

Useful information for new students – including tips from current students

On-line shopping options:

The delivery services are more expensive but can deliver quickly.

Deliveroo <https://deliveroo.co.uk/> – take away food and also pairs with small and large supermarkets (Co-op, Morrisons)

UberEats – <https://www.ubereats.com> take away and grocery deliveries from smaller super markets/local shops and a few of the larger supermarkets e.g. Asda

Amazon pantry and Morrisons <https://www.amazon.co.uk/>

Student tip: *You can get a free amazon prime membership for 6 months with your student account, so you can order a lot of necessities on there the day you arrive and it'll deliver the next day usually, this might help to free up space in your suitcase.*

Large supermarkets (cheapest to most expensive)

Lidl: no online service currently

Aldi: click and collect service but no on-line delivery

Asda <https://www.asda.com/>

Tesco <https://www.tesco.com/>

Morrisons <https://groceries.morrisons.com/>

Sainsbury's <https://www.sainsburys.co.uk/>

Ocado (paired with Marks and Spencer) <https://accounts.ocado.com/>

Student tips:

It is worth signing up for a few supermarkets so you have options if you can't get a slot you want. Remember to book before you completely run out as you will likely have to wait for a slot.

On the first day you move in, I'd say book an online slot to get your groceries delivered to halls by Tesco, Asda or Sainsbury's. You usually have to book a slot a week or two earlier and you can do it from home. It's mainly just so you can have groceries for the next day without having to go get them since people are probably going to be tired after moving in

For the day you arrive, it might be worth ordering a frozen meal in your groceries, or getting uber eats or Deliveroo. Famous pizza and King's Kebab house on uber eats are both quite good for Acton halls.

One weekly shop at a big supermarket can be cheaper and less time consuming than popping across the road to small shops every time you run out of food! Going with a friend makes it more fun.

Large supermarkets get busy at weekends so if crowds worry you try and find a quieter time during the week.

Meal planning for the week and batch cooking has been a life saver for busy days - just have to heat frozen portions in the microwave.

Travelling in London

City mapper is useful for planning routes by different modes of transport and gives idea of cost/timing [Citymapper - The Ultimate Transport App](#)

For public transport only [Plan a journey - Transport for London \(tfl.gov.uk\)](#)

Student oyster card [18+ Student Oyster photocard - Transport for London \(tfl.gov.uk\)](#)

Campus map

[Campuses and maps | Visit | Imperial College London](#)

Halls

Hall warden team – get to know them! For more information about halls, including individual hall websites: [In your halls | Imperial students | Imperial College London](#)

Local information for Woodward Halls (including banks/supermarkets) [Local Info – Woodward Halls \(imperial.ac.uk\)](#)

[Things To Do - Discover South Kensington](#)

[Time Out London - Events, Attractions & What's on in London](#)

General tips:

Find your flatmates on WhatsApp groups since there will probably be a group chat of them already on there, so you can ask them to help you move in if you're travelling alone.

Follow the rules! If you want to be able to socialise etc, following the rules stops the common room from being closed as a penalty for bad behaviour.

Bring a few decorations for your room – it helps so much making it feel like home. They don't have to be ones that take up much space either – maybe a few pictures and pins or a tapestry or LED lights.

Try to organise something to get to know your flatmates – like maybe a movie night, or a night ride around central London so you can sightsee, or maybe even some form of come dine with me meal where everyone cooks for each other, since I feel like being comfortable living with your flatmates definitely helps you feel more settled in.

If you want things delivered before you arrive, maybe ask a student who is already there if you can send it to their address so they can have it ready for when you get there.

Student tips for North Acton Halls:

If you like going on walks/runs around Acton, the canals might be a good place to start exploring – just walk down to old oak lane bridge and there's a small path to the canals.

There's a lime bike station just outside Tesco, so it might be worth getting the lime app so you can cycle around if you like cycling.

A lot of people also exercise by doing laps or playing games in the North Acton playing fields that are a 10 minute walk away.

Health

If you take regular medication make sure you have at least two months' supply so that you have time to register with a GP (family doctor) and have this prescribed for you. If you have a medical condition please bring a recent/summary letter with you for your new GP to copy.

Registration can be done on-line once you are in the U.K. **Please do this as soon as you can then you will be given an NHS number and can use all NHS services. The number for emergency services is 999 and 111 for non-urgent health issues.**

Imperial college health centre is close to campus and students in Acton Halls can also register here. Most consultations are by phone at the moment

<https://www.imperialcollegehealthcentre.co.uk/>

More general information, including dental care is here [Doctor and dentist | Imperial students | Imperial College London](#)

Student tip:

When you get to halls you get a small welcome envelope with details on how to register with your GP – it's usually a QR code you can scan and then you can fill the form out. I'd recommend doing this and your room inventory checklist the day you arrive if possible, just so you don't have to worry about it after.

Covid [COVID-19 – updates and guidance | About | Imperial College London](#)

Personal Safety [Student safety | Study | Imperial College London](#)

Student tip (North Acton)

Don't use the small alleyway behind Holbrook's to get to the North Acton underground station unless you're in a large group of people. Try to stick to the main roads.

Money

You can open an online bank account e.g. Monzo/Revolut while you wait for your U.K. account to be set up.

More information about opening a U.K. bank account: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/staff/new-staff/before-you-start/guidance-for-overseas-staff/opening-a-bank-account/>

Banks local to South Kensington campus <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/media/imperial-college/administration-and-support-services/international-student-support/public/Banks-in-the-Local-Area.pdf>