should park in one of the visitor car parks for the day.

Accommodation

Your accommodation should be available 24 to 48 hours prior to the start of your course. Please see the Accommodation Guide included with this pack for information about the University residences.

Induction

During your first week of term we will help you settle into life in Britain, and at the University. Your first week will include: registration at the University, registration with our local/on-campus health services, setting up a bank account, and police registration.

Please be aware that all students are given an English test on arrival, and study plans may be changed on the basis of this test.

Medical Information

There are medical facilities located on or near to campus. Staff will ensure you are registered at the local Health Centre, and will show you where the closest pharmacy is located, where you can receive medicines on prescription.

Opening a bank account

If you are coming to the UK for at least an academic year, it is recommended that you open a bank account. Before opening an account, you should check whether money can be transferred into it from outside of the UK. To open a UK bank account you will need a letter from the ISC for the bank confirming that you are a full time student. Our staff will help you with this in your first week.

Warning: DO NOT carry large amounts of cash with you or keep large amounts of cash in your accommodation.

Police registration

If on entering the UK your visa is stamped with the words "Register with UK police on arrival" this must be done shortly after arrival. Staff at the ISC will help you with this. You will have the opportunity to register with the police during your first week with us. You will need your passport and a sum of money, currently in the region of £34. You will be given further information on registering with the police during the induction programme.

The cost of being a student

Whilst in the UK, you will need to budget carefully to cover all of your living costs, which include accommodation, clothes, transport, books, food and entertainment.

It is very difficult to estimate how much money you will need over a year as this depends on individual lifestyles and circumstances, although you should budget approximately £50 per term for books. Remember, you will spend more money at the beginning of the course as you may need to buy one-off items such as kitchen equipment, books that will last for two or more terms, and special equipment for your course. Small charges may also be made by some departments to cover supplementary materials or services.

More information about how to budget for your living expenses, will be discussed during your first week of term.

Living in the UK

Social attitudes

Life in Britain will almost certainly be different from what you are used to. It is difficult to define exactly what the 'British' way of life is as attitude and outlooks vary considerably according to where you are in the country. As home to residents from many different parts of the world and a variety of ethnic backgrounds, Britain has a vibrant, cosmopolitan feel.

When you first arrive you may notice differences in the way people behave compared to your own country, however, it won't take you long before you are accustomed to your new life here and are able to adapt to a whole variety of situations; everything from understanding British etiquette and mannerisms to cooking your own food and running your own bank account.

Drinking

Alcohol is available to anyone aged over 18. It's perfectly acceptable for adults to drink alcohol in moderate amounts. For many British people, drinking is an established part of social life – 'going out for a drink' is how they relax or spend time with friends. This doesn't mean that you have to drink alcohol. If you don't want to you can always ask for a non-alcoholic drink instead.

Smoking

Many people in Britain smoke. However, in some ways smoking is less acceptable than drinking, and since Summer 2007, smoking has been banned in all pubs, clubs and restaurants in England. Smoking is banned in many public places including buses and the London Underground. If you smoke in these places, you have to pay a fine. Some non-smokers find smoke unpleasant and uncomfortable. If you are eating or drinking with friends – especially at someone else's house – it is polite to ask before you light your cigarette.

Homesickness

To start with everything is new, exciting and different, but as time goes by you may start to wish that things were the way they were back home. Don't despair as this stage will pass – and much more quickly if you talk to someone about how you are feeling.

Racism

Racism is a global problem and no society is perfect. Britain isn't free from racism and while you may meet a little of it in your day to day life, it is hoped that it is very rare in the University. The ISC and the University are committed to equality and to ensuring that you do not face discrimination whilst you are studying.

Specialist and international foods

There are many shops and restaurants in the area which sell these types of foods. You may also find that some of the larger supermarkets stock some of the products that you require.



Thank you for deciding to take your course at the University of Leicester and for selecting residential accommodation.

The University offers a large variety of accommodation, all of which are University managed. The residences are circled on the map that is attached with this pack. Below is an outline of some of the accommodation available.

The Grange, En-suite Single

Please note: All students who are under 18 on arrival will be allocated a room in The Grange.

The Grange is comprised of 218 en-suite rooms, arranged in self catered flats for 5 students. Each flat has a fully equipped kitchen and a communal lounge area. The Grange is located very close to the centre of town.

Nixon Court, Standard Single

Nixon Court consists of 700 standard rooms, which are divided into 5 blocks. Each flat has between 5 and 10 rooms. All bedrooms have a private washbasin. Nixon Court is located within minutes of the University of Leicester campus. On site is a launderette, a common room and a pub, and it is a short walk to the nearest large supermarket.

