

Pregnancy in Residence Policy

2025 - 2026



Department: Residential Services

Team: Student Health & Wellbeing

Authority: Student Health & Wellbeing Manager

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Introduction

The University of London Intercollegiate Halls are committed to fostering an inclusive, supportive environment for all licence holders, including those who become pregnant or are expectant parents during their residency, under a valid licence agreement with the University of London (the "Licence Agreement"). Recognising that pregnancy and maternity is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010, this policy ensures that licence holders who are pregnant or expectant parents are provided with the necessary support to continue their studies and maintain their accommodation arrangements wherever possible, while prioritising health and safety.

Scope

This policy applies to all licence holders residing in University of London Intercollegiate Halls who:

- are pregnant or become pregnant during their residency; or
- have a live-in partner who is pregnant, or becomes pregnancy during their residency.

Disclosure & Confidentiality

Licence holders are encouraged, though not obligated, to inform the Hall Warden or Hall Manager as early as possible upon discovering they or their live-in partner is pregnant. Contact details may be found on our **CampusLife site**.

Early disclosure enables the University to conduct a personal health and safety Risk Assessment, consider the need for a personal emergency evacuation plan, and arrange support. We encourage early disclosure even if the student has not yet decided whether to proceed with pregnancy as it may still be appropriate to conduct a Risk Assessment, to address any health and safety concerns specific to the resident's condition and accommodation (a "Risk Assessment") In the event that a pregnancy is not carried to term, again we encourage early disclosure of this information so that we can offer support if needed and amend any risk assessments.

Confidentiality will be maintained, with information shared only on a need-to-know basis and with the licence holder's consent, except where serious safety concerns require disclosure.

Health and Safety

Upon notification of pregnancy to the Warden or Hall Manager, a Risk Assessment will be conducted. This Risk Assessment will identify any necessary adjustments to ensure a safe and supportive environment. Risk Assessments will be revisited periodically, particularly as the pregnancy progresses, to ensure continued safety and appropriateness of accommodation.

If the person who is pregnant is a student, we ask that they also inform the Federation Member (or other third-party supplier of education services) where they are registered to study, so that the Federation Member or third party supplier of education services can carry out their own appropriate Risk Assessments, including any risks associated with, for example, laboratory practice or field trips.

Residency Flexibility

If necessary, the University will allow a licence holder who is pregnant, or whose livein partner is pregnant, to end their Licence Agreement early without financial penalty or ongoing liability for accommodation fees. The following requirements apply:

- The licence holder must provide medical evidence of pregnancy. The pregnant person's doctor or midwife can provide form Mat B1 for this purpose, which should be sent to the Accommodation Team.
- The licence agreement may be terminated without penalty or liability from the 12th week of pregnancy onwards, by the licence holder giving at least 28 days' notice of their intention to terminate their Licence Agreement and vacate the accommodation.

Alternative Accommodation

Most of the Intercollegiate Halls are not a suitable living environment for infants. If a licence holder or their live-in partner becomes pregnant during their residency, they are encouraged to discuss their accommodation needs with the Housing Services team as early as possible. The University will not require a resident to leave solely because they are pregnant. However, given that most halls cannot accommodate children, residents expecting a baby should explore alternative housing options before the child's birth. The Housing Services team can provide guidance on suitable accommodation, including support with private rentals and information on local authority housing options. Residents are encouraged to seek alternative accommodation at least eight weeks before their expected due date to ensure a smooth transition to a more appropriate living environment.

Support Available

Pregnant residents can access numerous support systems:

- Hall Wardens offer confidential first-line guidance and can coordinate practical accommodations within the residence.
- Each student's home university provides specialised support services, including academic advisors who can help arrange deadline extensions or interruptions of study, and dedicated welfare teams offering pregnancy-specific counselling.
- GPs serve as the primary medical contact, providing essential prenatal care referrals, pregnancy confirmation, and connecting students with NHS maternity services.

These three support avenues work collaboratively to ensure pregnant residents receive comprehensive assistance with both practical and emotional aspects of pregnancy while studying.

Contact Information

For further support or enquiries related to this policy, residents may contact:

Student Health & Wellbeing Manager: health.wellbeing@london.ac.uk

Residential Life Manager: residential.life@london.ac.uk

Accommodation Office: info.halls@london.ac.uk

Finance Office: ahd.finance@london.ac.uk