

HERTS INSIDER

**THE UNOFFICIAL
GUIDE TO
STUDENT LIFE**

HERTS SU
YOUR UNION







FIND WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

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HELLO!

Whether you're from down the road or across the world, welcome to Herts! This guide will help you settle in smoothly.

This guide is...

- ✓ Filled with practical advice and top tips
- ✓ Designed to help you settle into university life
- ✓ Useful for both home and international students

This guide isn't....

- ✗ An official university handbook
- ✗ Every university regulation
- ✗ A replacement for Ask Herts or official university guidance

Herts Insider has been written by us, your Elected Officers for the 2026–27 academic year. Think of it as the advice your older university friend wishes they'd had 💖

Forever Iconic,
Your beautiful Elected Officers 🍷

Judith
President Education

Esther
President Community





SETTLING INTO UK LIFE

WEATHER - EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

Welcome to British weather, where you can experience sunshine, rain and wind all in one day! Winters are usually cold and wet, while summers are mild, with temperatures often around 20–25°C. Snow is rare, but it can make a surprise appearance!

Top Tips

- Layer up, the weather can change quickly
- Keep a waterproof jacket or umbrella handy
- Always check the forecast before heading out!

One thing you'll learn quickly is that the weather is a favourite conversation starter here!

BRITISH CULTURE

Moving to the UK means discovering new traditions, habits and ways of life. The little things matter here!

- **Queue Like a Pro**

British people love a good queue! At bus stops, shops and cafés, everyone waits their turn. Jumping the queue is a big no-no!

- **Sport Brings People Together**

From football and rugby to cricket, tennis and Formula 1, sport is a huge part of British conversations. Not a sports fan? No problem, a chat about the weather always works!

- **Manners Matter**

Remember to say THANK YOU!

GETTING AROUND

AT UNI



- Familiarise yourself with the [campus maps](#) for each campus



- Get the [Herts Mobile App](#) so you can find your classrooms, the libraries and cafés on campus more easily. You can also stay updated with real-time notifications on parking availability, road closures, traffic & other campus changes



- You can catch a free shuttle bus between campuses! Just look out for any Uno bus and show your student ID card



- There are a number of options for [parking](#) on and near to campus



- You can explore campus with HertSquad's [Active Ride](#) free bike scheme (for up to 2 hours)

LOCALLY



- There are lots of bus links from popular towns like St Albans, Luton, Barnet & Queensbury. Visit the [Uno](#) website for route information



- Visit [AAA Taxis](#) to book a local taxi



- Hatfield is on the same train line as landmark destinations like London & Cambridge, meaning you can explore the country real easily!

STUDENT MONEY HACKS

DOWNLOAD THESE APPS!

Discounts

[Student Beans](#)

[UNiDAYS](#)

Food

[Too Good to Go](#)

[Olio](#)

These are apps that help reduce food waste by connecting you with surplus food from local stores, allowing it to be bought at a low cost or collected for free instead of being thrown away. You can even pick things up from outlets on campus!

SUPPORT AT UNI

The uni's Financial Support team have put together some great guidance with [support managing your finances](#).

You can also take advantage of the [Blackbullion](#) platform you have access to as a Herts student, an online money and financial skills tool.

ADDITIONAL DEALS

Take a look at our [Student Offers & Discounts](#) page for even more exclusive deals. Get it! 💰



STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

LIVING ON CAMPUS?

Easy! You can relax and enjoy campus and its surroundings.



[Support for Students Living On Campus](#)

LIVING OFF CAMPUS?

This can be its own adventure! But we want to make sure you're taking every precaution so you don't end up in a sticky situation 😬

To make sure you don't get scammed, rent a house registered to the [PAL](#) accredited scheme. This is a partnership project with the university and council which recognises landlords & agents who meet their legal obligations, going above and beyond to provide quality homes.

You can also get a council tax student exemption by proving your student status. You will just need to request a [Student Status Letter](#).

You're also encouraged to familiarise yourself with the new [Renters Right Law](#).



VISA & IMMIGRATION

VISA RESPONSIBILITIES

If you're studying at Herts on a student visa, it's important to understand your visa responsibilities from day one.

You must...

