



Halls of Residence Gatton campus

# A Parents' Guide



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE







# Welcome



On behalf of all staff at The University of Queensland's Halls of Residence at the Gatton campus I would like to welcome you and your family to "the Halls".

Our mission is to offer an environment that fosters student learning and development through a variety of contexts and activities, which promote a connection between academic study, community engagement and everyday life. Together with my dedicated and enthusiastic team we strive to offer our residents a safe, supportive and engaging environment in which to live, whilst completing their academic studies.

We offer a variety of activities for our residents and we encourage their involvement in order to engage in the most productive way with the University whilst they are studying.

Please be aware that returning to the Halls is highly competitive and residents are assessed on their involvement within the community when reapplying for a room. Please encourage those in your care to get involved and enjoy the extraordinary community life living in a residence provides.

Entering tertiary study can be a daunting time for both students and their parents and we have designed this guide to help you, as a parent, with the transition process. The information it contains is by no means exhaustive, it is more of an overview of how we operate.

Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any concerns or questions about life in the Halls for your son or daughter.

Yours sincerely,

**SIMON SCOTT**

Head, Halls of Residence Gatton campus  
BA, MLM Ed

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The University of Queensland Halls of Residence at the Gatton campus welcomes a diverse range of students into their community. We value residents who contribute a balance of academic, cultural, sporting and social qualities and who show leadership and a willingness to be involved.

Due to high demand, residents wishing to return to Halls beyond their second year in residence – who are not in leadership positions – will need to have an outstanding record of contribution in all aspects of the Halls Community to be considered.

Our selection process may take into consideration any or all of the criteria listed below:

- Academic performance GPA 4.0 minimum (some exceptions may apply)
- Contribution to Resident's Shield / Halls community life
- Demonstrated leadership ability
- Behaviour i.e. incident reports
- Halls and wider community service involvement
- Residential fees paid in full
- Residential Staff recommendation
- Gender equity across Halls
- Balance of domestic and international students within Halls
- 40% to 50% of Halls places will be made available to continuing residents



# The University of Queensland

## Mission and values

**The University of Queensland positively influences society by engaging in the pursuit of excellence through the creation, preservation, transfer and application of knowledge. The University of Queensland helps shape the future by bringing together and developing leaders in their fields to inspire the next generation and to advance ideas that benefit the world. The University of Queensland strives for the personal and professional success of its students, staff and alumni.**

## Pursuit of excellence

We strive for excellence, seeking to apply the highest standards to benefit our communities.

## Creativity and independent thinking

We welcome new ideas from our staff and students as well as from our alumni and our external partners. We support intellectual freedom, courage and creativity. We encourage the pursuit of innovation and opportunities.

## Honesty and accountability

We act with integrity and professionalism and uphold the highest ethical standards. We are committed to transparency and accountability. Our decisions ensure responsible stewardship of the University's resources, reputation and values. We lead by example in all areas including our approaches to sustainability.

## Mutual respect and diversity

We promote diversity in the University community – through our people, ideas and cultures. We create a vibrant, inclusive environment in which ideas flourish and future generations, regardless of background are empowered. We respect our colleagues and work together for shared success.

## Supporting our people

The University of Queensland ensures the safety and wellbeing of our people. We create an inclusive and supportive university community in which achievements are celebrated and rewarded. Our people have the opportunity to enrich their lives and pursue their goals.



# Studying at Gatton campus

Just over an hour's drive west of Brisbane, the University of Queensland's Gatton campus offers a unique blend of modern teaching facilities, state-of-the-art laboratories and historic buildings.

Gatton campus operates production units, including dairy, poultry, piggery, beef herd, equine precinct and wildlife facilities, to support teaching, research and hands-on training. The programs offered in the areas of agribusiness, agriculture, animal studies, environmental science and veterinary science are recognised as among the best in Australia.

