



**Myerscough  
College**

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE



5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Student / Parent or Guardian

## RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS - ACCOMMODATION REFUND

I am writing in regard to the current national lockdown across the United Kingdom and its impact on our residential operations here at Myerscough.

We appreciate that this is a challenging time in so many respects for students and their families. Our priority throughout Covid-19 has been to ensure that our students and staff are kept safe and that we can provide support to assist their wellbeing. If you have any questions, or you are concerned about your own health and wellbeing (or that of your friends), please feel free to talk to the Core Team of Student Support and Welfare Officers and Counsellors. Below is a list of contact details for support, should you need them:

- Safeguarding: [safeguarding@myerscough.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@myerscough.ac.uk) 01995 642348 / 01995 642205
- [Mentalhealthsupport@myerscough.ac.uk](mailto:Mentalhealthsupport@myerscough.ac.uk) (not 24hrs) 07407 304267
- Core / student support and welfare: 01995 642348 (Monday - Friday 9-5)

When the news broke at the end of December that the reopening of colleges (and schools) would be delayed by a week (and that teaching would be entirely online until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January) we offered students the option of studying at home for that first week of term or arriving, as originally planned, from Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. Many students chose to return to Myerscough for that initial 'online week' and it was great to see so many of you back after the Christmas break.

Then, with lockdown being sprung upon us on the evening of Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January (and online learning having to continue until at least February half term), we offered students the option of remaining on campus for the duration of lockdown. Many chose to stay and, as a result, our residential accommodation and catering services have stayed open. We have maintained our residential support team, Mini Market, library and IT drop-in facilities.

### Accommodation Refund

The College has recently taken the decision that those students who chose not to return to Myerscough accommodation in January will be refunded 75% of the cost of their accommodation, and 100% of any catering/meal packages, for up to the seven weeks of the current anticipated lockdown. This is for the period from the start of term (week commencing Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021) until the end of the week commencing Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (the end of half term week for College students and Reflection Week for University Centre students.)

For students who arrived at College on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January (and then returned home during the early part of that week, following the lockdown announcement), we will include that week in the accommodation refund.

### **How do I know if I am eligible?**

You will be eligible for this accommodation refund if:

- You have a tenancy agreement that falls within the 2020/2021 academic year.
- You pay your accommodation costs directly to Myerscough College and University Centre.
- You are not currently living in your Myerscough accommodation.
- You do not move back to your accommodation between now and 20<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
- You do not have any outstanding rent or catering payments on your account as at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021, in accordance with your payment schedule.
- You do not cancel or leave your contract during the rent discount period. Our standard cancellation terms still apply.

### **What happens now?**

We will automatically apply the refund (as a credit to your accommodation account) on the basis of our student residential records. These highlight room utilisation and the allocation/return of room keys during this period. You do not need to do anything. This credit will be offset against any forthcoming/future accommodation payments that are due for this academic year and, should there be a positive balance at the end of the academic year, it can either be refunded or carried forward to next year's accommodation package (should you be progressing to another year's study with us and plan to live on campus.)

For any queries surrounding fee payments please contact [salesledger@myerscough.ac.uk](mailto:salesledger@myerscough.ac.uk)

We also have a range of bursaries available to students, with more information at these links:

*University Centre degree students*

<https://www.ucmyerscough.ac.uk/students/fees-and-finance/he-fees-and-finance/>

*College students*

<https://www.myerscough.ac.uk/students/fees-and-finance/fe-fees-and-finance/>

### **Returning to Myerscough**

We hope that we will be able to welcome students back to resume 'on campus' teaching after February half term. We have been lobbying the relevant funding bodies to be able to bring you back as soon as possible, to resume your studies, and are conscious that many of you have practical modules that require completion and need access to on-campus resources. We shall write to you nearer the time - with information about collecting room keys - once the government announces its plans for education, in relation to the ending of lockdown and the anticipated return to the 'tier' system.

If you do have any queries please email our Residential Team on [reshelp@myerscough.ac.uk](mailto:reshelp@myerscough.ac.uk)

Your safety and well-being continue to be our priority.

Yours faithfully

*Stuart Davidson*

Stuart Davidson  
Director of Marketing and Commercial Services