**HOW DOES COLLEGE HEATING WORK?**

**RADIATOR**
Radiators work via a heat transfer process: convection. Water in the radiator is heated so the surrounding air is also heated up via convection and this hot air is moved around the room. Radiators are connected to a central heating system via pipes. Hot water flows through these pipes and into the radiators themselves, transferring hot water into the radiator which flows through and out again to the next radiator in the chain. Depending on the type of radiator you have, it may not always feel hot to touch, but this doesn’t mean it’s not working.

**TRV**
Thermostatic Radiator Valves allow you to control heating in each room. These monitor the temperature of the radiator and automatically adjust the room temperature to maintain a regular level. If your room is too warm, turn the TRV clockwise for down or off. Once the TRV is set to the desired level – 1 is cooler and 5 is hot – the valve automatically controls the heat output from the radiator.

**THERMOSTAT**
Thermostats allow for the control of the overall temperature of a house or flat. In the UK in winter, it’s recommended that thermostats be set between 18 and 21 degrees Celsius. If you live in a College Furnished Let you can adjust the thermostat. If you live in a room in a Hostel or on the main College site, the thermostat is set to 21 degrees and heating is on all day between 6am and midnight. Personal heaters aren’t allowed in College rooms as they interfere with the central heating system by telling thermostats that the house has reached the desired temperature, thereby shutting off the radiators.

**KEEPING WARM**
- Make sure you bring plenty of warm and cozy clothes to College for the winter terms including jumpers, warm socks, leggings, and hats.
- Use a hot water bottle or a wheat bag and bring extra blankets if you’re prone to feeling cold.
- Make hot drinks.
- Close your curtains at night.

If you think there’s a fault with your boiler or radiators, or your window doesn’t shut properly please submit a [Maintenance request form](#).