Students will have access to horticultural fields, nursery, tissue culture and post-harvest facilities, research laboratories and greenhouses, and an extensive range of modern plant and machinery. Modern facilities include the climate-controlled research greenhouse, rainout shelters and the pesticide wind tunnel research facility.

Collaborative learning is a priority on the Gatton campus with students having access to the Regional Collaborative Learning Centre and the new Gatton e-Learning Laboratory (GeLL). These modern learning spaces significantly enhance the student learning experience.

Students can take advantage of a range of medical, welfare, counselling, disability and learning support services, and numerous sporting and recreational activities. Campus amenities include a post

office, childcare centre, bookshop, dining hall and café, ATM, motel, library, health services, chaplaincy, student centre, student support services, and a licensed club.

They will gain a more personalised education, while also belonging to a large university with international standing.

**Gatton campus offers a relaxed, friendly atmosphere and students will enjoy the benefits of being close to the major city centres of Brisbane, Ipswich and Toowoomba.**



# Living on campus

## Top eight reasons to live on campus

- 1 Live Smart** Recent research of students who live in on-campus accommodation, indicates that they are more satisfied with their university experience, perform better academically and are more likely to complete their course of study on time. (American Council on Education).
- 2 Live Close** Why drive when you can walk! In 5 minutes, you can be anywhere on Campus: lectures, dining hall, gym. Library, pool, computer labs, campus club, bookstore, post office, friends and campus support such as the student centre, student services or the health service.
- 3 Live Connected** There is a real connection to the campus for those who live on site. Participation in clubs and societies is easier, friendships are closer, experiences are shared, the tribal nature of belonging to your Hall and competing in your colours.
- 4 Live Cheaper** At first glance, living off campus often seems like a cheaper option but all costs have to be considered – like rent, bond, water, electricity, groceries, internet, furniture, etc. This does not take into account the time and hassle involved in commuting, especially if you do not have your own car. In Halls a student only pays for the period they stay unlike a real estate lease.
- 5 Live Secure** The University of Queensland Security Services are on call and patrolling campus 24/7, every day of the year. They are a constant presence to help protect students and their property. Each Hall has a Residential Staff member who monitor the Halls for strangers, and ensures that all guests have obtained permission to stay overnight.
- 6 Live Supported** Living on campus offers each student the opportunity for emotional, social and academic support whilst they pursue their academic career. Each Hall has a Residential Staff Team who are charged with the welfare and support of the residents within their care and contribute enormously to the development of a residential community. All residents are encouraged to get to know their staff and benefit from their experience.
- 7 Live Engaged** Living on campus allows a student to know what is going on and to experience all that the University has to offer. Learning about different types of people, living with them, and experiencing their various backgrounds is an opportunity to develop a more balanced world view. There is a sense of belonging and engagement that cannot be replicated living off campus.
- 8 Create Change** The Halls offers numerous leadership opportunities and we challenge residents to be involved and contribute to their community, be it as a Residential Staff member, Academic Assistant, or volunteering on the Resident's Club. All of our leaders attend training camps which allow them to discover how to really extend themselves whilst obtaining their degree.





## Halls of Residence

There were three original dormitories built in 1896/97 in the area between the Foundation Building and the building occupied by the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences. 'Old Riddell' was constructed in 1939 and was built on the site of what is now the John Mahon Food Studies complex. 'Old Shelton', which was built in 1936, became known as the Community Centre in 1981 and has now been renamed Morrison Hall. It is the only hall built in this era still standing.

Gatton campus currently has four Halls of Residence, which were built during a major expansion period in the 1960s and 1970. They provide accommodation for 436 students. The halls, Riddell (119 rooms), Thynne (108 rooms), Pitt (123 rooms) and Shelton (86 rooms), are situated just to the east of the Central Walkway.

They are all similar in design, comprising three double-storied wings connected by covered walkways to a common room. They each incorporate single bedrooms and a Residential Supervisor flat.

