

# Welcome to The Village Residence Your Home Away From Home

Everything You Need to Know About Your New Home



Building Community,  
Creating Memories.



Dear New Villager,

Welcome to The Village at Stellenbosch University! We are thrilled that you are joining our vibrant community for 2026. The Village is more than a residence it is a place where you will find friendship, support, and opportunities to grow both academically and personally.

**As part of our community, you will experience:**

- **Connection and Belonging:** Join a diverse and welcoming senior residence where friendships and shared experiences flourish.
- **Supportive Environment:** Our Residence Head and House Committee (HC) are here to guide you through university life.
- **Communal Spaces:** Relax, study, and socialise in our lounges, gardens, and other shared areas.
- **Personal Growth:** Participate in leadership and community-building initiatives that will help you develop skills beyond the classroom.
- **Safety and Inclusion:** We prioritise a safe and inclusive environment for all residents.

**Tips for Settling In:**

1. Connect with your HC members for guidance and support.
2. Attend residence events to meet new friends and build your network.
3. Embrace diversity and learn from the many backgrounds represented in our residence.
4. Make use of support services for maintenance, safety, and other needs.
5. Plan your budget carefully for residency fees and personal expenses.

We are excited for the journey ahead and can't wait to see you thrive. The Village is your home now! Make it yours, embrace the opportunities, and enjoy the experiences that await.



# Message from the Residence Head

Dear Village Resident,

Congratulations on your placement at The Village Residence. Whether you are returning to Stellenbosch University or joining our community from elsewhere, it is my pleasure to welcome you. I am also joining The Village for the first time, having begun my role as Residence Head on 1 December 2025, and I look forward to growing into this community together with you.

As you step into the year ahead, you are entering a space centred on engagement, collaboration, and meaningful exchange—both academically and socially. Our environment is guided by the Stellenbosch University Graduate Attributes, which support each student in becoming an Enquiring Learner, an Engaged Citizen, a Dynamic Professional, a Caring Individual, and a Digital Knower.

As you navigate this environment, I encourage you to remain open to learning from those around you—and equally open to unlearning habits that may no longer serve your growth or the wellbeing of the community.

This year brings fresh possibilities, renewed energy, and the opportunity to shape The Village together. I am excited for the journey that lies ahead and for the shared experiences we will create.

Welcome once again. I wish you a rewarding stay and a successful, enriching year.

Warm regards,

Thulani Hlatswayo

Residence Head: The Village Residence (Senior Living Experience)





# Meet Your 2026 House Committee

Our House Committee (HC) is here to support and help you feel at home from the moment you arrive. Each member plays an important role in keeping our residence running smoothly, creating a welcoming environment, and ensuring that every student feels included and supported throughout the year. Below is a brief introduction to each portfolio and the responsibilities they carry.

## **Primaria**

The Primaria oversees the residence and collaborates with societies involved in community outreach, tutoring programmes and career guidance. The portfolio represents the residence in the Senior Prim Committee, acts ex-officio in all residence committees, oversees networking initiatives, manages the residence database and facilitates positive relationships within the community.



Audrey Roberts  
24079170@sun.ac.za

## **Vice Primaria**

The Vice Primaria manages residence safety, including alarms and related systems. The portfolio appoints maintenance representatives in each unit and follows up on reported maintenance issues. Responsibilities further include chairing the Disciplinary Committee, managing parking matters, representing the residence in the Senior Living Space (SLS) Cluster and contributing to the finalization of the Code of Conduct and Constitution.



Maqhawe Sithole  
25909398@sun.ac.za



# Meet the team

## Finance

The finance and Logistics portfolio oversees the residence's budget and all financial operations. This includes coordinating fundraising projects, leading the sports and culture committee and managing storage logistics during move-ins and move-outs. The role also involves supporting house events such as house welcoming, while contributing contributing to sustainability initiatives and any other logistical needs within the residence.



Unakho Mgunculu  
25288910@sun.ac.za

## Secretary

The Secretary General oversees all administrative and communication functions. Responsibilities include preparing weekly agendas, recording minutes for house and House Committee meetings and coordinating mass communication to residents ensuring that information flows smoothly and that the residence remains organized and well-coordinated.



Lebogang Modula  
23870001@sun.ac.za



# Meet the team

## **Critical Engagement & Social Media**

The Critical Engagement portfolio focuses on promoting meaningful dialogue and creating safe spaces for discussion around social issues. This includes managing the GBV policy, supporting residents' mental health and academic wellbeing.