Please note: Accommodation will be allocated according to availability. This means that you may not necessarily be given the type of room you originally requested on your booking form.

Please note - for some intakes other residences across Leicester may be used, including: Freeman's common – standard rooms, bathroom facilities shared between up to 4 students. Freeman's Common is located very close to the University campus.

Mary Gee Houses – standard rooms, bathroom facilities shared between 5 students. The Mary Gee Houses are located a short bus ride away from the campus.

Students staying in on-campus residences must pay an Accommodation Confirmation Payment to secure their room. This payment is for £2000 and is due one month before the start of term. You will be expected to pay the remainder of your rent directly to the university as per their terms and conditions.

Accommodation facilities

When you arrive we aim to help you to settle in as quickly and as smoothly as possible. We know that when you arrive at Leicester you may feel anxious that you do not know anyone. But everyone feels the same, and living in University accommodation you soon get to meet your neighbours.

All bedrooms have broadband internet access for a small charge, so keeping in touch with family and friends is easy. There is a launderette on campus, along with shops, health services and other essential facilities.

Arrival

Please do not arrive more than 2 days before your course is due to start as your room may not be available.

We expect to see you arrive at your accommodation on Saturday 26th June 2010.

You must ensure the International Admissions Centre (IAC) have been advised of your expected arrival details in good time, on Telephone +44 (0)1273 339333 or Fax +44 (0)1273 339334. If the IAC have not been informed of your arrival time, and you arrive out of hours, there may be no-one available to meet you at your residence.

All residences normal opening hours are 9am – 5pm, and there are night porters on site until midnight at Nixon Court.

On arrival you will need to pay a key deposit of £30, so you should bring this with you.

You should complete an inventory within 48 hours of moving into your term-time room. Any damage or missing items should be noted on the form and returned to the Manager's Office. Failure to return this form may result in unnecessary charges to you for damaged/missing items that were not reported.

Your first day

You will need to report to the ISC at 11am, in Prospect House, at 94 Regent Road, on Monday 28th June.

The ISC is circled on the campus map included with this pack. You will spend the day meeting members of staff at the ISC, and completing your student registration forms. You will be given a detailed arrival handbook and your timetable, which lets you know exactly where you should be, and when. You will have plenty of opportunities to ask questions.

Please note that dependant on your study plan, you may be required to move rooms during your course, and may have to sign separate contracts for each tenancy period.

Settling In

Arriving in your room you should find a pre-ordered bedding pack, which will include a duvet, pillow and complete set of linen. The price of this is currently £20. The bedding pack will be charged against your student account. Please note there is no towel provided and you should bring your own.

All self-catered residences have kitchens which are equipped with cooking facilities. You will, however, need to provide your own cutlery and pans. These can be bought cheaply from local shops.

All rooms are provided with a telephone. The telephones can receive both incoming and outgoing calls. All outgoing calls will be charged to the rooms, and incoming calls will cost the callers at the BT national rate.

If you will be under 18 on arrival at the ISC, the University of Leicester policy is that you must have a UK based guardian. If you do not already have a guardian in the UK, Study Group can help appoint one for you for each term that you are under the age of 18. Both you, and your parents, should be aware that under UK law you are considered a minor until you turn 18, and understand what steps the University of Leicester will take regarding a resident under the age of 18.

Please note that tap water in Britain is safe to drink. If you feel wary of this, water filters are readily available at most supermarkets, which you could buy on arrival.

There are shops both on campus and very close to campus, which sell most things you'll initially need. Before flying, please check with your airline what you are allowed to bring on to the flight, particularly in reference to food products.

Please be aware that you will be charged a refundable accommodation security deposit of £250, which will be deducted from your £2000 accommodation confirmation payment.

