



# The HomeLet Guide to Surviving Uni Life – Part 3

## Keeping Safe

According to The Complete University Guide, a third of students will become a victim of crime. Police report that 16 to 24-year-olds are three times more likely to be victims of burglary than any other age group, while students can also be victims of robberies and assaults.

So, how do you keep safe while you're at uni? Here are three simple tips.

### BE CAREFUL IN A NEW AREA – ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT

If you're travelling late at night, try and go with someone you know – especially if you're new to the area. The shortest route might not be the safest, so choose a well-lit area with plenty of people. Avoid deserted streets, parks and quiet alleyways and walk facing oncoming traffic to avoid kerb crawlers. Take off your headphones so you can hear what's around you.

Make sure you are familiar with late night transport. Do you know the number of a reputable taxi firm? Do you know what time the late buses leave? Do your friends know where you have gone, and what time you'll be back?

### KEEP YOURSELF SAFE

If you're carrying a bag, try and wear it so the strap is across your body with the opening closest to you. Even if you're laden with books and bags it's advisable to try and keep one hand free. Disguise valuable items if you can – for example carry a laptop in a sports bag or rucksack.

If you're threatened, be prepared to give up your bags. Property can be replaced – you can't! Try and attract attention however you can and, if you can get away, run to a place of safety and report the incident.

### SECURE YOUR PROPERTY

If you leave valuable belongings in your home, make sure that all your doors and windows are locked. Outside doors should be fitted with five-lever locks and windows should be locked with keys.

Make sure you lock the property at night and when nobody is at home. If you're in a house with lots of people it might be difficult to check who is in or out, so always lock the door.

It's also important to consider protecting your valuables should the worst happen. Cover such as our Tenant Insurance ensures that your TV, computer, games consoles, musical instruments and bikes are protected in the event that they are stolen from your home. You can also arrange protection to make sure your valuables are protected while you're out and about.

With about 20% of student robberies occurring in the first six weeks of the academic year\*, it's vital that you're protected from the day you move in. Our insurance has been designed with tenants in mind, visit [homelet.co.uk](http://homelet.co.uk) to get a quote.

\* The Complete University Guide, year to May 2012

