

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What if I have a disability or some other form of special need that requires me to have a vehicle at College?

There is a system to apply for a temporary or permanent permit. However, the rules are strict and proper documentation is required.

### And when I move my stuff in and then take it home?

The rules around a particular Hall are relaxed on moving days, so you won't be clamped while you load your trunk on the last day of term. However, if you want to move at an unusual time, you must check with College Security and you may only bring a car if they are happy to give you a temporary day pass.

### What about students who wish to live in Halls but who feel they need a car – say to help them get a part-time job or so they can visit their family?

- You must arrange to live in Kingswood (if you are an undergraduate) or Penrose / Highfield (if you are a postgraduate). The College has car parking there and you can apply for a permit. Once you have it, you may bring your car, but you will still have to obey some restrictions:
- You cannot use your car to drive down to the main campus; the satellite-campus permits are not valid on the main campus.
- You cannot make up for when you miss the Kingswood bus by bringing your car down and leaving it in a side-street near the main campus - we will be after you very quickly and you will lose your permit.
- Your car must be properly taxed and insured and you must use it responsibly in the local area – 20 students turning up for a house party all in separate cars and so blocking the street is not on.
- You also need to drive responsibly - e.g. no Formula One imitations, handbrake turns etc. – on campus or on the local streets. Not only is this against our rules, but it is against the law. The Police have the power to confiscate vehicles used irresponsibly and will take action against students in these instances.

### If I do not have a car here, how will I make sure I am safe at night?

Police figures show this is a very safe area. Personal safety is also better guaranteed by individual students going home together in groups – that is where the Students' Union (SU) non-res bus services come in – they will get you home at night. There is also plenty of safety advice available from the College and the SU.

### Why can't the College simply provide more car parking?

Restrictions on students bringing cars are imposed to prevent an increase in traffic locally – not because of a shortage of car parking space. The College keeps parking under review, but by the time we have addressed planning issues, Green Belt restrictions, traffic flow problems on the main campus, safety issues etc. there is only limited room for change...and it wouldn't really be Royal Holloway if we turned it into a massive car park.

### Can I do what I want if I move out of Halls?

It depends where you move to, and what your landlord says. Once you are out of Halls, you are free of the College's specific restrictions that prevent you bringing a car to the locality. However, there are a number of other constraining factors on whether you can bring a car and how you may use it. If you live in Egham or Englefield Green, the Council encourages landlords to specify a fixed maximum number of cars for the property and these rules are enforced. Additionally, College rules prevent students causing a nuisance with cars, as outlined earlier.

### Can I drive into College if I live locally?

Parking places on the College campus have to be limited and access is controlled by a permit. Students who live more than a certain distance away – currently 1.5 miles – qualify for a permit. If you live closer and so do not have a permit you must not bring your car close to the College and park it in the local streets to save you walking in.

### OK, you seem to have got it covered, but what if I borrow my mum's car, or bring my car but don't use it much, or insist you define what you mean by the locality or ...

You should be reading law! Or even better, read our Regulations – parking is covered in General Regulations 20. We have tried not to leave any loopholes!

## Useful Contacts

[www.rhul.ac.uk/advice/cars/](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/advice/cars/)

### Community Liaison Office

Tel: +44 (0)1784 443394

[community@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:community@rhul.ac.uk)

[www.rhul.ac.uk/For-Students/Community.html](http://www.rhul.ac.uk/For-Students/Community.html)

### Students' Union

Tel: +44 (0)1784 486300

[vpedwelfare@su.rhul.ac.uk](mailto:vpedwelfare@su.rhul.ac.uk)

[www.su.rhul.ac.uk](http://www.su.rhul.ac.uk)

### Surrey Police

Tel: +44 (0)845 125 22 22

[www.surrey.police.uk](http://www.surrey.police.uk)

### Car Share

Royal Holloway has teamed up with Surrey Car Share to offer an online car share matchmaking service. Car sharing saves you money, reduces congestion and helps the environment. To sign up visit: [www.surreycarshare.com](http://www.surreycarshare.com)

[surreycarshare.com](http://surreycarshare.com)

### Gemini Taxis

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# Students' Cars and Car Parking

## Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions

## Generally

Royal Holloway's campus is the focal point of student life, where most teaching and social activities take place. Almost all academic buildings, student halls of residence and amenities are based on and around our beautiful woodland campus.

Like most organisations, Royal Holloway has signed up to a sustainable transport plan to reduce car use. We actively encourage cycling, provide ample cycle sheds on campus, and work with the local authorities to develop safe cycle routes. We have a car sharing database ([www.surreycarshare.com](http://www.surreycarshare.com)) that enables staff and students to ask for or offer a lift. There are also good public transport networks linking with the College's own bus service to ease travel in the local area.

The College is subject to strict rules concerning car use on its main campus and car use in the locality by students resident on our campuses. This extends to restricting student car use and car parking in the local area. The College works hard to maintain good relations with the local community. Students' cars left in local streets cause severe problems for local residents, stopping them getting to their own houses, trapping their cars in their drives so they cannot get themselves to work and their children to school, and preventing emergency services getting through. This is especially problematic when students are not bona fide residents of these streets, but are trying to circumvent campus parking restrictions; The College acts whenever possible to prevent this.

So if you want to live on the main campus, forget the car. And even if you are not on the main campus think of how fit you will get and the money you will save without one!

## Car Parking Guidelines

The College has limited car parking available on campus and for this reason we strongly discourage students from bringing cars to the College in most circumstances. Put simply:

- Students resident on main campus **must not bring cars into the local area at all.**
- Students living at satellite College properties with parking (e.g. Kingswood, Highfield Court and Penrose Court) **may bring a car if they have a permit to park at their Hall, but there are strict limitations on the use of these cars.**
- Students living out of Halls but in the locality **may bring a car if there is adequate space for them to park it at their place of residence and their landlord agrees to this, but they still must use their cars in a considerate way in the local area and may not bring these cars onto campus unless they qualify for a non-res permit, nor may they park cars in other local streets.**

## Legal Framework

The Section 106 agreement that is attached to our planning permissions following negotiations with Runnymede Borough Council requires Royal Holloway to manage where possible student car use in the local area. This agreement is aimed at reducing traffic volume and traffic nuisance in the area around the campus, and it specifically requires the College to discourage resident students from bringing cars here, to regulate car parking with a permit system and to use disciplinary measures if necessary to enforce these restrictions.

In more general terms, it is obvious that if every student who could drive opted to bring a car, there could be gridlock in Egham and Englefield Green and this needs to be addressed. Many universities are governed by similar regulations and Royal Holloway has more student parking than most others.

## Students Living on the Main Campus

You cannot bring a car into this locality at all. You cannot bring a car onto the campus – you will not get a permit and your car will be wheel clamped. If you try to bring a car and leave it in local streets, you are also very likely to be detected via our monitoring arrangements and face disciplinary action.

## Students' Cars Parked in the Local Area

Over the years the College has built up a number of identifying methods and we can link students to cars parked in local streets even if the cars are not registered in that student's name. With the help of College Security, the local police and local residents, we manage to identify the majority of offenders and we will take action against them if they are not allowed to have cars in the locality, if they have permission to park on satellite campuses only or if they are otherwise behaving inconsiderately.

For normal offences, matters start with a fine comparable to the clamping fee on campus. However, for repeat offenders or students who refuse to cooperate it gets more expensive and if they fail to cooperate we may require them to leave their College residence.

