

# Welcome to Cotham Vale!

This is a small friendly residential street and we hope you will enjoy your time here. The road is home to the full range of city dwellers of all ages, from babies to the elderly, including people who work unsocial hours – and university staff! – as well as students. Please introduce yourself to your neighbours; it benefits you and them, as we are all living here together.

Here is some local information and advice to supplement your University Student Handbook(s) and Accommodation Office literature, which you can access online.

## *NOISE*

Cotham Vale is a street of (mainly) Victorian terraced houses with small gardens and low garden walls. As a consequence you are closer to your neighbours than you might be used to, and so is any noise you make. Please be considerate when socialising. Give neighbours plenty of notice when planning a party (a few days not hours). Noise in gardens carries to adjacent streets. The University advises that parties should be contained indoors after 11pm. Also keep your front door shut to keep in the noise, and for obvious security reasons. Encourage your guests to arrive/leave quietly, and avoid shouting down the street. There are venues in town which may be more appropriate for holding parties.

Problem noise will be reported to the Council, the University and your landlord. Repeat complaints may be reported to your academic department.

## *NEIGHBOURLINESS*

We hope we can all be good neighbours together, despite inevitable differences in lifestyles. Please remember to park responsibly and not on corners. If you park over the dropped kerb you will get a ticket. Please keep the pavements as clear as possible for pedestrians, pushchairs, and those with walking or vision impairments. If you have maintenance issues please let your landlord know quickly, for security and health and safety reasons (it is in their interests to respond promptly).

Cotham is a great place to live: do support local trade by using the excellent shops on Cotham Hill and Abbotsford Road, where there is a proper community feel. If you need help or information, there are lots of people in Cotham Vale who have lived and worked here for years and will be happy to help.

## ***RUBBISH & RECYCLING***

Our collection day is Thursday: recycling every week, and rubbish (black wheelie bin) every fortnight. NB when there's a bank holiday the collection day is shifted one or two days along. Ask your neighbours if in doubt. Everything needs to be out on the pavement for collection by 7am.

**Rubbish**: put into bin bags and into your wheelie bin(s), which must be stored off the pavement except when put out for the binmen (then you have to put it on the pavement or they won't empty it). They won't take bags which are not in the wheelie bin, which is why it is a good idea to recycle as much as possible. If your wheelie bin does not hold enough for your household, talk to your landlord – the Council will provide more or bigger bins/ boxes for free (tel: 922 3838)

**Recycling**: what you *can* put out:  
***In black box***: Paper (in carrier bag untied); cans; bottles/jars (not broken glass); shoes (in pairs); old clothes (in bag); batteries (in paper bag); foil  
***By black box***: cardboard (tied flat)  
***In brown bin***: kitchen waste (cooked food, veg peelings, eggshells, teabags etc)

Wrap kitchen waste in newspaper or use corn starch bags, available from Cotham Hardware, £2.10 for 10. This keeps the waste tidier and less smelly/slimy. Rinse out cans/bottles, and wash your bins periodically. Make sure your steps and front gardens are kept litter-free.

### **What you *cannot* put out for recycling:**

***Tetrapak*** (juice cartons etc): rinse and flatten and put in your general rubbish.

***Plastic bottles***: BUT you can recycle these at Clifton Down Station (Whiteladies Road, by the Roo Bar). Rinse, flatten and replace lid.

***Other plastics***: the recycling bins at Clifton Down also accept plastics marked P1, 2, 5 or 6 (in the triangle on the bottom of the item). Typically these are yoghurt pots, fruit/veg punnets, and coleslaw tubs, etc. NOT plastic wrappings.

***Broken glass***: wrap in newspaper and put in rubbish bag in wheelie bin.

### **If you do not recycle you will:**

- Find you have too much rubbish to fit in your wheelie bin;
- Have smelly rubbish;
- Attract flies, maggots, rats, pigeons, cats and foxes (which rip open the bin bags and then poo on your doorstep).

Nor will you be doing your bit for the environment – everyone's responsibility.

Please ask a neighbour if you need help to keep going! Binmen can be fussy: if e.g. you don't sort cans from bottles they may leave the whole lot.