The portfolio also works with the CSC on relevant events and oversees all social media communication for the residence, ensuring that Villagers stay informed and connected.



Amy Stadler  
26907275@sun.ac.za



# Move In Dates and Procedure

## **Early Move-In requests**

Early move-in is permitted between **16 and 31 January 2026**, but only for academic reasons or for those involved in the university's official welcoming programme.

If you fall into one of these categories, please complete the MS form to request permission from the Resident Head: **The Village Residence Early Move-in 2026 – Fill in form**

You may not move in early without official approval. The closing date for early move-in requests is **4 January 2026, at 23:59** after which the Resident Head will review and respond to all submitted requests.

## **Senior newcomers arrival**

**Senior newcomers** are expected to arrive on **26 January 2026** so they can participate fully in the welcoming programme and related preparatory activities.

During the welcoming period, the House Committee and the Senior Living Spaces (SLS) Cluster will be focusing on integrating newcomers into the SLS environment. This period requires structure, respect, and minimal disruption, and we trust returning residents to honour that.

## **Official move-in date for the broader Village community**

The official move-in date for the broader Village community is **1 February 2026 at 08:00**.



# Residence Logistics

## Laundry Room

- Location: Wimbledon Hub at Huis Russel Botman Residence. See pictures below depicting where to go to do laundry.
- Operating Times: 24/7 (you need your student card to sign in and use the machines).
- There is a scanner on the wall to update your quota
- Please remove your clothes as soon as they're done as someone else is always waiting (Set a timer).
- Remember to leave the machines open after use.



These picture showcases The Village and how to go to Wimbledon Hub. The green arrow is The Village and the white arrows points at where you need to go.



# Residence Logistics



This picture showcases the front of the Wimbledon Hub. The arrow shows where you should scan your student card.



This is the laundry room. Scan your student card to gain access. Instruction on how to use the facilities will be pasted on the walls.



# Residence Logistics

## **Kitchens**

- Open for use 24/7 unless otherwise communicated.
- Please wipe down counters, clean the stove after use, and throw away your old food in the fridge.
- Please ensure your dishes are always washed and packed away

## **Recycling & Garbage**

- Recycling and bin areas: There is a big bin outside the residence and three bins in each house.
- Rubbish collection days: Cleaners collect garbage in the kitchen Monday-Friday.
- Please separate recycling properly and tie up bin bags before placing them outside.

## **Cleaning services**

Cleaners clean residents rooms twice a week and should be granted access. If you are unable to be present when cleaners want to clean your room be sure to either leave a note on the door to grant them access or arrange a suitable time with the cleaner if possible.



# Residence Shared Living Spaces

## Entrance Path

This is the main pathway that connects the houses in the residence. Use it to move safely between houses and common areas.



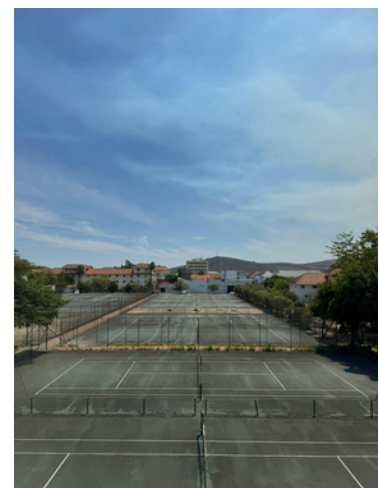
## Garden

The residence includes green outdoor spaces where you can relax, read, or enjoy fresh air. These areas are important for mental well-being and provide a peaceful escape from indoor environments. Keeping the garden clean ensures that everyone can enjoy its beauty.



## Across from the Tennis Court

The Village residence is conveniently located across from the university tennis courts, offering beautiful views and easy access to outdoor sports facilities. This setting is perfect for students who enjoy an active lifestyle or simply want a scenic environment to relax and study. The proximity to the courts adds to the vibrant campus atmosphere and provides opportunities for recreation right at your doorstep.

