



Security and Personal Safety



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YORK
ST JOHN
UNIVERSITY

Welcome to York St John University

We are a small campus in the heart of the city. Our partnership of modern and Victorian architecture houses high specification facilities, including our Fountains Learning Centre, which is open 24 hours a day.

When it comes to entertainment, head on down to our Students' Union where you can have a drink and watch the

sports on our large screen TVs, or relax with your friends with a cup of coffee.

We are few minutes away from town, which has a variety of bars, restaurants and cafes, and a huge selection of quirky shops. Take a step back in time as you walk through centuries of history around York.

[Want to know more about York?](#)
[Take a look at our York Guide to the city.](#)

Top 10 for most welcoming cities.
York was named one of the most welcoming cities in the world.

(booking.com 2023)

95%

of students in work or further study
15 months after graduating

(Higher Education Graduate Outcomes Data 2021)

Security on campus

York St John University prides itself on having a safe and secure campus where students and staff can enjoy living, learning and working in a community environment. A member of the security team is present on university property to always assist.

Our security service is provided by Gough and Kelly., a dedicated 24-hour security team that are present on campus 365 days a year. We also have a comprehensive CCTV network on all our sites, with cameras strategically positioned on the exterior of the buildings.

The Security Lodge is located in the Maclagan Block opposite Holgate.

To contact the Security Team:

- Call 01904 876444
or call/text 07885201182

Security will attend the disturbance as soon as possible, and report back to the relevant team.

- **Emergencies:**
Please visit the Security Lodge or call 01904 876444
- **Non-emergencies:**
Email security@yorksja.ac.uk or call 01904 876444



Personal safety

Whether you are new to York, or are familiar with the city, it is important to stay safe. While you are having fun exploring the city, make sure you consider the following tips:

- Take your mobile phone out with you at all times and keep it charged. Carry a portable charger just in case.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash with you.
- Hide cash and valuable items - keep them in a zipped up pocket or a secure bag.
- Stay alert - be aware of your surroundings when out and about.
- Carry a personal alarm.

In an emergency dial 999 from any phone and ask for the Police; call 101 if it is not an emergency but you require Police assistance.

Accommodation security

All of our accommodation is located in the centre of York, 1 mile or less from campus. We take the safety of York St John University students very seriously so all of our accommodation has access to 24/7 security. It is also your responsibility to keep your property locked and make sure your belongings are out of sight.

Consider the following:

- Keep windows, doors and all gates locked, even if you are home.
- Get to know your neighbours so that you can look out for each other.
- Keep curtains closed when you're out and use timer switches to make it look like someone is home.
- If you have a burglar alarm, remember to set it.
- Keep valuables out of sight of windows, especially in ground floor rooms.
- Take your valuables home during vacation periods.
- Mark your property with an ultraviolet pen so that it is identifiable.

Ensure your belongings with Endsleigh, for more information, visit:

www.yorks.ac.uk/policies-and-documents

Online safety

We all use the Internet every day and make purchases online. However, it is important to keep yourself and your data safe to prevent online fraud:

- Avoid using public Wi-Fi hotspots when making online payments or accessing emails. Use a secure internet connection instead.
- Be careful when online shopping or banking. Always make sure the website you are using is genuine and secure.
- When making a payment, look for the padlock symbol next to the "https" link, this confirms your data is encrypted when set.
- Using a secure payment site, such as PayPal, will give you greater protection. Keep your receipts and check your bank statement to make sure all payments are correct.
- Be aware of how you share your data online and how your data is used by companies.
- Watch out for suspicious emails that will try to deceive you by disguising as a legitimate organisation. Never click on a link from a suspicious email.
- A phishing email usually has a different email address to the company it is claiming to be and does not address you by name. If in doubt, call the company by using their legitimate phone number that can be found online and ask if the email is genuine.

