

# Fire Safety Information for Students in Halls of Residence

## Introduction

Coventry University takes fire safety very seriously. We want to ensure that all our students are safe and have an enjoyable time at university. University is also a learning experience, and we want you to learn in an enjoyable way, not through some tragedy.

Many of you may have heard of the Grenfell Tower tragedy, where 72 people in a residential tower block died due to fire and smoke. We want to ensure that never happens at Coventry University. Since then, the UK government has created many new laws to improve fire safety in residential tower blocks. One of the laws requires us to explain about fire safety and the importance of fire doors in the accommodation.

### Bedroom and Studio Doors

Doors are a vital part of fire safety. If you close a door, it will prevent heat, smoke and toxic gases from moving out of the original room that's on fire and into the corridor. This will give you half an hour to get out of that flat or section of the accommodation building. Never wedge open your bedroom door.

### Corridor Doors

Once a fire has reached the corridor, the situation is really bad. However, you can prevent it from getting worse by closing corridor doors behind you.

The corridor fire doors will protect the stairs and your means of escape.

Never, never wedge open a corridor fire door.

Never modify the self-closing device.

***\*Please see the Kitchen Folders which contains the full version of Fire Safety from Fire Safety Officer for the University\****

**This is the official fire procedure:**



The poster is titled "FIRE ACTION" in large white letters on a blue background. Below the title are several instructions, each with an icon and a text box:

- Icon:** A hand pointing to a fire alarm pull station. **Text:** "If you discover a fire sound the alarm"
- Icon:** A hand holding a telephone receiver. **Text:** "Dial 65 5555 (internal) or 02477 655555 to call the Fire Brigade"
- Icon:** A person running through a doorway. **Text:** "Leave the building by the nearest exit"
- Icon:** A person standing in a room with arrows pointing to exits. **Text:** "Report to your assembly point" (with a blank line for a name)
- Icon:** A red circle with a diagonal line over a lift. **Text:** "Do not use the lifts"
- Icon:** A red circle with a diagonal line over a person walking back into a building. **Text:** "Do not go back into the building until authorised to do so"

If you have any concerns, before it turns into an emergency, discuss it with the accommodation staff.

The accommodation staff want you to be safe and they want you to enjoy your time in the University halls of residence. They will listen to your concerns and take action.

If you hear an alarm in your room, evacuate that room. Give the first responders space to deal with it.

If you hear an alarm in your corridor, evacuate that Flat, and try to warn everybody else as well, if you can do so without putting yourself in danger. Smoke has reached the corridor, and all the occupants of that Flat are potentially in danger.

If you hear an alarm in the whole block, evacuate to outside immediately. If the whole Block is in alarm, there is a serious problem somewhere.

For other fire safety queries, please speak to a University Fire Safety Adviser via the Health, Safety & Resilience Team: [HSR@coventry.ac.uk](mailto:HSR@coventry.ac.uk) 02 477 657 341