

11. UK Law and College rules

Obeying the law

It is important to obey the laws of any country you visit. For example it is against the law in Britain to drive a car without tax, insurance or an International Driving Licence. It is also illegal to offer money to a police officer.

It is also against the law to rent a flat and leave before the date agreed in the contract. If you are not sure how long you will stay, talk to the landlord or flat owner before you sign a contract.

Remember that the Accommodation staff at Kings are ready to help if you need advice about signing legal documents. If in doubt, ask before you sign.

It is also illegal to carry weapons including self-defence sprays.

Important!

You must be at least 18 years old to sign a contract in the UK. If you are not 18 you should ask staff at college or your host family to help you.

Alcohol and drugs

The laws in the UK may be different from those in your own country.

It is illegal to buy alcohol or cigarettes if you are under 18 years old. If you buy alcohol or cigarettes for people under 18, you may be fined. Most pubs do not welcome people who are under 18. All non-prescription drugs are illegal. Drug use can result in prosecution and being sent back to your country.

Police Registration

Depending on your nationality you may be required to register with the police within 7 days of arriving in the UK. We will be able to help you do this. When registering with the police you need to take:

- Your passport
- Letter from college
- 2 passport photos
- Registration fee (currently £34.00, cash only)

General college rules

Attendance rules

You must attend at least 90% of your course. If your attendance is less than 90% when you leave, you will not get a certificate.

Attendance will be checked every day.

If you are going to be absent for any reason, you must inform us. If you are sick, please phone the college, or ask your host family to call us.

If we do not know where you are, we will phone you or your host family.

If you have a good reason - such as sickness or attending an interview - please tell us (and bring proof if possible) and we will add a note to your record to explain why you were absent (but you will still be marked absent)

If your overall attendance falls below 90%, we will warn you (by speaking to you and then writing to you) that this is unacceptable. If your attendance does not improve, your booking will be terminated and you will be told to leave the college. If you are a visa holder, this will affect your right to remain in the UK.

In class

Please speak **ONLY ENGLISH** in class. Remember that you are here to learn and practise your English. If you speak your own language in class, you cannot learn - and you are stopping your classmates from learning. Making friends with other nationalities will help you.

Mobile phones

Please switch your mobile phone OFF or to SILENT before you come into class. You must not make or receive calls in class, and you must not send text messages. If you do not obey this rule, your teacher may take your phone away or ask you to leave the class. If you are expecting an important phone call, please talk to your teacher.

Punctuality

Please be on time for your lessons. If you are late, you may not be allowed to enter the class and you will be marked absent.

Food and drink

You may have a bottle of water to drink from in class, but please do not bring any other drinks or food into your classroom. Chewing gum is not allowed anywhere in the college.

Respect

At Kings we have students from all over the world. Each nationality has their own beliefs and customs; please show respect for them. You should also try and learn about and adapt to English customs while you are here.

