

Imperial College London

**FIRE SERVICES
ROOM 174, SHERFIELD BUILDING**

Code of Practice

Revision No: 1
Date: 19-01-24

Use of Portable Heaters

The purpose of this Code of Practice (CoP) is to allow for the use of portable heaters within college property without contravention of the Fire Regulations or compromising the safety of any of the building users. To enable this, the College requires that all portable heaters used on Imperial premises are;

- Only used when there is a failure of the Building Temperature Protocol and with the knowledge and permission of the Building Manager.
- Sourced from Imperial suppliers via ICIS and not sourced from home or purchased privately.
- Used, stored and maintained appropriately in accordance with the manufacturers specifications.
- Compliant with the Electrical Equipment Code of Practice.
- Switched off when not in use or unattended.
- Not one of the following types of heater;
 - Radiant Bar
 - Halogen
 - Solid or Liquid Fuel based or
 - Fan.

The only supported type of heater for use in Imperial premises are oil filled radiators as these are demonstrated to be significantly safer than other types of heater as the potential for them to ignite materials in proximity is lower as is the chance of electrical failure due to their lower power requirements.

**Jonathan Ryan
Fire Safety Manager**