

Your moving checklist for Preston

Fill it in on screen or print it. If completing digitally, save your copy when finished.

MOVING DATE

NEW POSTCODE

KEY / REMOVALS CONTACT

OLD ADDRESS / NOTES

NEW ADDRESS / NOTES

First: check which council your postcode is actually in

Preston City Council does not cover every place commonly described as Preston. Penwortham, Bamber Bridge, Walton-le-Dale, Leyland and several nearby areas are outside its boundary.



CHECK BY POSTCODE

4-6 weeks before

- ☐ **Confirm the moving date, key handover and access arrangements.**
Check access at both properties, including parking, lifts, narrow roads and key collection.
- ☐ **Book removals, van hire or other transport.**
Keep the booking reference and contact number easy to reach on moving day.
- ☐ **Check broadband availability and installation lead time.**
If an engineer visit is needed, book early enough to avoid arriving without service.
- ☐ **If children are changing school, check the admissions route.**
Lancashire arrangements vary by school type and neighbouring unitary authority.



Lancashire school admissions

Official Lancashire County Council information.

2-3 weeks before

- ☐ **Arrange Royal Mail Redirection if you want it.**
Set this up before moving so important post is less likely to go astray.
- ☐ **Tell current energy, broadband and other service providers.**
Ask what they need on the final day and note account/reference numbers.
- ☐ **Prepare your address-change list.**
Include banks, employer/payroll, insurers, pensions, subscriptions and regular services.
- ☐ **Plan disposal, donation or storage.**
Avoid leaving bulky items and recycling decisions until moving day.



Royal Mail Redirection

Official Royal Mail service.

First-night essentials box

Keep this with you rather than buried in the moving van.

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| ☐ Medication | ☐ Chargers | ☐ Kettle + mugs | ☐ Toiletries + loo roll |
| ☐ Bedding / nightwear | ☐ Pet / child essentials | ☐ Cleaning basics | ☐ Simple tools |

Final week

- ☐ **Confirm removals, key times and access at both properties.**
- ☐ **Keep identity documents, contracts, keys and valuables with you.**
- ☐ **Charge phones and keep moving-day contacts somewhere accessible.**

Moving day and the first 48 hours

Keep this page out of the moving van - these are the jobs that are easiest to forget.

Moving day - old property

- ☐ **Photograph final gas and electricity meter readings.**
Keep the photos until final bills are settled.
- ☐ **Take a final water meter reading if the property is metered.**
- ☐ **Check cupboards, loft, garage, shed and outside storage.**
- ☐ **Do one final walk-through before handing over the keys.**
- ☐ **Return keys as agreed and keep evidence of handover if appropriate.**

Moving day - new property

- ☐ **Photograph opening gas, electricity and water readings.**
This gives you a clear starting record.
- ☐ **Locate the stopcock, fuse box, meters and heating controls.**
Do this before you need any of them in a hurry.
- ☐ **Test smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms.**
Follow manufacturer guidance and address missing or faulty alarms promptly.
- ☐ **If renting, record the condition and inventory before unpacking.**
Take clear dated photographs and raise discrepancies promptly.
- ☐ **Keep important documents and overnight essentials accessible.**

Meter-reading record

Enter readings here as well as taking photographs.

OLD GAS

OLD ELECTRIC

OLD WATER

NEW GAS

NEW ELECTRIC

NEW WATER

First 48 hours in Preston

- ☐ **Tell Preston City Council you have moved - if Preston City Council is your authority.**
Use the postcode checker first if you are unsure.
- ☐ **Set up or move your United Utilities water account.**
Have the move date and meter reading available where applicable.
- ☐ **Check the current bin and recycling collection information.**
Do not rely on an old calendar because collection arrangements can change.
- ☐ **Confirm your energy supplier has the opening readings and move-in date.**



Council Tax move

Preston City Council



Water account

United Utilities



Bins & recycling

Preston City Council

Quick rule

Do not throw away meter-reading photos, handover records or final bills until the old accounts are closed and the new ones are correctly set up.

After you have moved

Finish the address changes, then keep this page as your local reference sheet.

Official updates

- ☐ **Update DVLA.**
Driving licence, V5C and vehicle-tax Direct Debit are separate updates.
- ☐ **Update HMRC after you have moved.**
Use the current GOV.UK route for your personal details.
- ☐ **Register to vote at the new address.**
Register again with the new details.
- ☐ **Check whether benefits, permits or local services need a separate update.**



DVLA
GOV.UK



HMRC
GOV.UK



Register to vote
GOV.UK



Check council
GOV.UK postcode
finder

People and organisations to tell

- ☐ **Banks, cards, savings and pension providers.**
- ☐ **Employer, payroll and professional memberships.**
- ☐ **Home, motor, pet and other insurers.**
- ☐ **GP, dentist, pharmacy and other regular healthcare services.**
- ☐ **Mobile phone, subscriptions, deliveries and shopping addresses.**
- ☐ **Pet microchip database, vet and address-based licences.**



Find a GP
NHS postcode search.

Useful Preston links



Council Tax change of address



Bins and recycling



Lancashire school admissions



United Utilities moving home

NOTES

Free. No signup. No email address required.

This checklist is a convenience guide, not legal, financial or professional advice. Requirements and services can change. Where a task matters legally or financially, rely on the current information from the relevant authority or provider.