



## Campus Watch Information Sheet

# Security of your Accommodation



The security of your accommodation, whether an apartment or house, is vital to safeguarding you and your property.

Follow these tips to help secure your residence:

- Ensure that all windows and doors are locked at all times.
- Never give your keys to anyone else. Do not leave your keys where others could have access to them.
- Always lock outside doors.
  - The main entrance is the first line of defence to your property.
  - Close your curtains after dark. Act on suspicions you have, don't dwell on them.
  - Let the professionals share your suspicions.
  - Never reveal you are alone.



- Inform a trusted neighbour or friend if you are going away.
- Ensure that you do not have obvious signs of vacant accommodation
  - Curtains drawn during daylight hours, etc.
  - Remember to lock up and light up.
- Ensure that all of your property is marked with your own personal identification code, like your Eircode (e.g. D08 HN3X). Items of value should be securely locked away.



Before you admit any callers to your accommodation, ensure you are satisfied with their identity.

Don't be afraid to check the ID of unfamiliar people. You do not have to challenge people aggressively. You can approach someone and ask if they are lost or need help if you are unsure. Perhaps enlist the help of a fellow student before making any approach.

Don't let strangers in, or hold doors open for strangers who are arriving as you are leaving. Use the door chain on your room door.

Remember – Other people live in the building too!

If you think someone is behaving suspiciously, or trying to gain unauthorised access to accommodation, contact the Gardaí / Campus Security Personnel.

Likewise, if you receive any strange, threatening, or abusive phone calls to your accommodation, report them to the Gardaí / Campus Security Personnel.



### How Secure is your new accommodation? Do the Checklist Challenge.



This checklist will show you if you need to do more to be secure. Burglars are opportunists. Research has shown that if they are delayed for more than 3 minutes they will likely move on to another target. Ask yourself the following questions if they are appropriate to your accommodation. Remember every no is a potential security risk.

	Y	N
Is your house number visible from the street?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the light around your home bright enough to remove any dark or shadowy areas around it?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the outside lighting illuminate visitors calling at your door?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do neighbours and passers-by have a clear view of your home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the hedges and shrubs trimmed so they can't hide a burglar at work on the windows and doors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are there tools or ladders, etc., in places accessible to potential burglars?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are high value items stored in garages or sheds securely padlocked or chained to prevent removal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is your shed / garage secure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all your external doors properly fitted and equipped with appropriate secure locking systems? (i.e. 5-lever mortice locks for wooden doors, multi-point locking for uPVC doors etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If you have glass panelled doors – are they reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you a wide-angled viewer in your front/main entrance doors or other means of viewing callers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a door chain / limiter fitted and do you use it?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Where there may have been a previous occupier, have you since had the locks changed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are your spare keys kept with a trusted neighbour and never left under an external mat, flower pot etc?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you lock your external doors when away from home, no matter how short a time?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the garage / outhouse doors protected with quality locks or deadbolts?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you close and lock your garage / outhouse doors?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all your windows secure?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Can the window openings be restricted for ventilation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you check to see if all windows are secured when you leave your home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have an intruder alarm system or CCTV system fitted and do you use it?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is it maintained and serviced annually?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you know how to operate and use your alarm or CCTV system functions?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you appointed keyholder(s) and will they respond appropriately to an alarm activation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you ask for identification before allowing unknown tradespeople / callers into your home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you avoid leaving cash at home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you automatic timers on some lights when your house is vacant?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does your home always look like someone is at home?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you recorded serial numbers of your valuables?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you, for identification purposes, photographed and recorded details of your valuables?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are your car / house keys kept in a location not visible from the outside?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Campus Watch is similar to a residential Neighbourhood Watch scheme in that it is a crime prevention and community safety programme. It operates as a partnership between An Garda Síochána and the Campus occupants. It works on the basis that every member of Campus can help to improve the quality of life on site by keeping a look out for students, staff and visitors, and reporting suspicious activities to the Gardaí.

