

Transport - A free inter-campus bus service visits all off-campus residences every half-hour between 06:30 and 23:30, Mondays to Fridays. On Saturdays and Sundays, the buses also go to the Rosebank shopping malls.

Medical - The Campus Health & Wellness Centre provides residence students with a wide range of services at a nominal fee per consultation, including basic medication, provided they agree to be screened by one of the Centre's primary health care nurses before being taken through to see the campus doctor. All resident staff are trained in first aid. The Milpark Hospital (for students with medical aid cover) and the Johannesburg Hospital are nearby.

Residence intake for new first-year undergraduates will take place at a venue, date and time to be advised to students that have received a residence offer.

Because of the high demand for accommodation, **latecomers** may lose their residence places. If, therefore, you are likely to arrive late you must contact the Accommodation Officer of your residence.

Fast track students, please go directly to your assigned residence.

You must bring **proof of identity** - ie an ID book or passport.

Bursary or scholarship students must bring certified documentary proof that they have been granted a bursary/scholarship.

All self-funding students must bring documentary proof of their parents' income.

International students must bring a clearance letter from the International Office.

All new first year students will receive accommodation and two meals each day during the first part of the orientation period.

Lectures will start on Monday, 8 March 2021.

Useful Contact Details (During office hours only, EXCEPT Campus Control)	
University Switchboard	Tel: 011 717 1000 (Office hours only)
	Tel: 011 717 9172 / 9173 / 9174
	E-mail: accommodation@wits.ac.za
Female Residences - Office Numbers	
Girton Hall	011 717 5071 / 5081
Jubilee Hall	011 717 9601 / 9608
Medhurst Hall	011 717 5091 / 5081
Reith Hall	011 717 5091 / 50
Sunnyside Hall	011 717 9623 / 9608
Male Residences - Office Numbers	
Ernest Oppenheimer Hall	011 717 3822 / 3821
Knockando Halls	011 482 4326 / 011 717 3821
Men's Halls	011 717 9628 / 9608
Mixed Gender Residences - Office Numbers	
The Junction	Tel: 011 717 5028 / 29 / 31 / 32
Noswal Hall	Tel: 011 717 5009 / 5008
Rennie House	Tel: 011 712 4973 / 5008
Yale Village	Tel: 011 717 9259 / 9659
Protection Services (Security)	Tel: 011 717 4444 / 6666 (24-hour service)
Campus Health & Wellness Centre	Tel: 011 71 9111 / 9113

LIVING @ WITS 2021

A residence guide for new undergraduate students (or their parents)



The Wits Residence Programme has more than 6300 students in 18 residences offering a wide range of accommodation, from fully-catered undergraduate halls with communal facilities, to self-catered apartments for senior postgraduates. We have limited space for **new first-year undergraduates**.

Residence applicants are principally selected on the basis of past **academic achievement** and special consideration is given to younger applicants.

Most first year undergraduates are allocated to double rooms in single-sex residences, according to their fields of study, as follows:

FEMALES	Girton Hall	Health Sciences
	Jubilee Hall	Architecture, Commerce & Humanities
	Medhurst Hall	Education, Engineering & The Built Environment
	Reith Hall	Science
MALES	Sunnyside Hall	Commerce & Humanities
	Ernest Oppenheimer Hall	Health Sciences & Education
	Knockando Halls	Engineering & Built Environment
MIXED GENDER (self-catering)	Men's Halls of Residence	Commerce & Humanities
	Yale House, Rennie House	All Faculties
MIXED GENDER (catered)	The Wits Junction, Noswal Hall	All Faculties
	David Webster, Barnato Hall	All Faculties

Because of the importance of our residence-based academic support programme, it is unfortunately not possible for new students to be allocated to other residences for the first year of study. At the end of their first year students can apply to transfer to other residences for the following year, provided they have made adequate academic progress and have paid all their fees on time.