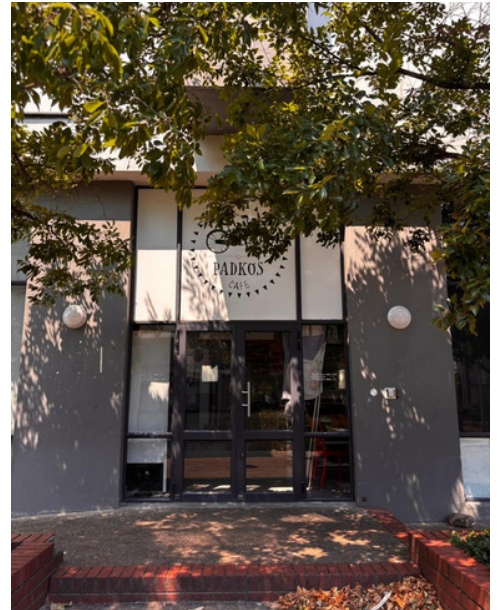




# Residence Shared Living Spaces

## **Padkos Café**

Padkos is a convenient shop located just across from The Village residence. It offers a variety of essential groceries and snacks, including water, milk, bread, and other daily necessities. Having Padkos nearby is important for residents because it saves time and makes it easy to grab quick meals or stock up on essentials without having to travel far. This accessibility helps students manage their busy schedules while ensuring they have what they need for a comfortable stay.



## **Recycling Bins Outside Padkos**

Located just outside Padkos Café, these recycling bins make it easy for residents to dispose of waste responsibly while grabbing groceries or snacks. Each bin is clearly labeled for different types of waste: recyclables, food waste, and general trash. This setup is important because it promotes sustainability and helps keep the residence and surrounding areas clean. By using these bins correctly, students contribute to an eco-friendly campus environment and ensure that shared spaces remain pleasant for everyone.





# Residence Shared Living Spaces

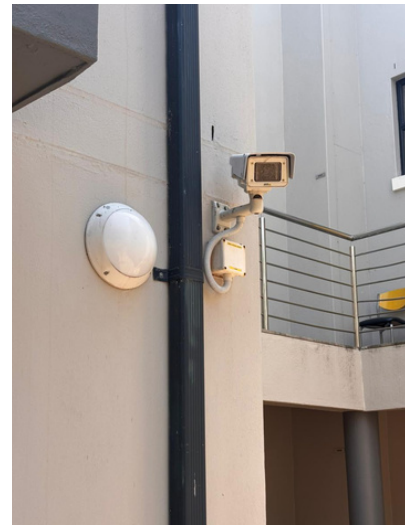
## **Security Gates to Enter the Residence**

The Village residence is equipped with secure entry gates to ensure the safety of all residents. These gates are monitored and require authorized access, typically through your student access card, to enter. This security feature is important because it helps control who enters the premises, protecting both residents and their belongings. It also creates a safe and private environment where students can focus on their studies and enjoy their living space without concerns about unauthorized access.



## **Security Cameras**

The residence is equipped with security cameras strategically placed around the premises to ensure the safety and security of all residents. These cameras help monitor common areas and entry points, providing an added layer of protection against unauthorized access and potential incidents. Their presence is important because it creates a secure living environment where students can feel safe and focus on their studies.



## **Foyer Entrance**

The foyer entrance is a versatile outdoor space at The Village residence. It serves as a welcoming area for residents and is often used for house meetings, community engagement activities, and social gatherings organized by the House Committee. This space is important because it provides a central spot for interaction and collaboration, helping to build a sense of community among residents.





# Residence Shared Living Spaces

## **Outdoor Lights**

The residence is equipped with outdoor lighting, including wall-mounted lights and spotlights, to ensure visibility and safety during the evening and nighttime. These lights illuminate pathways, entrances, and common outdoor areas, making it easier for residents to move around safely after dark.



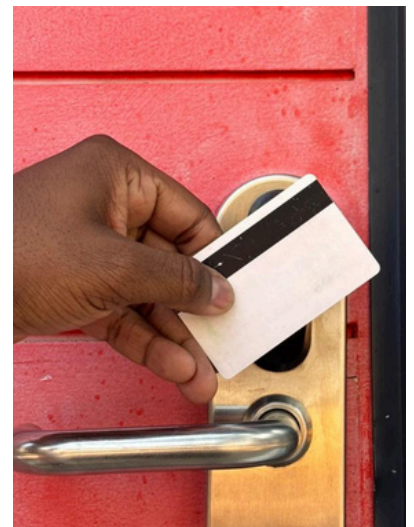
## **Courtyard View (Outdoor Yard Area)**

The courtyard is an open space surrounded by the residence building, providing natural light and ventilation to the houses. This image also showcases the how some of the houses balconies are situated.