- Attend your scheduled classes
- Stay actively engaged with your studies
- Follow all the conditions of your visa

If you're unable to attend for any reason, you must notify the university and follow their [Authorised Absence Process](#).

Failure to meet your visa conditions could affect your immigration status and your ability to continue studying in the UK. You mustn't take it lightly!

Don't forget to swipe your physical student ID card whenever required while on campus. You can't use a digital ID card for this.

Your student ID card swipes help the university monitor your attendance and engagement, which are important requirements of your visa.

Regular attendance records are used to demonstrate compliance with UK visa regulations. If you fail to swipe your student ID card consistently, your attendance may not be recorded correctly, which could result in you receiving communications from the Dean of Students (or other university teams) to check on your wellbeing and engagement with your studies.

STAYING IN TOUCH

Remember to check your university email address every day. Important updates about your course, attendance, visa compliance, university services – and of course, information from your SU 😊 – will be sent to the email account you registered with the university.

SUPPORT

If you have any questions about your visa, immigration status or working during your studies, the university's Student Immigration Team is here to help.

Useful Links



[Essential Tips for Student Visa Holders](#)

Contact the Student Immigration Team



[SIT \(Advice\)](#)
[SIT \(Compliance\)](#)



WORKING

Did you know? You can work while you study!

If your visa permits, you can work...

- Up to 20 hours per week during term time
- Up to 40 hours per week during vacation periods

Need to prove your student status to an employer? Request a [Student Status Letter](#) from the university to confirm your enrolment and study details.

You should also provide [Evidence of Vacation Period](#) to employers to ensure you can work proper hours during term and vacation time.

HANDY APPS

If you're anything like us and you're glued to your phone, you'll want to download these apps 📱

UNI

[Herts Mobile](#)

[Canvas](#)

STUDYING

[Outlook](#)

[Teams](#)

GETTING AROUND

[City Mapper](#)

[Uno Bus](#)

[Trainline](#)

[AppBike](#)

SHOPPING

[Vinted](#)

FOOD

[Too Good to Go](#)

[Olio](#)

JOBS

[My Career Portal](#)





SOCIAL LIFE

HANGOUT SPOTS

College Lane

The Oval

[EleHouse](#)

[The Forum](#)

De Havilland

Café Ambition

Hatfield

[The Galleria](#)



There are also a number of [food & drink outlets](#) on both campuses you can enjoy!

THE LOCAL AREA

- **Local Market**

There are a number of [markets](#) in the town centre on the weekend

- **Hairdressers & Barbers**

You can find a range of hairdressers and barbers in the [town centre](#) and in [The Galleria](#)

- **Laundry**

Both campuses have laundry facilities for students who choose to live in campus accommodation

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES AT UNI

- Events

We run a range of events so there's something for everyone! Whether you're looking for seasonal celebrations, crafty activities, trips to landmark locations or the chance to celebrate different cultures, we've got you covered!

- Societies

Mini communities bringing students together around shared interests. They run their own events throughout the year!

- EleHouse

Your on-campus pub. Pop in for a drink with friends, our games room or for somewhere to watch live sports on campus

- The Forum

Bringing you club nights week in, week out!

- HertSquad's Active Students

Free sports, dance & activities on both campuses. No commitment necessary!

- HertSquad's Club Sport

With a wide variety of competitive sports on offer, this is your chance to represent the uni

- ResLife's Events

For those of you that live on campus, you can also benefit from events the Residence Life team run



STUDENT VOICE

The beauty of being a student is that you have such a big say in your university experience. The student voice carries a lot of weight at Herts and it's been proven to drive meaningful change. Make sure you're using yours!

OUR TOP TIPS

- **Surveys**

Take part in all SU surveys so that your best interests are being considered! [Herts Unfiltered](#) is a big one to look out for, as this is an ongoing conversation between us and you that genuinely leads to improvements in real time. You've got to fill it in and that is periodt 🤝

- **Student Leaders**

We also encourage you to chat regularly to your student leaders - like us! - as we're here to represent you. You can even become a student leader yourself. All the following student leaders are here to represent you...