Communal residence facilities include common rooms, indoor games rooms, television rooms (with DSTV), free laundry facilities, study areas, computer centres and WiFi in many areas. "EOH" and "Knock" have their own outdoor sports facilities and gyms and all undergraduate residences are conveniently located near University sports venues.

The Central Accommodation Office is located on the ground floor of Solomon Mahlangu House (on Braamfontein Campus East) and deals with enquiries from all new applicants.



Bedrooms are equipped with beds and good quality mattresses, desks and chairs, bookcases and lockable wardrobes. (NB - All valuables should be kept under lock and key at all times.) Every room has curtains or blinds and central heating or a wall-mounted electric heater. (NB - Private heaters are not permitted.)

Dining halls are located in or near each of the undergraduate residences, and allow all students the flexibility of being able to take meals in any of our six dining halls to suit their personal timetables (both academic and social.) Self-catering students may also register for meals using the Oppidan meal booking system.

Residence staff include Residence Assistant Registrars (who oversee groups of individual residences), Accommodation Officers (one in each residence) and Residence Wardens (who live on the premises and provide after-hours supervision and support with the assistance of elected Student House Committees).

Security is a cooperative effort! All students are therefore expected to observe the University's rules regarding access to residences. (All undergraduate residences have 24-hour reception/security services.)

Visitors are permitted in residences during the following hours only:

Sundays to Thursdays: 09:00 - 23:00

Fridays & Saturdays : 09:00 - 24:00

Female first-year undergraduate students may not have male visitors in their bedrooms at any time. Adequate lounges are provided for receiving visitors.

All visitors are required to provide proof of identification and must be signed in at the residence reception desk by their hosts/hostesses. Residents are held accountable for any misconduct on the part of their visitors (including noise.)

NB - Overnight visitors and are not permitted (not even relatives!)

Communal living requires a high degree of tolerance and cooperation, as well as consideration for the rights of others - especially the rights of others to study without disturbance. For this reason we have strict rules regarding excessive noise, but these are relaxed during the daily "noise hours" from 17:00 to 19:00 (except during exam periods.)

Some new students have difficulty in **adjusting to residence life**, and homesickness may occur, so staff are available at all hours to counsel and provide basic support to any student needing advice or support.

Parents and guardians are therefore asked to encourage students to notify residence staff of any problems that they are experiencing.

What to bring...

Every student *must* bring -

- bedding (sheets, blanket or duvet, pillows and pillow slips) (NB - No sheets, no bed!)
- towels and toiletries (soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, etc)
- laundry washing powder/detergent (auto, not high foam)
- his/her South African identity book or foreign passport

You should also bring -

- a desk lamp (except Girton, Medhurst, Reith and Knockando)
- a 30mm padlock with two keys
- sport or games equipment (optional, but strongly encouraged)
- (males) a white shirt with a collar, and a tie (for formal dinners)

You may also bring -

- a kettle and a coffee mug
- an electric iron (for use only in the laundry rooms, NOT in bedrooms)

You may also bring the following, subject to certain restrictions -

- a personal computer (with electrical surge protection)
- a laptop computer (**only if it is fully insured!**)
- a radio or a small hi-fi
- a small television set* (maximum size 54cm) and a TV licence!
- a small microwave oven* (maximum size 20 litres)
- a small refrigerator* (maximum size 223 litres)

*An additional electricity fee will be charged for each of these items.

What NOT to bring... (ie strictly prohibited items!)

Students may NOT have the following in their residences at any time -

- alcohol
- illegal drugs or weapons of any nature (remember that residence building are the properties of Wits University)
- personal heaters (The University provides heaters.)
- gas, paraffin or kerosene appliances, electric hotplates, primus stoves or candles
- inflammable liquids or fireworks
- pets (except for registered guide dogs)
- overnight visitors - not even relatives!

The following are not permitted -

- smoking indoors in any part of any residence
- male visitors in first year (ie double) rooms in female residences
- visitors at any time other than during normal visiting hours