## **Access Using University Student Card**

Each resident's official university student card will be programmed to grant access to their specific house within The Village. This system is important because it ensures security and convenience, residents do not need separate keys, and access is restricted to authorized individuals only.

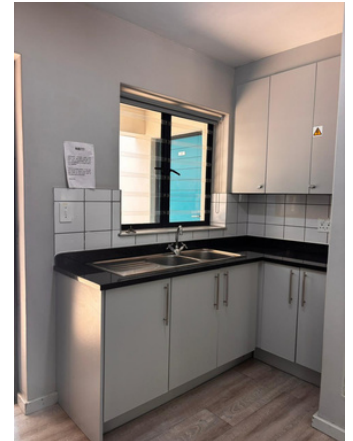




# Residence Shared Living Spaces

## **Kitchen**

The kitchen is a shared facility available to all residents of the house. It may be used at any time for meal preparation, provided that residents clean up after themselves and are mindful of others who may be using the space.



## **Recycling Bins**

The kitchen is equipped with multiple recycling bins to help residents separate waste properly. Each bin is clearly labeled for different types of waste, such as food scraps, recyclables, and general trash. This system is important because it promotes cleanliness and sustainability within the residence. By using these bins correctly, residents contribute to an eco-friendly environment and ensure that the shared kitchen remains hygienic and organized for everyone.



## **Common Living Area**

The common living area is a shared space intended for relaxation and to have study sessions. Residents are encouraged to use this area respectfully and to maintain a comfortable environment for everyone.





# Residence Shared Living Spaces

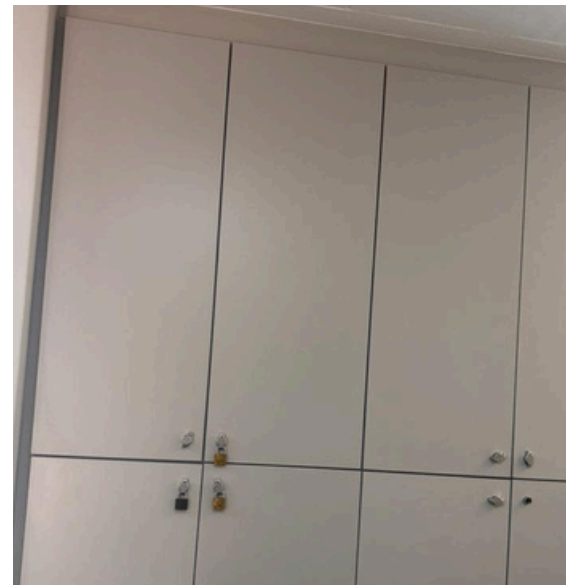
## Notice Board

The notice board is an important communication tool within the residence. It displays the cleaners' schedules, ensuring residents know when cleaning will take place in shared spaces. Additionally, the board is used for posting important announcements, updates, and information from the House Committee (HC) members. This helps keep everyone informed about house meetings, community engagement activities, and any changes or events that affect residents.



## Cupboards

There are cupboards in each house that are available for residents to store their food items, cooking essentials, and small kitchen equipment. These cupboards are important because they help keep the shared kitchen organized and ensure that everyone has a designated space for their belongings. Residents may add locks for added security, allowing residents to safely store personal groceries.



## Cleaners' Cupboards

These cupboards, located under the staircase, are designated for use by the cleaning staff only. They store cleaning supplies and equipment necessary for maintaining the hygiene of the residence. It is important to note that residents are not allowed to use or remove anything from these cupboards unless explicitly permitted by the cleaners themselves.

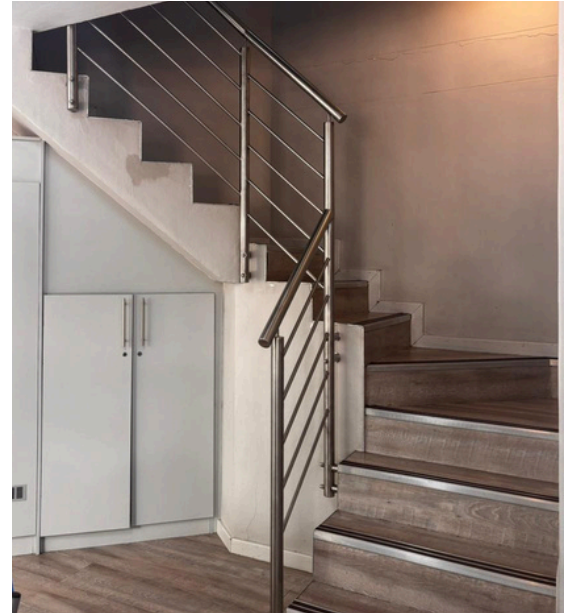




# Residence Shared Living Spaces

## Staircase

This staircase connects the first floor (where the kitchen and common area are located) to the second and third floors of the house. These upper floors contain the bedrooms and shared bathroom facilities, including toilets and showers.



