

Dear Landlord,

We hope you and your family are safe and well in these unprecedented times. We have provided this open letter for our students to reach out to you in order to open a dialogue about how students can be supported throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. It is our intention to work with local landlords in order to help improve communication and ultimately support and protect the well-being of our students.

As you may already be aware, Edge Hill University has moved all of its face to face teaching online. This is also true of exams and assessments, meaning many students will have, or will be looking to, move to their respective homes over the Summer months. As a result, the University has released all students from their accommodation contracts (where this has been requested).

We realise that, for many landlords, the above is not a viable option. We also realise how crucial private accommodation is to Edge Hill students and the wider West Lancashire area. However, what we do ask is that during these unprecedented times, that you consider any flexibility and any exceptions that may be available to you in order to help students who may be struggling at this time.

If you would be willing to make such adjustments for students who are either looking to or have already moved out of your accommodation, it would make an enormous difference, particularly with regard to the large number of students who have lost part-time work and are experiencing financial hardship.

Some landlords have already made such commitments to their tenants and if this applies to you we thank you for your help. If you would like to contact us at sucomms@edgehill.ac.uk, we would gladly place your name on our website to help spread the message of the help you have extended to Edge Hill students.

If not, we are calling on you to do whatever you can to support students through this pandemic, whether that is releasing students from their contracts, being transparent in your communication with student tenants, or reaching out to the Students' Union at sucomms@edgehill.ac.uk to discuss further how you may be able to help.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and we wish you well over the coming months.

Please note: Edge Hill Students' Union is an independent organisation that represents the student body, not to be confused with Edge Hill University.

Yours Sincerely

Edge Hill Students' Union