

Personal safety

The UK is generally a safe country and Writtle and the surrounding area is a very safe place to live in but there are some basic rules everyone should follow to stay safe.

Be cautious of strangers

- Although you may be keen to make new friends, **be cautious of people you do not know**, whatever their nationality
- **Do not give people your personal details, money or property** if you have only just met them
- Your friends, the College or other responsible person should always know where you are. **Tell them if you are meeting someone new or going away.**

Do not walk on your own in secluded areas at night

- You should always ask a friend **to accompany you across campus** at night and where possible use pathways that are lit. If this is not possible and particularly if you are worried a college warden may also be able to assist you. Outside of normal office hours they can be contacted on **07880 557796**.
- To get back to your college from the Chelmsford town centre at night, **take a licensed taxi**.
- If you do not have the money to pay, **ask the taxi driver to take you to a cash point** and **wait** whilst you withdraw some money.

Do not accept lifts in cars from people you do not know

- In the UK **you should not hitch a ride or accept the offer of a lift from someone you do not know**
- If a car slows down to ask you if you would like a lift, step back from the car - you are not being rude but keeping yourself safe

Do not carry large amounts of cash

- **Do not keep large amounts of cash** on you or unsecured in your study bedroom
- **Valuables and money should be kept in your bedroom safe**
- Try to **transfer your money to the UK electronically** via a bank or by using a bank draft
- **Take care when you use your PIN**, for example, at ATMs

Drink aware

- Have fun but don't drink **too** much and try to **plan ahead**. You should **always know how you're getting home**, and arrange to go **with a friend**.
- Sadly drink '**spiking**' with drugs does happen. **Keep an eye on your drink and never leave it unattended**. **Be careful if accepting drinks from strangers**. If what you're experiencing really doesn't seem like the effects of alcohol **tell a friend straight away**.

In an Emergency

In an emergency, students/guests should take appropriate action and, depending on the nature of the emergency, **contact the emergency services by dialling 999**. You should also inform either the...

College Reception	01245 424200	[8.30am – 5.30pm Monday to Friday]
Accommodation Office	01245 424212	[8.30am – 5.30pm Monday to Friday]
Duty Warden	07880 557796	[outside normal office hours and during holidays]

.....or other staff member immediately.

A Public Phone is located in the laundry (Harvey 1). A phone card is required. **No money is required for dialling 999**.