

# OPENING A BANK ACCOUNT

## Why open an English Bank Account?

- You can transfer money to this account from abroad
- You can get cash from ATM machines.
- Avoids keeping large amounts of cash.
- If you are enrolled on a course for more than 6 months, you will get a card which you can use to pay for things in shops.

The main banks in the UK are **HSBC, Lloyds, Barclays, Natwest** and the **Royal Bank of Scotland**. These are all located near the school on Whiteladies Road.

## Which bank is the best one for you?

They all offer you a bank card which you can use to get cash from ATM machines and they offer more or less the same service. Differences:

- NatWest and the Royal Bank of Scotland offer a Solo card which you can use in most shops
- Barclays offer an Electron card – similar to Solo card.
- HSBC offer these but there is a charge.

If you are staying for more than 6 months, they should offer you a full bank card (Maestro/Visa Debit).



## To open a bank account follow these simple steps:

- Go to the office at Pembroke or Abon House and ask for a 'Bank letter.' You will be asked to fill in a form stating a few details, including which bank you want to join, your current address and address in your home country.
- Take this letter, along with your passport, to one of the following banks: HSBC, Lloyds, Barclays or Natwest.

## PAYING SCHOOL FEES

### Have you paid your tuition & accommodation fees?

When you are in Bristol the **easiest** and **safest** method to pay for your school fees is by **Bank Transfer**. There will be **no charge** to make a Bank Transfer from your Bristol account to the school account.

To make a Bank Transfer to the school account you will need the following information:  
**HSBC Bank 149 Whiteladies Road**- Account Number **61212079**- Sort Code **40-14-09**

If you have a Cheque Book you can pay by cheque- Take your cheque book to the office and they will help you.

Fees can be paid by Credit card with an added charge of 2.5%.

**DO NOT withdraw large amounts of cash from your account and carry it around.**