

## Guidance for Grading of Undergraduate Rooms – Lent Term 2012

Dear Exec,

We have devised a new system for grading the undergraduate rooms in and out of college. The basis of this system assumes that the most important feature of a room is its size, closely followed by its location. Other factors, such as light, bathroom and kitchen facilities, upkeep, noise and other environmental factors are accounted for in relation to this initial size grading.

Throughout this grading process, we are keeping in mind that a standard Grade 3 room is a South Court current Grade 3. The weighting of the various factors impacting grading are listed below as objectively as possible. We hope this will make it easy to view a room and assess its grade quickly and fairly. Any unusual or extenuating factors can be noted in the extra comments, and will be dealt with on a case to case basis by the Buildings and Services Officer. Please total the scores for the rooms, but do not round them up or down, as again this will be dealt with by the Buildings and Services Officer.

We hope this new system will make the rents paid by undergraduates fair and transparent, and allow regarding in the future when necessary.

Many thanks,

Lizi McLoughlin

Buildings and Services Officer, ECSU, 2012

### How to grade a room

1. **Size:** Initially grade a room between 1-8 based purely on size from photographs provided
2. **Location:** If a room is outside college (this does not include Park Terrace), take 1 point off.
3. **Bathrooms:**
  - a) If a bathroom is shared between **more** than 5 people, take 0.5 off.
  - b) If a room contains an en suite, add 1.
4. **Kitchens:**
  - a) If a room does not have access to a hob, take off 0.25
  - b) If a room has access to a dining kitchen, add 0.25
5. **Light:**
  - a) If a room is particularly dark/underground/has very small windows, take 0.5 off
  - b) If a room is particularly large, light and airy with good views, add 0.5
6. **Sink:** If a room has no sink, take 0.5 points off.
7. **Furniture:**
  - a) If a room is missing any standard item of furniture, take off 0.5. Standard furniture is defined by college as: bed, desk, sufficient storage, desk chair. This mainly applies to rooms which are too small to have enough storage e.g. East Court.
  - b) If a room has any extra furniture i.e. a dining table or large sofa, add 0.25. N.B. This does not include simply having extra chairs/coffee table etc.
8. **Environmental factors:** If a room has any particularly negative environmental factors e.g. noise, lack of double glazing etc. take off 0.5.
9. If a room has damp, take 1.0 off the grade, and make a note on the spreadsheet so this can be flagged up to the Bursar.
10. **Upkeep:** If a room has noticeably not been updated/maintained for a number of years, take off 0.25