



GRIFFIN  
COMMUNITY  
TRUST  
MEDICAL AND DENTAL  
STUDENT HOUSING  
CHARITY IN LONDON

# *The Griffin Community Trust*

## **ACCOMMODATION AT GRIFFIN HOUSE : 2025-2026**

Applications are invited for places in Griffin House for the academic year 2025-26 from current 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Medical and Dental students (i.e. forthcoming 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> years).

The accommodation consists of **6** flats, each housing **4** students (one of the flats is for 3 only). The flats are fully furnished and, in addition to the individual study-bedrooms each with its own wash-hand basin, all flats contain a kitchen/dining/living-area, a bathroom, a shower-room and a separate toilet. Internet access is available in all rooms. Griffin House operates a strict non-smoking policy.

The rents for the flats are subsidised by the Trust and are therefore considerably lower than rents on the open market. In return, student residents have a commitment to befriend an elderly resident living in the sheltered housing adjacent to Griffin House (Shaftesbury Lodge). The specific commitment is to spend at least **one** hour a week befriending, to help organise at least two events within the academic year (preferably with the other members of the flat) and to attend events organised by other Griffin students - approximately two a month at Shaftesbury Lodge. (Please note that students are not social workers and are specifically there to provide company and friendship.) Successful applicants are encouraged to participate on the Griffin Student Committee.

Any student who is interested in applying and wishes to know more should contact me on [jwalker42@live.co.uk](mailto:jwalker42@live.co.uk) . Alternatively contact the Student Chairs, Shreya Suresh – on 07926 070348 or Serena Shih on 07414 825625 - who will be glad to answer any queries. Students interested in applying for a place are strongly encouraged to visit Griffin House.

The rent for the year 2025 - 26 has not yet been confirmed but there will be an increase on last year's rent, which was £101 per week; this includes internet and utility bills (telephone excluded).

**The latest date for receipt of applications is *FRIDAY, MARCH 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025.***

After this applicants will be invited to an informal (on-line) interview/chat and successful candidates will move into Griffin house in September.

*Judith A Walker*  
**Chair of Accommodation Committee**  
*The Griffin Community Trust*

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## **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 required 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. There is also the opportunity to become involved in other local projects involving the elderly.
- 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.