



Monday, 1st February, 2021 (01/02/21)



Trinity College Dublin Students' Union
House 6,
Trinity College Dublin,
Dublin 2.

Joint press statement from TCDSU and the JCR on current situation faced by Halls Residents.

The following is a joint statement from Trinity College Dublin Students' Union (TCDSU) and the Trinity Hall Junior Common Room (JCR) regarding the current situation faced by student residents of Trinity Hall.

TCDSU and the JCR recognise the immense challenges this year poses for residents in College Accommodation. Trinity Hall has been, and will remain, a place where students start their College journey. Due to the ongoing challenges and risks posed by COVID-19, safety measures have had to be implemented across Ireland to ensure that close contacts are minimised. TCDSU and the JCR have worked closely with the Warden Team and Trinity Accommodation Office since July to ensure the safety of all students and staff and to ensure that all student concerns are represented.

The College, JCR Committee and the Trinity Hall Warden Team have made active efforts to communicate the rules and regulations for Halls and a clear list of all offences and penalties has been circulated by the Warden on numerous occasions. We are concerned about the claims of harshness in disciplinary hearings and will be following up with the Warden's team and the Junior Dean to ensure that all student cases are handled fairly. However, if any student experiences issues with their disciplinary hearings, or encounters financial difficulties as a result of a fine, please contact TCDSU's Welfare Officer at the email: welfare@tcdsu.org.

We'd also like to remind students that measures have been taken to ensure that students can end their lease for Trinity Accommodation without incurring any fine or notice period charges. Any student who wants to remain in Halls may do so for any reason, but the option is available for those who want it and we would encourage you to make the decision that best suits your circumstances. If you're considering exiting your accommodation early, contact trinity.hall@tcd.ie, who will be more than happy to assist you in this process.

We'd like to encourage students who are struggling in any way to get in touch with us. TCDSU's Welfare and Equality Officer, Leah Keogh can be contacted at welfare@tcdsu.org and the JCR's Welfare Officer, Emma Gallagher, can be contacted at welfare@trinityhalljcr.com.

You can find a list of SU welfare resources at <https://www.tcdsu.org/welfare>

You can find Halls-specific information here: <https://www.trinityhalljcr.com/emergency-contacts>

You can contact the Warden, Roja Fazaeli, at warden@tcd.ie

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The JCR will be hosting a virtual Town Hall meeting for residents to voice any concerns, it will take place on Thursday 4th February at 7PM via Zoom and we encourage anyone experiencing any issues to attend. TCDSU Sabbatical Officers will also be present to ensure that all issues are addressed or flagged with relevant parties. We're looking forward to listening to your concerns and hopefully we can work towards a more positive student experience while ensuring that we put student and staff safety first. Together, we can work to keep everyone safe this Hilary Term.

Kind Regards,
Eoin Hand, TCDSU President
Alex Clark, JCR President