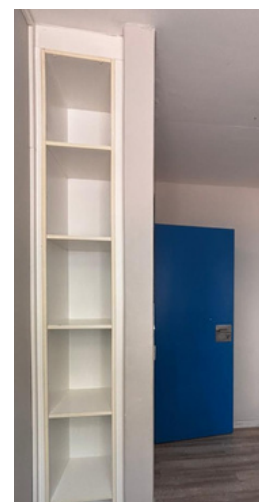
## Bedrooms

Each resident is allocated an individual room to serve as a private living and study space. Residents are expected to keep their rooms clean and to respect noise levels, particularly during designated quiet hours.



## Cupboards and shelves

Each bedroom in The Village residence is equipped with ample storage space to keep your belongings organized. This includes a built-in wardrobe with hanging rails for clothes and multiple shelves for folded items, books, or personal essentials. Additionally, there are open shelves for extra packing space, making it easy to store smaller items or display decorative pieces.





# Residence Shared Living Spaces

## **Desk**

Every bedroom comes with a built-in desk and chair, positioned near a window to provide natural light and a pleasant view. This setup creates an ideal space for studying, completing assignments, and focusing on academic work in a quiet environment.



## **Bathrooms (Shower and Toilet Facilities)**

The shower and toilet facilities are shared among residents. To ensure hygiene and comfort for all, residents are expected to keep these areas clean and to be considerate of others' time and needs.



## **Balconies**

Certain houses in The Village residence feature balconies, providing residents with a private outdoor space to enjoy fresh air and natural light. These balconies are ideal for relaxing, reading, or simply taking a break from indoor activities. Only residents who live in a house that has a balcony are permitted to use it.





# Engagement

## **Communication Channels**

Every resident has to be added to be added to the following groups if you are not added please make sure that you contact the Primaria to ask for assistance.

The WhatsApp groups are as follows:

- The house group that you are allocated to.
- Announcement group
- Safety and Security group

Outlook Email Community group - **The Village Community 2026**

## **Social Media**

We encourage all residents to join our official Instagram page to stay informed about important updates, upcoming events, and community highlights.

- Follow us on Instagram: @the\_village\_su

Be part of our online community and never miss out on what's happening in The Village!



# Important Contact Numbers

## **Client Services Centre**

[info@sun.ac.za](mailto:info@sun.ac.za)

+27 (0)21 808 9111

Administration A building, Ryneveld Street

## **Campus Security**

+27 21 808 2333

62 Merriman Laan, Stellenbosch Sentraal, Stellenbosch

## **Campus Health Service (CHS)**

+27 21 808 3496

7 Claassen Straat, Stellenbosch Sentraal, Stellenbosch

## **Lifeline Cape Town**

Tel: +27 21 592 2601

## **Equality Unit**

Walk-in service at 39 Victoria Street, Stellenbosch

Tel: +27 21 808 3136

Link: <https://www.su.ac.za/en/students/support/equality>

## **Mediclinic Stellenbosch Emergency Centre**

Tel: +27 21 861 2094

## **Ambulance**

Tel: 999 or 10177

**For any additional information do not hesitate to ask the HC members.**



# Encouragement for the Year

As we step into a brand new year at The Village, we want to remind you that this is a fresh beginning filled with opportunities, growth, and community. Every challenge you face is a chance to learn, every connection you make is a chance to grow, and every day is a step closer to the person you are becoming.

At The Village, you are not just a resident, you are part of a supportive family that celebrates your wins and stands by you through the tough times. We encourage you to embrace this year with confidence, kindness, and determination. Show up for yourself, lean on the incredible community around you, and never forget that your presence here adds something special.

Let's make this year unforgettable, full of academic success, meaningful friendships, and personal victories. You've got this, and we're rooting for you every step of the way!