

The Griffin Community Trust



GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS WHO WISH TO LIVE AT GRIFFIN HOUSE

INTRODUCTION

The Griffin Community Trust was set up :

- to provide residential accommodation for medical and dental students at Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry;
- to assist and befriend the elderly, infirm or handicapped.

The student accommodation at Griffin House is adjacent to Sheltered Housing (Shaftesbury Lodge). Accommodation within Griffin House will be offered to those students who, it is felt, will befriend and work with the residents of Shaftesbury Lodge.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Students are expected to befriend the elderly residents of Shaftesbury Lodge, giving at least one hour of their time per week. It is intended that strong links should be forged between the students and their elderly neighbours and that they will enjoy spending time together, not only on a one-to-one basis but also at more organised group social activities. Students are also expected to attend events at nearby Toynbee Hall.
- Established events, such as the annual Christmas Party, trips to the theatre and video evenings, which are already instituted by students from the Trust, will inspire regularly organised social gatherings. In addition, it is hoped that the presence of the Community Day Centre will allow greater scope for companionship and entertainment. However, it is not intended that any activities within the project should get in the way of the academic requirements of the MBBS or BDS courses. Any students overburdened should feel free to report to the Trust.
- Students are not responsible for the well-being or health of the elderly residents. Any pressing medical or social needs must be reported to the duty warden of Shaftesbury Lodge. However, in order to gain a certain rapport, confidentiality must be maintained except in acute or exceptional circumstances. If unsure, students should always ask a member of the Trust, who will be appointed as responsible for this, and who will then act in strict confidence.
- Students are not resident doctors or dentists. They must not give medical advice or treatment. They should have access to emergency telephone numbers in case of problems. Requests for medical help should be politely, but firmly, turned down.
- Students are not part-time care-workers and should not be seen as such. They should not take the place of any professional social services that are available.