

Absafe Community Safety Bulletin

This Issue September 8th 2016

Absafe Bulletin



STUDENT SAFETY

Freshers' Week is upon us once more, with new students arriving in the city and perhaps living independently for the first time. Police Scotland has produced a [Student Safety Guide](#) packed full of hints and tips for freshers to help them stay safe all term long. The document has plenty of advice for new students, but it's also great advice for everyone on staying safe. Whether you have someone precious flying the nest, you're a landlord with student tenants or just want a refresher take a look at the top tips below.

SAFETY SECURITY AT HOME AND ON CAMPUS

Halls of residence can be an attractive target for opportunist thieves. Be aware and take some common sense precautions to make sure you're staying safe. Avoid any unwanted visitors making their way into your home by remembering to close and lock all doors and windows whenever you're not in - even if you're only popping out for five minutes.

Avoid leaving notes on your door saying you're away or 'back soon' - instead tell your friends face-to-face so they can act as an unofficial student watch while you're out.

Follow these steps to make sure you're staying safe at university:

- Ask for identification for people you don't know, and be sure not to let anyone in the building that you're unfamiliar with.
- Report any suspicious activity to campus security or the police.
- Keep keys in safe places, where an intruder couldn't find them.
- Separate flat and car keys
- Make sure your door entry system is working and doors are kept locked.



PROTECT YOUR VALUABLES

Computers, cash, electrical goods and jewellery are among the most commonly stolen items in domestic burglaries and, as a result of our love for gadgets, the average cost of a burglary has risen by 40 per cent over the last three years.

You can take steps to secure your valuables at home, on campus and while out:

- Place details of your mobile phone, laptop, tablet, camera and other property on the National Mobile Property Register www.immobilise.com

- Don't leave possessions unattended, even in the library.
- Take out contents insurance for your property.
- Protect your mobile phone keeping it out of sight and don't attract attention to it when not in use.
- Keep a record of the 15 digit IMEI number which is unique to the device and record it on www.immobilise.com. To find the IMEI number, dial *#06#.
- If your phone is lost or stolen, contact the police and service provider immediately.

KEEPING YOUR BIKE SAFE

More than 500,000 bikes are stolen in the UK each year, often having been poorly secured or not secured at all. Help protect your bike by carrying out the following:

- Photograph your bike and record its details at www.bikeregister.com
- Keep a note of your bike's serial number (found on the crankshaft).
- Insure your bike, either on contents insurance or separately.
- More than half of all bikes stolen are taken from the owner's property. Always store your bike out of sight. Lock it with two locks to a secure banister or ground anchor.

WHEN OUT AND ABOUT ON YOUR BIKE:

- Lock your bike up every time you leave it using secure locks (i.e. D-locks or thick cable locks).
- Ideally, use two different types of lock - this makes it harder to steal.
- Fasten your bike through the frame and wheel to a fixed object.
- Lock your bike in a busy, well-lit place, in view of people or CCTV cameras.
- Make the lock and bike hard to move when parked.
- Remove any bike accessories.
- Vary your routine - lock up your bike in different ways and places.

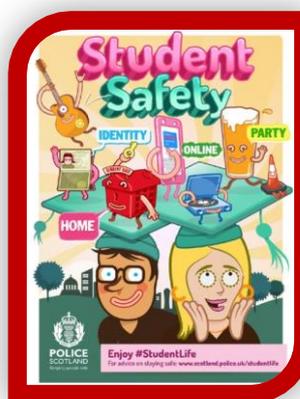
For more information on how to protect your property and valuables, visit www.scotland.police.uk

PARTY SAFE

Socialising is a major part of student life. Keep these simple steps in mind while having fun:



For further information take a look at the guide for Student Safety Guide, available to download from the Police Scotland [website](http://www.scotland.police.uk).



WHAT'S ON AT ABSAFE

We've kicked off a busy calendar of school visits and need some enthusiastic volunteers to help us deliver our fun and engaging safety sessions. We're the only charity of our kind in the UK, why don't you donate your time and help teach the safety leaders of tomorrow?

Contact us today for more information on Volunteers@absafe.org.uk

Our **Superheroes & Princesses Tea Party** is being held at the Mercure Caledonian on Sunday 25 September. Treat your mini Spiderman or Cinderella to an Afternoon Tea, with cakes, sandwiches and scones, as well as a meet and greet session with their favourite superhero or princess.

Tickets cost £14.00 for adults, and £8.50 for children. Contact our Fundraising Manager Victoria today for more information Victoria@absafe.org.uk.