

## **Dr Daniel S Balint PhD**

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## **Welcome to Linstead Hall**

Dear Future Resident,

Congratulations on your admission to Imperial College London! On behalf of the entire wardening team, I am writing to welcome you to Linstead Hall and to provide you with some additional information about Linstead Hall before your arrival.

Linstead is part of the Eastside development that opened in 2009, housing 140 students. We are located on the east side of Princes Gardens, very near the South Kensington Campus main entrance. Linstead is also conveniently located diagonally across the gardens from Ethos (the Imperial College sports facility) and near the student union, and is above the Eastside Bar (ground floor of Eastside near the Linstead main entrance). Many other Imperial College halls are within easy walking distance.

An Imperial College wardening team are in residence throughout the year to make sure Linstead is a safe, equitable and fun place to live, while ensuring a suitable study environment for all residents. The wardening team comprises a warden, 3 subwardens and 5 hall seniors (undergraduate students who have been selected to live in halls another year), who assist the wardening team with organising events and social activities as well as welfare and disciplinary matters. We are all either members of academic staff or postgraduate students at Imperial College. The team is here to support the residents, organise social events and other activities, and make sure Linstead and College rules are observed.

At present we are very limited in the types of things that we can do socially due to COVID-19 restrictions, but over the next two weeks we will be coming up with some fun and interesting ways to help you meet each other and socialise in a safe way, to make your time in Linstead memorable, help you make friends and build community whilst maintaining personal safety under the current circumstances. Please stand by for this, we are still in the planning stages as events traditionally begin on the official move-in day, which is Saturday 3rd October this year. Events will be advertised in the Facebook group (see below).

Please note the following:

- **Hall website:** Our web address is [linstead.halls.imperial.ac.uk](http://linstead.halls.imperial.ac.uk). Please bookmark this address now and check back later to receive up-to-date information about the hall. However, the Linstead Hall 2020-21 Facebook page is often a better source of up-to-date information for students resident in Linstead Hall, so please join this group now ([www.facebook.com/groups/2445503275751430/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2445503275751430/)), or search Linstead Hall 2020-21) to meet your hall mates and team, and find out about events that will be coming up

- **Upload your photo on Student eService:** Please upload your photo via your Student e-Service to complete your registration. You need to do this in order to receive your College ID upon arrival at your hall on move-in day. Your card will be your 'key' in and out of the hall. The College is unable to issue your College ID card without your photo upload.
- **eHalls:** In addition to completing the eInduction via the College's Accommodation Hub, we also require you to register for Linstead in eHalls, a system that we use locally to prepare for your arrival and make life in halls easier for you - [ehalls.halls.imperial.ac.uk](http://ehalls.halls.imperial.ac.uk). You are also required to upload your photo on eHalls as well as on the Student eService, for identification purposes within the hall.
- **Smart clothing:** We hope that by the end of the year there might be a vaccine and we might be able to invite you to some more or less formal events, so some smart attire may be useful to bring along if you have it!
- **Duty mobile:** From 18:00 on weeknights until 08:00 the following morning, and for the entirety of the weekend (from 18:00 on Friday), a member of the wardening team will carry a mobile phone, which you may call should you need us in an emergency. The number is **07590 250565**. Please save this number in your mobile phone now.
- **Lockouts:** We hope that you will quickly learn to keep your College ID card with you at all times, especially when leaving your bedroom, to go to your kitchen and do laundry. Please use the lanyards that are provided with your College ID and keep it around your neck when you leave your room. Please do your utmost to avoid getting locked out of your room, which is especially important this year due to COVID-19. If you do get locked out of your room, please consult the lockout posters that are located on every level by the lift.

There will be a **compulsory Welcome Talk** given by the warden the evening of Saturday 3rd October. We will email you joining instructions for the talk once these become available.

You will be required to read and accept the Hall Rules as part of your eHalls registration. More importantly, you will no doubt have a variety of questions about COVID-19 safety in halls. In the first instance, consult the College communications and web pages that have been sent to you about this, and follow the advice given on posters around the hall. We will be providing you with further hall-specific information over the coming weeks and months as the situation evolves, so please keep an eye on your email, the Facebook group and the Linstead website. **Please bear in mind that at present: no guests are allowed in halls, you must wear a face covering at all times outside of your bedroom, you must maintain government advised social distancing and wash your hands regularly and thoroughly or use hand sanitiser.**

I wish you a happy and successful time at Imperial, and an enjoyable time with us in Linstead Hall. We are looking forward to meeting you!

Yours faithfully,



Dr Daniel Balint