Each 3mx3m halls single bedroom has a single (Pitt) or king single (Riddell, Thynne & Shelton) bed, built-in study desk, office chair, wardrobe/cupboard, heater, study light, WiFi, coaxial aerial port and LAN port. Each air conditioned common room has a kitchenette including microwave, zip boiler, fridge, stove and dishwasher, full size pool table and TV. Bathrooms are unisex and are cleaned daily by dedicated cleaning staff.



All four halls have been named after men closely associated with the Campus' history, a tradition that was instigated in 1928 when there were only 90 full time students. As is the general rule with the house system, each hall was given its own crest, motto and colour and a name.

- **Pitt Hall in 1965 – By benign providence**
- **Thynne Hall in 1967 – I have a good reason**
- **Riddell Hall in 1968 – To be rather than seem to be**
- **Shelton Hall in 1970 – Strong and faithful**







## Morrison Hall

For many 'old timers' this building will always be the Old Shelton Dormitory. From 1936, it housed fifty six strapping young larrikins every year for over fifty years. From 1942 to 1944, Shelton Dormitory was the hospital ward for wounded American troops fresh from the Coral Sea.

After the Americans left the next forty eight years War was exchanged for boxing, recreation and the return of good times. The final student moved out in 1992 and Shelton Dormitory was renamed Morrison Hall.

The bottom section now contains the Past Students' Association Museum, Student Association offices, UQ Skills (Vocational Education) and a non-resident students' meeting room. The upper section is home to Student Services and Halls of Residence.

**The Halls of Residence Reception/office is located in Morrison Hall, on level 2.**

The office is open each weekday (except public holidays) at the following times:

**Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm**

**Email: [halls@uq.edu.au](mailto:halls@uq.edu.au)**

**Web: [halls.gatton.uq.edu.au](http://halls.gatton.uq.edu.au)**



## Foundation Building

It's August 22, 1896. A single stump is set in a paddock, and history is born. Today, this stump still supports the Foundation Building. July 9, 1897, the Foundation Building meets its first students. For the next forty five years, students will sleep, eat and study within its walls. The verandah is their classroom, their dorm is underneath and the Principal worked above. In March 1942 the US Army requisitions the Campus to be a Field Hospital. The Foundation Building becomes the Headquarters. The students and the Foundation Building are never reunited. Administration staff move back in and stay until 1976.

**The Foundation Building can be booked as a conference facility through the Halls of Residence Conference Unit (amongst other buildings on campus). It also provides a beautiful backdrop at Graduation time in December of each year.**

[gatton.uq.edu.au/visitors/conferences](http://gatton.uq.edu.au/visitors/conferences)

 [facebook.com/UQGattonConferences](https://facebook.com/UQGattonConferences)





## Dining Hall

The current Dining Hall was the first major building constructed after World War II and replaced the previous two Dining Halls.

Past students tell of the rules associated with eating in this hall during the 60s and 70s. On Sundays, white shirts and College ties were compulsory. Other days, you could leave the tie off, but the shirt had to be collared and shorts were a definite 'no no'. Staff patrolled the hall like hawks and as you entered you were asked to lift your trouser leg. If you had no socks on, or even worse, socks that didn't match, it was an empty tummy for you. Nowadays, the students don't even need to wear socks to dinner!

**All Halls residents take their meals in the Dining Hall. All meals are buffet style with hot and cold meal selections available at each meal, we can also cater for special dietary requirements.**

**Visitors can purchase a casual meal, please pay at the counter when entering the Dining Hall.**

**The Walkway Café, adjacent to the Dining Hall, is open 8am to 3pm Monday to Friday (during semester time) for coffee, cold drinks, snacks and casual dining.**







## UQ Sport Gatton Fitness and Aquatic Centre

Funded by the College Welfare Fund, which was initiated by staff in 1944, the hole for the pool was dug by students, staff and volunteers. Many stories have been told over the years of how digging the pool was used as a punishment for inappropriate behaviour. These are true, but in reality, it was more a team effort from all of the staff and students in the early 50's. The actual job of digging the pool was done by hand shovels, picks and tractor scoops and almost everybody on the campus helped out at some stage.

