

WELCOME

Welcome to your student survival guide. Our gift to you - just a few easy steps to making your way through this year at uni.

We are Chloe and Dan, the Students' Union Presidents at SUBU and AUBSU.

We've put this little book together for you to give you some tips and tricks on how to get through this year, from getting on with your housemates and neighbours, to paying bills and generally saving some money!

We've both had 3 years at uni ourselves and these are just a few things we have picked up along the way. Give it a read and keep hold of it - it might come in handy throughout the year, and if there are any problems, feel free to come and see us in either of our offices in AUBSU or SUBU.

Check the inventory carefully and make sure that everything in the house or flat (i.e. furniture) is accounted for. Also check that everything your landlord or agent have stated in the inventory is present, in the correct place and that any scratches and marks etc are noted down. If you don't state everything then you might be charged at the end of the year for damage you didn't cause! If there is no inventory then keep asking, or make your own and send it to your landlord!

Take photos of EVERYTHING and keep them on record with a date - this is especially true for any stains/damage/mould. Again, you might need the photos at the end of the year to ensure that you don't pay for any damage you didn't cause. This might be something you send over to your landlord or agent at the beginning of the contract - don't leave it too late!

Change your address with your bank, university, Student Finance and anyone else you can think of if you want your mail sent to your term time address! Don't be scared to knock on the door of your old

GETTING ON WITH YOUR HOUSEMATES

5 QUICK STEPS TO A HAPPY HOME

1. **Agree on simple ground rules** about cleaning and general jobs around the home.
2. **Set up how bills will be paid** each month, ensuring everyone contributes fairly.
3. **Pick your rooms fairly**, if you can't decide, then pick them out of a hat.
4. **Agree on what is acceptable when it comes to contributing and sharing** your stuff, that includes anything from food to utensils, to shower gel and toilet roll.
5. **Try to accommodate for your housemates**, that includes being accepting of dietary requirements, religious beliefs, even down to the times people go to bed or how clean people would like the house to be.



KEEPING THE HOUSE CLEAN

Keeping the house nice and clean is not only important for a friendly living space, it's also important to ensure that you get your deposits back from the Deposit Protection Scheme (DPS) at the end of the year. It's a lot of money to lose out on and we want to help make sure you get this back. **Remember that if you damage anything, it will need to be replaced or fixed by the end of the year or you will be charged for it!**

BINS

Bin days vary from place to place.

To find out the day and times your bins are collected, including recycling collection and food waste visit the council's website here:

www.bournemouth.gov.uk/recycling

This will also explain what you can and can't recycle.

- **Remember to put your bins out no later than 7am that morning and no earlier than 7pm the night before!**
- **If you do require extra or bigger bins**, you can ask your landlord to organise this with the council, who will happily give them to yTc O..4(o)o.
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GETTING ON WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS

Whether it's another group of students, or a family, getting to know your neighbours will help to make this year as easy as possible. It's not as scary as it looks - just knock on their door and introduce yourself! If they're other students - it could be more people to hang out with this year and if you live near a family, it's really important to let them know who you are so that you make a good impression and get off to a good start!

At uni, it's really easy to get wrapped up in your own student 'bubble' and forget that regular people with families and jobs live around you! We're not here to tell you not to have fun, but just remember to be considerate when it comes to making noise. It might sound dramatic, but if you live next door to people who are elderly, with young children, or those who need to be up early every morning for work - what you think is harmless fun might be seriously impacting on their lives.

If you're having pre-drinks or a party, give your neighbours a heads up a couple of days beforehand and check that they're okay with it. We've had loads of residents in Winton tell us that this would have made such a difference to them!

And when it gets too late, or when you get back from a night out, just keep the volume down as much as you can!

Also, when you're leaving pre-drinks or getting home from a night out, remember not to shout or to slam taxi doors. Nearly everyone around you will probably be in bed and won't want to be woken up!



LOCK IT OR LOSE IT

It's pretty obvious to burglars which the student houses are and it makes you an **easy target**. Burglaries not only cost you money, but they can take an emotional toll on you and can impact you hugely if something really valuable or sentimental is to get stolen.

- Keep windows and doors closed and locked when you are out or in another room - burglars aren't always put off if you are still in the house!
- Ask to have your 'student lets' sign taken down by your estate agent - it advertises that you're a house with several laptops, iPads etc and it doesn't need to be there!
- Keep your valuables out of sight where you can and register them at www.immobilise.com, and purchase Contents Insurance with Endsleigh at www.endsleigh.co.uk.
- Get your bike tagged with the police on campus (probably at the back entrance of BU by the roundabout) on the 13th/14th October and your valuables security marked on the 21st and 22nd.

So always remember to Lock It or Lose It!

