



Living On Your Own



If you decide that you do not want to live in a Homestay arranged by OISE, you should consider the following points before making the decision to find your own accommodation:

- ◆ The accommodation will **not** have been approved by OISE Bristol. You will **not** be dealing with people we know we can trust
- ◆ You will **not** have the same opportunities to practise your English with local people
- ◆ You will **not** have the daily support at home of people who know Bristol and the surrounding area well
- ◆ If you need a doctor or dentist you will have to arrange this for yourself
- ◆ Rental or tenancy agreements may be difficult for you to understand. OISE staff are **not** qualified to advise you or to get involved in any problems
- ◆ If you rent an apartment or house, you may be asked to pay Council Tax to Bristol City Council. This can be very expensive.
- ◆ Electricity, gas, and telephone charges in the UK are also very expensive and your minimum contract may be for up to one year
- ◆ You may become responsible for repairs or replacement of equipment
- ◆ No-one else will do your washing!
- ◆ No-one else will prepare your meals!
- ◆ Living with Homestay hosts is much safer and also much better for your English!

If you have any questions or need some more information, please contact Gwen Waller, our Accommodation & Welfare Officer.