

# Accommodation Search



## What to look for when searching for accommodation?

### Security/Safety

- Test that the windows and doors lock securely.
- Street lighting/ visibility
- Does the house have an alarm?
- Trust your instinct.

### Facilities

- Turn on the shower.
- Note the number of electric sockets in the room.
- Check that the cooker works. All hobs/rings, oven & grill.

### Location, location, location

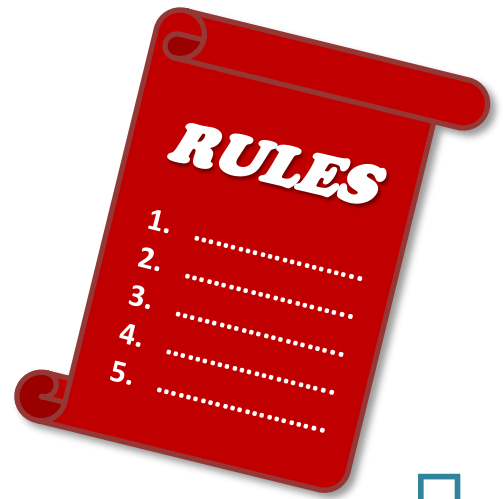
- Access to public transport
- Vicinity to amenities
- Does the area look & feel safe.
- Think outside the box: Celbridge, Kilcock, Leixlip, Lucan

### Interior

- Can you smell damp, must or mould? Are there any obvious dark patches on the walls?
- Is the house warm, clean and dry?
- Is there adequate ventilation?



# House Rules



Can I smoke? Where?

Is the food in the kitchen available to me?

Can I have a place to store my food/room in the fridge?

Is there a specific time that the landlord would like to use the kitchen and should I cook my dinner at another time? (if self-catering)

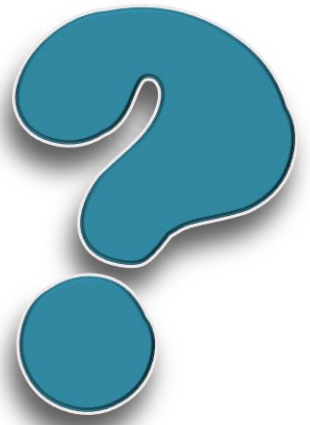
Will my room be used by family during Christmas and Easter breaks (if I'm away and not paying for those weeks)?

How many other people live in the house?

Who will I be sharing the bathroom with?

When will I get my deposit back? How will it be paid? Will it be used as the last month's rent?

## Key Questions to Ask



How much is the **deposit**?

Length of **notice** to leave and any other charges, i.e. utilities

Do I **pay** over study weeks, exam weeks or Easter time?

Are meals provided and if not can I use the kitchen to prepare **my own** meals?

Can I have a friend/relative to **stay** overnight – what are the rules and is there a charge?

See our website for more **key questions** and **tenant information**.

# Your Accommodation Checklist



**Receipts** for deposit and all rent paid...  
rent books advisable

Who has a key to your bedroom door?  
What **access** does the landlord have to  
your room/the property?

Take **photos** of the room(s) and an  
**inventory** [a list of everything provided  
by the landlord and their condition]

Ask for full **contact details** of your  
landlord. In return you should provide  
your full contact details including your  
student number, home address and next  
of kin.

Be clear, in written form, of the **duration**  
**of the tenancy** and if you will pay for  
absences.