

**Fire Safety Code of Practice  
(Policy)**

Version: 1.0  
Dated: July 2015

**SLEEPING IN COLLEGE BUILDINGS**

**Policy Statement**

**Sleeping** or napping is **not permitted** in College buildings that are not specifically designed for such use.

This explicitly, but not exclusively includes:

All Academic buildings;

All support buildings;

Libraries;

Imperial College Student Union buildings and other areas under their management.

This requirement may only be relaxed during an unforeseen event such as a local or regional major incident, transport infrastructure failure or extreme / severe weather where some staff or students might be exposed to higher risk by leaving College grounds than remaining on them. Even then, a dynamic risk assessment must be carried out, led by College Safety and Fire staff to determine the optimal location for those staying over and any necessary control or mitigating measures.

**Supporting Information**

When fire occurs, most people who suffer injury or worse do so while they sleep. The College endeavours to exceed the national legislative standards for its residential buildings, such as Halls of Residence, to provide a superior level of protection for occupants and the staff that manage them.

It is not practicably possible to apply similar standards for buildings that are neither purpose built nor equipped for such use. It can therefore be assumed that whilst safe for work or study, non-residential buildings will not have the required level of passive and active fire protection measures to allow people to sleep in them.

Chief Fire Officer