The pool and gym received a significant upgrade in 2011 as part of the UQ Sport Gatton Fitness and Aquatic Centre development.

Students have access to an extensive cardio and weights gym, multi-purpose indoor sports hall, 25-metre heated swimming pool and two squash courts. Facilities also include ovals, playing fields and tennis, netball and beach volleyball courts.

**All Halls residents receive a membership to the pool and gym including the Halls Recreation Program. The program is exclusive to Halls residents only and includes classes such as yoga, martial arts, pilates and general fitness classes.**

[uqsport.com.au/venue/uq-sport-gatton](https://uqsport.com.au/venue/uq-sport-gatton)

 [facebook.com/uqsportgatton](https://facebook.com/uqsportgatton)



# Residential staff

The residential staff are an integral part of the Halls of Residence team.

They contribute significantly to Halls life through academic support, pastoral care and social activities, ensuring that the Halls operate effectively and smoothly.

Resident staff are graduates and senior students, therefore they have first hand knowledge of the problems that students are likely to face. Furthermore, they are leaders who promote the well-being and academic success of residents.

Residential staff are also University staff and should be treated with courtesy and respect while they uphold Halls of Residence community guidelines.

They will be a guide, mentor and friend to your child throughout the year.

**Outside office hours a Residential staff member will be rostered on duty with a number for residents to call. Residential staff duty rosters will be given to all residents in the first week of semester.**

# What our students think

"Being part of the Halls community made the whole transition from school to university that much easier."

Amy

"Living in the Halls is one of the best decisions I have ever made."

Shania

"... Best time of my life!"

Sue

"Living at UQ Halls is an experience I am extremely grateful for and is one which I won't regret."

Joseph

"I highly recommend the UQ Halls to every student, irrespective of culture, background, race, career choice or religion. It is a place where lifelong friendships are forged. Come on board!"

Oluwatooni (Toni)

"Living on campus is so convenient. Instead of travel time I can spend more time focusing on my studies and it is a great opportunity to make lifelong friends."

Will

"I would not have met the same diversity of people if I didn't live at the Halls. There is always something going on and it's a fun time."

Alex



# 2021 Important dates

## SEMESTER 1

14 February	New resident compulsory check in day
15 – 19 February	Halls Orientation week
21 February	Returning residents check in day
22 February	Semester 1/Term 1 commences
2 April	Term 1 ends – Residents check out
5 – 9 April	MID-SEMESTER VACATION
11 April	Residents check in day
12 April	Term 2 commences
31 May – 4 June	Study week (SWOTVAC)
5 – 19 June	Examination block
19 June	Semester 1/Term 2 ends – Residents check out
21 June – 23 July	SEMESTER VACATION

## SEMESTER 2

23 July	Semester 2 New resident compulsory check in day
25 July	Returning residents check in day
26 July	Semester 2/Term 3 commences
25 September	Term 3 ends – Residents check out
27 September – 4 October	MID-SEMESTER VACATION
4 October	Residents check in day
5 October	Term 4 commences
1 – 5 November	Study week (SWOTVAC)
6 – 20 November	Examination block
20 November	Semester 2/Term 4 ends – Residents check out
20 November – February 2022	SUMMER VACATION

# Academic advantage

## GRASP – Gatton Residents' Academic Support Program

**GRASP** includes a number of activities designed to enhance the academic advantage of your child. There are weekly study groups led by senior residents and visiting academic staff, where they are able to exchange ideas and tackle difficult issues in their course. There is also individual assistance for those with specific study problems.



## JSAPP – Jumpstart Academic Preparation Program

Get the skills you need to succeed at university

**JSAPP Gatton** will be held during Orientation Week. This “getting started” program is recommended for all students beginning tertiary studies for the first time directly from secondary school, and is compulsory for all students living in Halls of Residence.

