

## **Student Pregnancy and Maternity Policy**

Orlando Village Halls of Residence consists of single occupancy rooms and does not provide family accommodation. Due to this, we are unable to provide suitable accommodation for any student who informs Orlando Village of their pregnancy prior to taking up occupancy of their room.

## If a Student becomes pregnant while residing in Orlando Village

Pregnant students living in Orlando Village should appreciate that their accommodation licence is for single occupancy only. Whilst their accommodation may be suitable for a student in the early stage of their pregnancy, it is unlikely that it will be suitable as the expected date of delivery nears due to Health and Safety reasons.

A student who suspects she is pregnant should see her GP to have the pregnancy confirmed as soon as possible. If she decides to terminate the pregnancy or miscarries there is no need to disclose this to the Orlando Village staff if she does not wish to.

The highest risk to the baby is during the first 13 weeks of pregnancy. Consequently, students should be encouraged to notify Orlando Village staff as early as possible of their pregnancy so that a health and safety assessment can be conducted to identify any adjustments that may be possible. They will also advise them on appropriate alternative accommodation where applicable.

As Orlando Village does not provide family accommodation, support will be given to existing students to help them find suitable privately rented or local authority housing.

Every support in finding alternative accommodation prior to the arrival of their baby or prior to returning from maternity related absence will be given to the student if they do have to leave their accommodation.

You are advised to discuss your pregnancy with family and friends and seek appropriate medical advice before making any decisions.

Any student who has to leave the Halls of Residence earlier due to pregnancy or maternity will not incur a financial penalty for early termination of their accommodation contract. However, the student will be asked to submit support evidence of her pregnancy. Evidence required could be either letter from the GP or midwife or a maternity certificate.