

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgment form applicants under the age of 18

Introduction

Occasionally the University admits students who are under the age of 18 years. In most cases this will be a very temporary situation, as the student will be approaching their eighteenth birthday. The University is an adult environment and treats all its students as independent, mature individuals and students who are under the age of 18 years will be treated in the same way. The usual personal and academic support arrangements will apply to students who are under 18 years.

However, the University acknowledges that anyone under the age of 18 living in England is legally a child and that some legal restrictions apply to that cohort e.g. prohibition on the consumption of alcohol on licensed premises and the sale/supply of videos with a British Board of Film Classification of 18 years of age.

Falmouth Exeter Plus (FX Plus) is the university's service delivery partner which includes accommodation.

Parental responsibilities

FX Plus is not able to take on the usual rights, responsibilities and authority that parents have in relation to a child, and it will not act in *loco parentis* in relation to students who are under the age of 18 years.

Contracts

A person of 16 or 17 has the status to enter into necessary contracts for education and accommodation but until their 18th birthday will not be legally competent to enter into all legal contracts. In circumstances where a person must be aged 18 or over to be legally competent to enter into a contract the University requires a student's parents to honour all obligations (under any contracts with FX Plus) that the student enters into prior to his or her 18th birthday. By signing the enclosed pro-forma, the parent agrees to this.

Student Accommodation

Parents should recognise that residential accommodation offered by FX Plus is generally intended for the use of adults and that, save in exceptional circumstances, special arrangements cannot be made for students who are under the age of 18 years.

Alcohol

It is illegal for alcohol to be sold to or bought by students who are under the age of 18 years. FX Plus will take reasonable steps to seek to ensure that the law is not broken in relation to licensed premises under FX Plus's control but cannot undertake to supervise any individual student. FX Plus is responsible for ensuring that appropriate arrangements are in place for its own licensed premises.

Relationships with staff

Under the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 2000, it is a criminal offence for any person in a position of trust (which may include members of campus staff) to engage in sexual activity with someone who is under 18 years.

Child Protection

As a matter of law in England, a person under the age of 18 is a child. FX Plus will report any suspicions or allegations of abuse of children to the appropriate authorities. Any such suspicions or allegations will be reported to the Student Services Team at the University who will contact the appropriate authorities.

Parental involvement

It is FX Plus's usual policy that it deals with students (with whom it has a contractual relationship) and not with parents. This approach will also apply to students who are under the age of 18 years. The FX Plus will therefore correspond with students, not parents.

Emergency Contact

Students who have not attained the age of 18 can have their refusal to receive medical treatment overridden by parents and hence, emergency contact details must be provided by students or parents prior to the student's arrival at the

University. However, please note that a child from the age of 16 is entitled to consent to medical treatment, and that such consent cannot be overruled by parents.

The below section needs to be completed by the parent/guardian of the applicant.

Please return your completed form to the Accommodation Office at accommodation@fxplus.ac.uk within 14 days of the date of this email.

Full Name of Applicant:

University Student Number:

Course Applied For:

I hereby confirm that I have read and accept the conditions outlined in clause 4.11 with the Application and Allocation Policy the Acknowledgement Form document provided by FX Plus. I accept that FX Plus will not act in loco parentis should the above applicant be accepted into university managed halls.

Name of signatory (parent/guardian):

Relationship to applicant:

Signed:

Date: