

## **Networking – Pre Arrival**

If you plan to bring your laptop with you to the University of York there are a few things that you can do, or have your technical department do, before hand to make connection to the internet while you're here as painless as possible.

The first thing to do is make sure that your laptop supports the kind of connection you want. If you intend to connect to the wireless network you will need to make sure that your laptop has a built in wireless card, or have brought an external wifi card with you. If you intend to connect to the wired network, either in your accommodation or in a lecture theatre, you will need to have brought a suitable network (sometimes called a cat-5 or rj45) cable with you.

The next thing to do is to connect your laptop to the internet at home or work and run windows update. Our network uses relatively new features within windows, so if your system is out of date you may not be able to connect to it. You may also wish to check windows update, or a manufacturer's website if you're able, for updated drivers for your wireless or wired network cards.

You will need to ensure that you have an up to date and functioning virus scanner installed on your system. The University's regulations require this before any computer is connected to the network. If your computer does have a virus it may be barred from the network without warning.

If your laptop has any special settings which have been input to allow it to connect to another network you should make a record of these before bringing your laptop to the University, as they may have to be erased for it to work correctly with our systems. Specifically, we will need to set the laptop to DHCP and will need to remove any proxy configurations that it has. We will also need to tell it not to use any other connections it may be looking for, such as ADSL modems that you may use at home. You may need help from a relevant technical department to record these settings.

If your laptop has a wireless manager, other than the default windows one, this may have to be disabled in order to facilitate the connection of your laptop to the University wireless. Many wireless managers do not offer the full range of settings available or attempt to override settings periodically, making connection problematic.

If possible, you should have a username and password for the laptop available with administrative access.

Network access at the University should allow:

- Internet browsing.
- Access to external e-mail servers.
- Access to VPNs where the connection is initiated by the client.

Network access will not allow:

- Function of any local SMTP servers
- Access to VPNs where the connection is initiated by the server.

These lists are under regular review.