This is a free two-day program offering a friendly and supportive environment to help students make the transition to a new

educational institution. It offers sessions on academic writing, study skills, and succeeding at university and university life, combined with some fun afternoon activities. It's also a great opportunity to meet other students and staff.

Separate JSAPP programs will also be offered for Postgraduate students and Mature Age students.

**Book your place at [orientation.uq.edu.au](http://orientation.uq.edu.au)**



# Residents' Club

All Halls students are members of the Residents' Club (Res Club). The role of the club is to provide enriching social, cultural and sporting activities to help residents meet people, consolidate friendships, try new experiences and have fun!

The Res Club is an elected committee of residents who are passionate about enriching Halls students life. They have been busy all Summer planning and organising Orientation Week, a selection of exciting events and activities throughout the year.

The Res Club is eager to organise as many events as possible, and residents are encouraged to make recommendations to the club members if they would like anything to be organised – or better still – if they want to help the club, join one of the sub committees.

Every year in October Res Club elections are held. All residents are welcome to nominate for positions.

More information on all positions will be provided during the year.

 [facebook.com/resclub](https://facebook.com/resclub)



# Social life

A university campus is one of the most exciting and engaging places you can imagine and there are many opportunities for residents to be involved in a vast array of activities.

Each week the Hall's compete in the Resident's Shield encompassing academic, cultural and sporting activities, including a regular sporting competition on Wednesdays. The emphasis is on participation and fun. Cheering, wearing their Hall colours, and supporting their team are an important focus of these events.

There are numerous campus wide activities that students can get involved with including markets, a community garden, numerous clubs and societies, opportunities to volunteer with rescue dogs/cats, safe walks and running tracks including the Environmental Park and observing the many research animals located at the campus.

The campus has its own club which hosts very popular dances during the week and is an excellent outlet for residents as most of the dances involve "fancy dress". It is a great opportunity to be a bit outrageous in the fashion stakes. The club is professionally run by the UQ Union and includes an option to engage under age students who are welcome to join in the dances and entertainment on offer whilst not drinking.

One of the best aspects of Gatton campus is the relatively small number of students who attend thus contributing to a real family atmosphere where people are constantly interacting with familiar faces and places.







# Visiting the campus

## Staying overnight

If you are coming to Gatton campus to visit a resident, for a number of reasons, we ask that you do not stay in the Halls. The campus has an on-site motel which is also managed by our office through the campus conference unit (Carole Brown) and we would be more than happy to accommodate you.

Each motel room has 2 double beds and an ensuite bathroom. The motel has a kitchenette and laundry for guest use.

You are more than welcome to take meals in the Dining Hall either by swiping your resident's card a second time or paying cash at the counter.

**To enquire about motel room availability, please contact Carole by email at [ccu@uq.edu.au](mailto:ccu@uq.edu.au) or call 07 5460 1489.**







## Keeping in contact with your child

- **Learn more convenient ways to keep in touch** You will be tempted to call or visit your child often. Make it easy for them to want to get in touch with you. Consider texting, emailing, or instant messaging your child. They already use the technology to communicate with their friends, so it won't be such a burden to get back to you the same way. If you insist on getting them on the phone, pick one day a week at a specified time that you will call them so they can be ready for you.
- **Give them their space** Your child is going to be very busy with their new role as a university student: more challenging academics, more social opportunities, and inevitably more stress. During the first few weeks that they're away, keep conversations quick and light-hearted.
- **Help them find their own way** Listen carefully to your child. If you sense that they're homesick and want comfort, then step in and offer help. Let them know that you will always be there but also advise them to use campus services like academic and resident advisors, and school counsellors. You want your child to get involved in their new community and if they are using you as a crutch they won't be able to do that.
- **Send them care packages** Students love to pick up a gift from home at their mailbox. Think about what they'll need at school: snack foods like microwave popcorn, coffee shop or restaurant gift cards. Include a personal touch with some photos of the family. If they are far away, send the local goodies that your child loves or the local town newspaper.
- **Keep abreast of their academics** Make sure that you know what classes your child is taking and ask them about it periodically. Communicate your interest but don't pressure them to tell you about all their quizzes and assignments. If you let them know you're excited about what they're learning (not just what grades they're getting), your child will be happy to share with you.

