

#### **CHECKLIST FOR FINDING A FANTASTIC SHAREHOUSE!**

Living in a Sharehouse is great fun, but when choosing your Sharehouse make sure you consider:

Sharehouse facilities



Your safety

Hidden costs

Your landlord is available to help in the event of a dispute

Where possible get recommendations from a friend, your host family, your school, or even Study Cairns before paying any money.

It's not just about finding a cheap room! Ask these questions ...

### SAFETY

- ☐ Do you have fire and safety plan?
- ☐ Do you provide fire extinguishers and blankets? Are your smoke alarms checked regularly?
- ☐ Do you have a security gate?
- ☐ Do you have locks on the bedroom and toilet doors?

#### PERSONAL CARE AND SUPPORT

- ☐ What do I do if I have a problem with my sharemates?
- ☐ Do you have a cyclone plan?
- ☐ How long do you take to respond to maintenance requests?
- ☐ How do I contact you should I have a problem?
- ☐ Are you available after hours in case of an emergency?

# 3 LOCATION

☐ How far is it to walk to the city centre/school/shops/nightlife, or will you have to pay for public transport (Parramatta Park is one of the most popular suburbs for sharehouses)

### MONEY MATTERS

- ☐ What is the weekly rent and what is NOT included?
- What is the minimum/maximum length of stay?
- How can I pay rent; credit card, cash etc?
- ☐ Do you provide a written contract & receipt for payments?
- ☐ How much is the bond and how do I get my bond back?

#### **BEDROOM**

- ☐ Does the bedroom have a window, fan or air conditioning?
- ☐ Does bedroom have: wardrobe, bedside table, desk and chair?
- Do you provide bed linen?

# GENERAL

- ☐ How many bathrooms?
- ☐ How many people in the apartment and where are the people from?
- Do you provide a cleaner?
- ☐ Is the internet included in my rent?
- ☐ Do you have house rules and can I have a copy of the house rules?



For further information about fantastic sharehouses speak to your school or contact Study Cairns at info@studycairns.com.au or www.studycairns.com.au