- Elected Officers
- School & Student Community Organisers (SCOs)
- Student Reps



[@HertsSUStudentLeaders](#)

FOLLOW US!





STUDENT SUPPORT

ADVICE & SUPPORT

We're here for you during your time at Herts!

We know uni isn't always smooth sailing. Our friendly Advice & Support team are here for you, whether you need help with something academic or non-academic. We can offer you free, confidential & impartial advice and support.



hertssu.com/advice



You can get advice on both campuses!

Hutton Hub, College Lane
The Atrium, De Havilland



advice@hertssu.com



01707 285000

WE GOT YOU!



UNIVERSITY SUPPORT

Student Wellbeing

Find out how the uni's Student Wellbeing team can support you with counselling, mental health care, accessibility services, and disability support.

PAM Wellness

0808 196 3533

24/7 student assistance via the helpline or the Champion Health App.

Accessibility & Disability Support

Access confidential, tailored support.

AccessAble's Accessibility Guide

View an accessibility guide for the University of Hertfordshire.

Campus Security

01707 281010

Find out more about how security looks out for you.

Financial Support

See what financial support is available.

Multi Faith Spaces and Chaplaincy Support

Find out more about the multi faith spaces across both campuses, as well as the chaplaincy support that's available.

Careers Support

Access careers advice, jobs, placements, CV feedback and interview practice during your studies (and for up to four years after graduation!)

STUDY SMART AT HERTS

It's why we're all here, right?

Your degree will be assessed through a combination of coursework and exams, depending on your course. Coursework can include essays, presentations, reports, group projects or dissertations, while exams can be open-book or closed-book. Make sure you know what's expected for each module and stay on top of deadlines!

DEGREE CLASSIFICATIONS

Undergraduate

70%+	First Class
60%+	2:1
50%+	2:2
40%+	Third
Below 40%	Fail

Postgraduate

70%+	Distinction
60%+	Merit/Commendation
50%+	Pass
Below 50%	Fail



Success at university isn't just about attending lectures. Make sure you are actively taking part in seminars, completing your reading, managing your time and leaving plenty of time to complete assignments to the best of your ability. Trust us, leaving assignments until the last minute never ends well!

STUDY SPOTS

COLLEGE LANE

Learning Resources Centre (LRC)

Open 24/7! You can use the LRC for study spaces, library resources, computers, printing facilities, study skills support & expert help.

Chapman Lounge

With lots of seating available, this is a great option for groups!

The Oval

There's lots of room to sit comfortably and get your head down here!

DE HAVILLAND

Learning Resources Centre (LRC)

Open 24/7! You can use the LRC for study spaces, library resources, computers, printing facilities, study skills support & expert help.

The Atrium Balcony

There are a number of mini nooks you can utilise here which are great for independent study.

Postgraduate Centre

A perfect spot for postgraduate students to get their head down, with lots of room for independent or group work.

There are also spaces within each School of Study you can utilise!



MEET HERTS SU

Helping you love life at Herts!

Herts SU is your Students' Union and we can't stop talking about the support we give to students! We're here to help you stay happy and safe, while making the most out of your uni experience.

We're also proud to be making waves nationally, ranking 18th in the UK following the National Student Survey (NSS) results in 2026. That's right, we're a top 20 SU! Clock it 🍷

Every student is automatically a member of the SU, so you're already part of our amazing community. Take advantage of your free membership with us!



We're here to...

- Help you meet people and make friends
- Give you memorable experiences
- Represent you
- Support you

CATCH US WHILE WE'RE OPEN!



Offices
Monday to Friday
10AM – 4PM



Advice & Support
Monday to Friday
10AM – 4PM



EleHouse
Monday to Friday
12PM – 10PM

We also run loads of events outside these hours! All times are listed on the [events](#) themselves. See you soon besties 🤗

FIND US ON CAMPUS!

We're never far away! You can find us on both campuses

Hutton Hub, College Lane

On this campus you'll find our Welcome Desk, Advice & Support Centre, EleHouse, The Forum and Hutton Hall

The Atrium, De Havilland

On this campus you'll find our Welcome Desk and Advice & Support Centre



REACH US ONLINE & GIVE US A FOLLOW



hertssu.com



contact@hertssu.com



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