Vehicle safety

Parking on campus and around university accommodation is extremely limited and we advise that you do not bring your car to university. Our campus is in the heart of the city and all of our accommodation is close to the university. York has an excellent public transport system you can use if you need to. If you feel that bringing your vehicle with you is your only option, please bear the following in mind:

- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area overlooked by houses and ideally a CCTV camera.
- Use a mechanical immobiliser, such as a steering lock to protect your vehicle.
- Remove all valuables including laptops, sat navs and documents containing personal information.

Bicycle security

An alternative mode of transportation is cycling. We promote a safe campus, but bikes can be often targeted by thieves because they are left poorly secured or not secured at all. Take the correct measures to increase the chance of your bike being returned to you if it is stolen:

- Use a D-lock and make sure the frame and a wheel is secured.
- Lock your bike in a busy, well-lit place, in view of people or CCTV cameras.
- Take easily removable bike parts like lights, seats and wheels with you to prevent them from being stolen.
- Photograph your bike and record its details at www.bikeregister.com



Safety tips for nights out

Although York has been voted one of the safest cities in the North of England, it is still important to stay safe and remain vigilant when out and about. Whether you are out during the day or during the night, look after yourself and others around you.

- When going out, let your friends or housemates know where you are going and when you are likely to return.
- Don't carry large amounts of cash or highly valuable possessions on your person.
- Avoid walking alone. Go out as a group or call a taxi.
- Avoid taking short-cuts and keep to busy, well-lit streets.
- If you feel that you are being followed, keep to busy, well-lit areas; go into a busy space such as a bar or restaurant and call a taxi to drive you home safely.
- Don't accept lifts or share taxis with people you don't know.
- If you do not have money for a taxi, call Getaway Cars and offer the driver your student card. You can then go to the taxi office, collect your card and pay your fare.
- If threatened when walking home, attract attention by screaming, shouting or using a personal alarm.
- If someone attempts to rob you, let them have your possessions without a struggle. Your belongings can be replaced and are not as important as your safety.
- If you lose your bank card, or it is stolen, contact your bank so your card can be blocked. This will stop someone else from using it.



River safety

Rivers can be dangerous so it is important to stay safe when near York's rivers on a night out. Here are some tips to stay safe when on a night out:

- Avoid walking near the river – especially when it is dark.
- Know your alcohol limits. Watch what you are drinking and avoid being near the river whilst drunk.
- Look after your friends and stay in groups.
- Never go into the river. The currents of the River Ouse and River Foss are strong. If you drop something into the water, let it go.

Alcohol safety

Whilst studying in York, please drink safely and sensibly. Although it can be a fun way to socialise with friends, know your limits and prioritise the safety of others around you and yourself.

- Avoid binge drinking.
- Plan your night. Know where you are going and arrange safe transport home for the end of the night.
- Inform your housemates where you are going.
- Keep key contacts in your phone in case of an emergency.
- Be aware of your surroundings and keep your possessions, such as your phone and money, hidden.

Drugs

We advise you to stay away from drugs. You can never be sure of the strength and purity of any illegal drug. Here are the best ways to stay safe:

- The best way to stay safe is to avoid drugs completely.
- If you do take drugs, drink non-alcoholic drinks and remain calm.
- Do not mix more than one substance, including alcohol, as this can be dangerous.
- If you take drugs, tell your friends what you have taken in case of any difficulties.
- Make sure you look after your friends and that they look after you.

If you are dealing with alcohol or drug issues, our welfare team are here to help:

www.yorks.ac.uk/health-and-wellbeing/wellbeing-support/welfare-chats/

Useful numbers

Campus Security - 01904 876444

University Switchboard - 01904 624624

Street Angels York - Tel: 07533933063 - Email: streetangelsyork@gmail.com

York Nightline - Tel: 01904 323735 - Email: listening@york.nightline.ac.uk

Getaway Cars - Tel: 01904 622228

In an emergency, contact 999.

In a non-emergency, contact 101 for police and 111 for NHS.

Further information:

North Yorkshire Police Student Safety - www.northyorkshire.police.uk



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