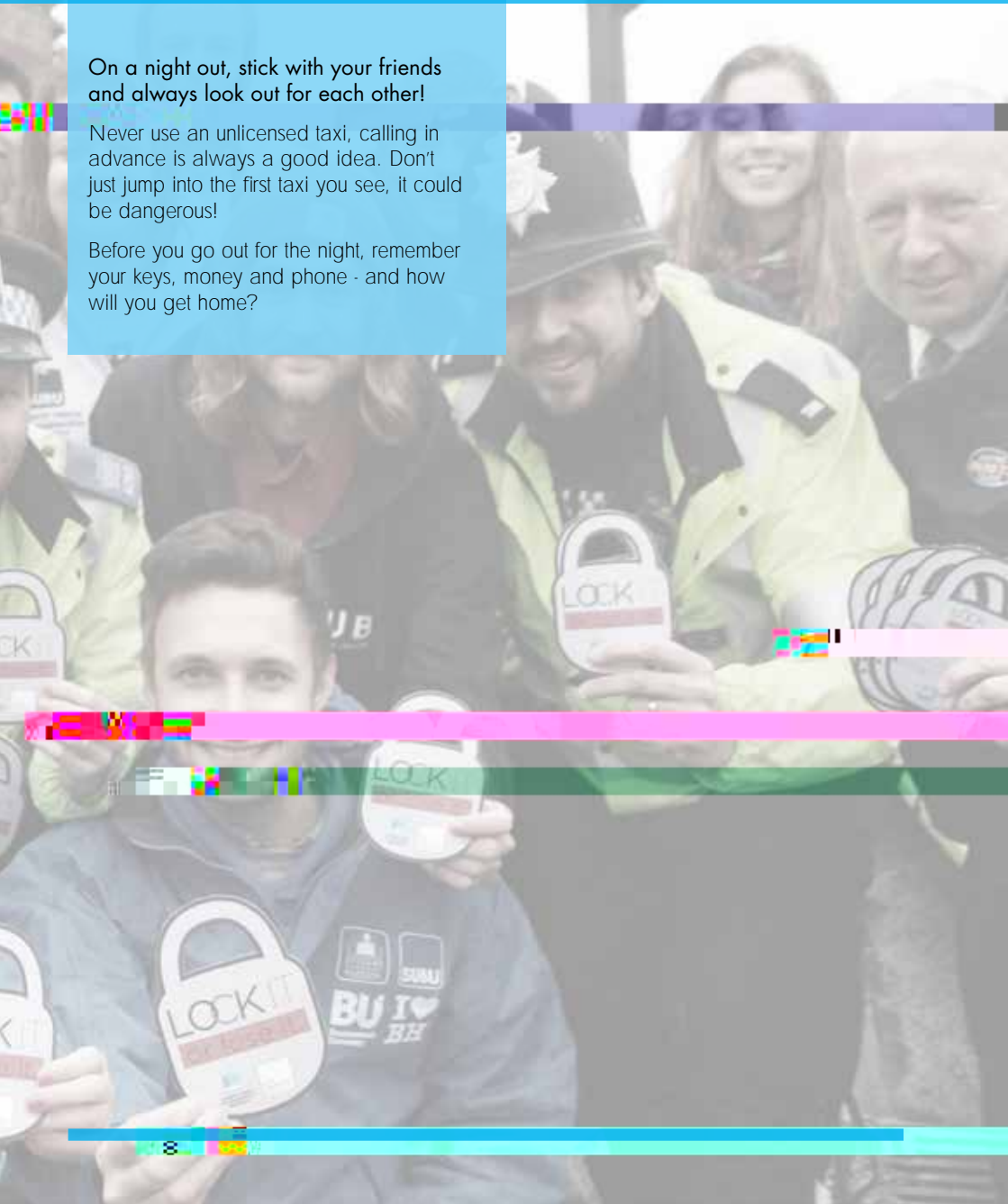


KEEPING SAFE

On a night out, stick with your friends and always look out for each other!

Never use an unlicensed taxi, calling in advance is always a good idea. Don't just jump into the first taxi you see, it could be dangerous!

Before you go out for the night, remember your keys, money and phone - and how will you get home?





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COFFEE

Between AUBSU and SUBU, we have **13 community wardens this year**, who are there to improve the relationships between students and the local residents in Winton. They might have even be the ones who delivered this guide to you! The community wardens are there to speak to you about issues that you or the residents might have as well as giving you any information that they think is relevant about all things community based.

If you see them or if they knock on your door, then feel free to ask them about any queries you might have to do with your house, your local area or your neighbours and they should be able to guide you in the right direction!

As you may or may not know, SUBU offer a free, independent and

