



Union
Theological
College

The Gibson Chambers Accommodation @ Union Theological College.

A quiet oasis at the heart of a busy area of Belfast.

The Gibson Chambers offers self-catering ensuite accommodation for students convenient to the centre of Belfast in the heart of the university quarter of Belfast. It is close to QUB and Stranmillis College, the Ulster Museum, and Botanic Gardens, with bus and train links available within a few hundred meters of the college.



The accommodation is located on the upper 2 floors of the main college building at 108 Botanic Avenue. All 26 ensuite bedrooms are attractively furnished with a wardrobe, study desk and single divan bed with their own ensuite bathroom which has a toilet, wash-hand basin and shower cubicle. Wireless and ethernet

connectivity is available in every room as well as the communal areas.

Each floor has its own dining area and kitchen, with a cooker and microwave. There are specific fridge and freezer spaces and a store cupboard allocated to each resident.

On the ground floor there is a Common Room with comfortable seating, a television, and a pool table!



Union
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College

A laundry room with a washing machine, tumble dryer, and iron and ironing board is available to all residents through booking a time slot.

Residents also have access to the Gamble Library as a place of study during College working hours.

Residents must provide their own bed linen, kitchen utensils and cutlery, etc. The use of the laundry room, common room, and other facilities are included in the offer.



Security

Residents have their own private entrance from the street, and the Upper floors can be accessed by either staircases or a lift. Each floor has a secure door access system, which can only be opened by residents and, in an emergency, by members of College staff.



Sub Wardens live on each floor. They look after security and fire safety in the building. The property is locked each night by the Sub-Wardens.

We have a limited number of car parking spaces on the College grounds, which are allocated on a "first come first served" basis. If not allocated a space, cars must be parked in on-street parking spaces around the College. Students who bring cars, do so at their own risk.

There is also a dedicated secure bicycle stand available, and motor bikes may be parked in an allocated area.



Union
Theological
College

The Gibson Chambers Community

Being a community with a distinctly Christian ethos, there are resident Pastoral Volunteers who live in the building, and co-ordinate events and outings as well as discussion groups, prayer meetings and various ministry programmes.

The Gibson Chambers is much more than a Hall of Residence, and, as a result, we expect our residents to get involved in the full spectrum of what community life is all about. With having residents from various parts of the world, there is an opportunity to understand and experience different cultures and lifestyles, and “local” residents have the opportunity to demonstrate the renowned “Ulster hospitality”.



It is our hope that every member of the community will benefit from the values and aspirations of the College community. We encourage students who reside here to immerse themselves in our programme of events,

rather than simply rent a room.

In addition to the listening ear of the Pastoral Volunteers on a day by day basis, the College, in partnership with the Presbyterian Chaplaincy, will also provide you with the opportunity to meet, if requested, with the chaplaincy. This offer is open to students of all denominations and none.

Student Support and Wellbeing services are also available through “Inspire”. They offer confidential services including online support, a telephone helpline (available 24/7) and off-site structured counselling service, by BAC qualified practitioners.



Union
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Finances

The cost of staying in the Gibson Chambers for the academic year 2024-2025 is £132 per week, and fees must be paid for the duration of a 39-week Licence to Occupy.

Students are billed to coincide with receipt of their maintenance grants which are available to UK students. If requested, monthly payments can be arranged. However payments being made (at least) monthly must be made in advance.



For further information please contact the office by email accommodation@union.ac.uk, or telephone (028) 90205080.

A £300 deposit is required to guarantee your place. This is returnable at the end of your stay, however may be used to cover any damage caused by you, or extraordinary costs attributed to you. Residents are required to sign a License Agreement and have a Guarantor.

How to Apply

The residence is open to applications from all students irrespective of where they are studying. Applications forms are available from the College website

<https://www.union.ac.uk/student-hub/accommodation>

Union Theological College is part of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

Please note there is a high demand for accommodation at Union College and it is therefore, in your interest, to complete all sections of the application form as completely and comprehensively as possible.

Completed forms should be returned to the Accommodation Coordinator at accommodation@union.ac.uk as soon as possible and preferably before 2nd July 2024.