- **If you visit, do it on their terms** Even if the Halls is only a few hours away, let your child know well in advance before you show up on campus. It's their turf now and you don't want to be intrusive. Plan a dinner or a brunch and make sure that you are not stepping on their social life with the timing.
- **Meet a few of their friends** When you visit, be sure to ask your child to invite a few of their friends with them. They will probably be more than happy to get the free meal and this will give you an opportunity to become more involved in your child's life.
- **Don't be judgmental** It wouldn't hurt to have a frank, open conversation about drinking, partying, and how to balance university life before your student leaves home. Recognise that once they're gone, it will be impossible for you to keep constant tabs on them. If you hear your child talking about drinking or otherwise irresponsible behaviour, take stock of whether what they're saying is serious or if it's just normal university student activity. Trust that you've taught them well and encourage them to have fun in moderation.
- **Talk with other parents** Create a support network among your friends who have a university student. Bounce your concerns off of them before you take them to your student. You'll probably find that you have a lot in common with them as you enter this next phase of your child's life.





## Before you decide

You and your child may wish to see the Halls of Residence before making the decision to become a resident student.

Information about the university and residential life is available if you attend **The University of Queensland Gatton Open Day (mid August each year)**, where you will be taken on a tour of the Halls and have the opportunity to meet staff and current residents. Refer to The University of Queensland events website for further information about Open Day.

[uq.edu.au/events](http://uq.edu.au/events)

Visitors are welcome and arrangements can be made to meet staff and view the Halls by telephoning in advance.

**Address:** Halls of Residence  
The University of Queensland Gatton  
Gatton Qld 4343 Australia

**Telephone:** 07 5460 1215  
International callers call +61 7 5460 1215

**Fax:** 07 5460 1498 (International +61 7 5460 1498)

**Email:** [halls@uq.edu.au](mailto:halls@uq.edu.au)

**Web:** [halls.gatton.uq.edu.au](http://halls.gatton.uq.edu.au)



# Contact details

## Office opening hours

The Halls office located on level 2 Morrison Hall (Building 8123) is open each weekday (except public holidays) at the following time:

**Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm**

## Mail

The postal address for mail is:

Your child's name  
PO Box number (available from the Campus Post Office)  
The University of Queensland  
Gatton QLD 4343 AUSTRALIA

## Official communication

The Halls of Residence will regularly communicate official important information such as account invoices and move out notices to your child via an email or our facebook page. It is important that your child arranges to receive their email messages sent to their University email account as that is the address that will be used.

To keep up to date with important information, please 'like' our Halls of Residence official Facebook page



[facebook.com/UQGHallsOfRes](https://facebook.com/UQGHallsOfRes)

## Important contact numbers

Halls Reception	<b>HELEN HAYNES</b>	07 5460 1215
Head of Halls	<b>SIMON SCOTT</b>	07 5460 1032
Manager, Residential Programs	<b>WAYNE KOLLEGER</b>	07 5460 1033
Business Administration Officer	<b>NICOLE HARTWICH</b>	07 5460 1034
Campus Conference Coordinator	<b>CAROLE BROWN</b>	07 5460 1489

**Email:** [halls@uq.edu.au](mailto:halls@uq.edu.au)

**Web:** [halls.gatton.uq.edu.au](https://halls.gatton.uq.edu.au)

## After hours

Outside office hours a Residential staff member will be rostered on duty with a number for residents to call. Residential staff duty rosters will be given to all residents in the first week of semester.

Please contact security on 07 3365 1234 if you have any concerns about the welfare of your child.

