

College Recycling Procedures – Main College Site

Background

A compulsory recycling scheme is in operation throughout the main College to minimise waste sent to landfill. The details set out below outline the procedures for recycling and rubbish removal. Do please try and co-operate, the scheme is as simple as we can make it and does not require anyone to do any more than you might do at home.

The system comprises of a number of grey bins with colour coded lids. These are located throughout the gyp rooms/kitchens, Porters Lodge, JCR, etc. The lid colours are consistent across the site to make the process of recycling as easy as possible. Bins are emptied by College staff.

At the time of writing, a new rubbish collection point is awaited for the Social Hub. Please follow any instructions indicated at this location.

Please refer to the accommodation section for Swirles Court, for the recycling system in operation there.

Bedroom Bins

An important part of the success of the scheme is the recycling of rubbish generated within bedrooms. Students must dispose of the recyclable rubbish generated within their own rooms into the appropriate bins in the corridor Gyp rooms/kitchens.

There are two bins in each bedroom. One bin, of generally 12 litre size, will be for the occupant to temporarily dispose of and store recyclable material before taking it to the gyp rooms/kitchens and sorting into the appropriate bins.

The second room bin, which is smaller, will be for non recyclable material only and this bin (and this bin only) can be emptied by the cleaners if left outside your room. If this bin is seen to contain clearly recyclable material it will not be emptied to give the occupant the opportunity to correctly dispose of the items. Alternatively you can empty this bin into the General Rubbish bin in your Gyp Room – which would be preferred.

Sanitary waste must be put in to the Sanitary bins in the WCs.

Bins at Recycling points in Gyp Rooms/kitchens Etc

These bins are coded as follows:-

Grey Lids: Dry Mixed Recyclable material (DMR)

This comprises:

- Paper (including shredded) and cardboard of all types except used tissues.
- Plastics of all types – including bottles, pots, but not metalized films, clean cling film, bags, packets etc - this will be sorted by the waste carrier and unrecyclable grade plastics removed accordingly.

- Steel and aluminium cans.
- Bubble wrap envelopes
- Tetrapak type cartons.
- Do not put any wet or food waste in these bins. All tins, bottles, yoghurt pots etc are to be rinsed and dry prior to placing in the bin.
- Do not put any Caneware in these bins – this is compostable and not recyclable.

Brown Lids: General Rubbish.

All non-recyclable waste, including:

- Contaminated material.
- Polystyrene.
- Tissues etc.
- Metalised plastics such as many crisp and sweet wrappers
- Do not put any food waste in these bins.

Yellow Lids: Glass

All colours of glass, but please drain and remove tops. Please place the glass in the bins rather than throw it to minimise breakages.

Green Caddy: Food Waste

For all cooked and raw food waste. All caddies to be lined with compostable starch bags, not plastic bags. These liners will be replaced by the cleaner.

Caneware Products

These are now supplied in the Cafeteria and Social Hub for takeaway food and drinks. These products are compostable and should be cleaned and placed in the bags provided in the gyp rooms or in the bin in the main dining hall.

Note

The frequency of the emptying of these bins will vary according to the number of users, amount of recycling generated, lifestyle etc. As the scheme becomes more familiar over time it is hoped that the amount of rubbish ending up in landfill can be significantly minimised.

Please note that the recycling bins will not be sorted by the College staff. If it is evident that inappropriate material has been placed in a Dry Mixed Recyclable bin, this will result in the waste being placed in the General Rubbish wheelie bin in the waste compound. This is bad for both our level of recycling and adds cost to the removal of the waste from site as it adds to the waste carrier sorting costs.

Please remember that recyclable waste takes up considerable volume within the internal bins and the wheelie bins in the external waste compound. It is therefore requested that you crush all boxes, plastic bottles, tins etc as much as possible so that we can maximise the space

within the bins, thus reducing the frequency of emptying and reducing costs in removal of the waste from site.

Other facilities

The JCR generally arrange a collection point in the Post Room for spent printer cartridges. Most supermarkets and some other battery retailers have recycling points for dead batteries.

Please use the Sharps boxes or contact the College Nurse concerning the disposal of clinical waste. Do not, in any circumstances, place medical needles in any bins other than the yellow sharps boxes which are located in the middle gyp room on each corridor and in the accessible toilet by the Lodge

Please notify the Catering and Conference office on the main site should you have significant quantities of cardboard to dispose of. On both sites there are Dry Mix bins in the external waste compounds where larger crushed cardboard items can be deposited. In addition, on the main site there is a cardboard baler for use by trained operatives.

There is a British Heart Foundation donation point in the main bin area on the main College site, and boxes in the Swirles Court entrance area. These take donations of clothes, shoes, books, CD's, small electrical items – anything that can be resold.

If you have larger or damaged electrical items to dispose of please contact the Maintenance Department as these are generally classed as controlled waste.

Additional black bins may be provided at busy times such as the beginning and end of term to temporarily cater for the larger quantities of waste generated at these times.

Outside Properties and Graduate Housing

With the exception of the Grange, all of the College houses are serviced by the Local Authority for their rubbish collection. Please follow the requirements of the Local Authority, which may be Cambridge City Council, or South Cambridgeshire District Council depending on the location of the house. These require the residents to be punctilious in their segregation of recyclable waste since any contamination may result in refusal to remove the waste. Information is provided in the houses of the particular requirements and collection timetables.

Please use the bins provided and put out for collection on the appropriate days.

Finally ...

Whatever the waste, recyclable or not, please try and keep it to the minimum, and don't negate the efforts of your fellow students by contaminating the separated waste.

Thank you.