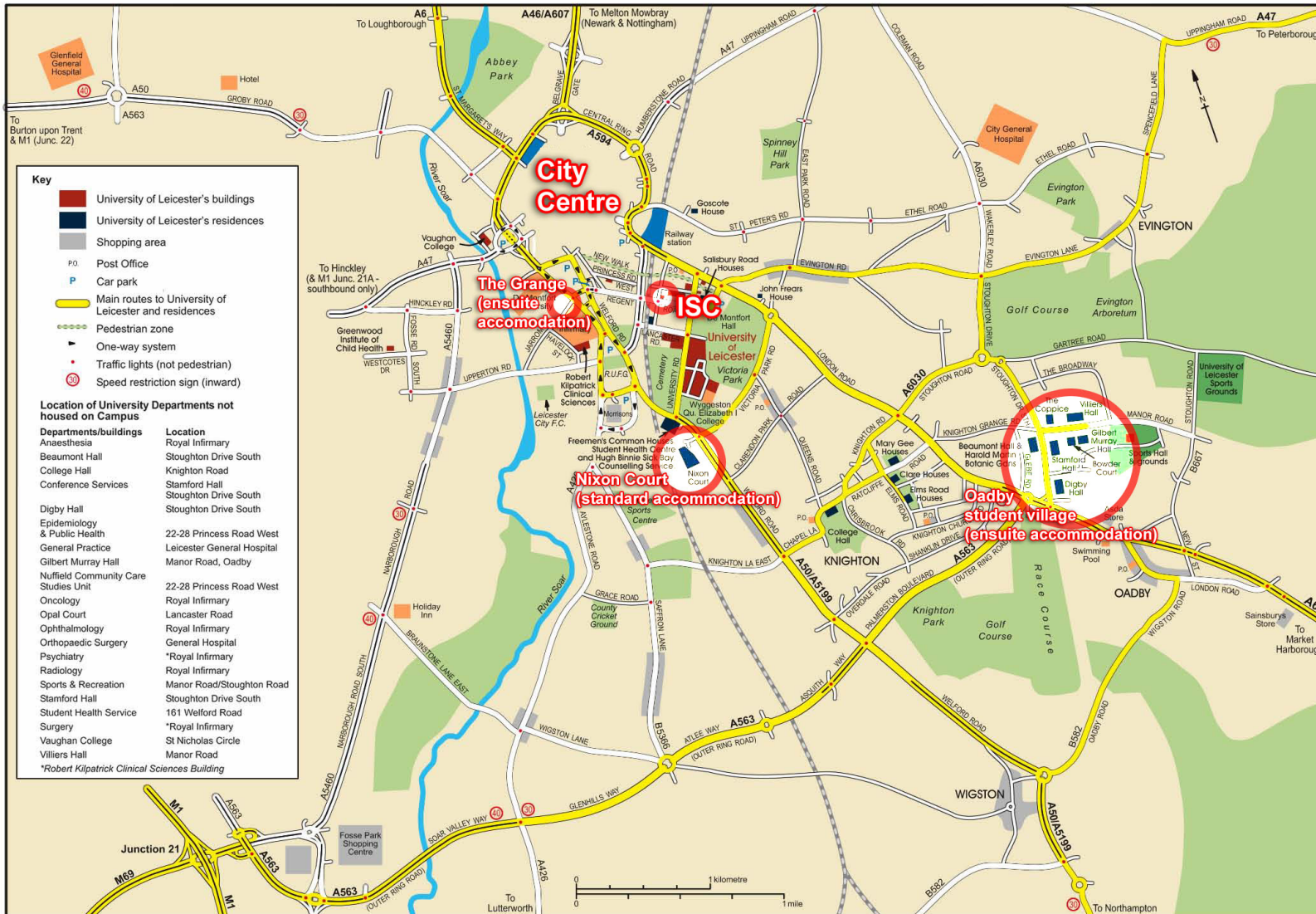
Leicester accommodation 'terms and conditions' webpage:
www.le.ac.uk/accommodation/conditions/conditions.html

Please see the ISC Webpage to answer any other queries you may have –
www.studygroup.com/isc/leicester/



University of Leicester

Leicester and Surrounding Area



Bus

Services include: Arriva route 47/48 from St Margaret's Bus Station and route 80 from Charles Street. Buses run approximately every 20 minutes during term time and every hour out of term. The buses go on from the campus to the University's Halls of Residence at Oadby. The fare from the bus station is about 80 pence. It will take approximately 40 minutes to walk up to the University from the bus station.

National Express Coach Enquiries

Telephone: 0990 808080

Bus Timetable Information

Telephone Traveline: 0870 608 2 608
Arriva (pdf bus timetables):
<http://www.arriva.co.uk/bustimes>

Rail

National Rail Enquiries
Telephone: 08457 484 950

Taxi

There is a taxi rank at both the bus and train stations. You may wish to take a taxi to the Charles Wilson Building, at the top of Mayors Walk. Roughly costing £5.00.

On Foot

From Market Street the University may be reached in 20-25 minutes: walk down King Street and turn left along New Walk, passing the Museum and Art Gallery; and then turn right either along University Road or through Victoria Park.