



Update: 3 January 2022

Dear Students / Parents / Guardians / Carers

COVID-19 UPDATE

All students, parents, guardians and carers are asked to carefully read this guidance before returning to campus week commencing 4th January 2022. We expect all students to comply with the updated government guidance which can be found [HERE](#) in full.

It is vitally important for everyone, including those that are fully vaccinated, to follow the instructions in this letter and to help limit the spread of COVID-19.

Lateral Flow Device (LFD) Testing

All students are asked to perform ONE COVID-19 test the evening before they return to campus week commencing 4th January. If this is positive, please self-isolate and arrange for a confirmatory PCR test. If this is negative you can return to campus. If the PCR test is positive, please follow the latest Covid-19 isolation guidelines as outlined below. Students should then test twice weekly at home. Home testing kits have been provided to all students and further supplies are available to collect from the main reception desks across our campuses.

Self-Isolation - If you test positive (LFD) for COVID-19

Students who receive a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive LFD test, and is negative, it overrides the LFD test result and the student can return to campus, as long as the individual does not have COVID-19 symptoms.

Do not attend if you have symptoms

If a student has COVID-19 symptoms or has had a positive (PCR or LFD) test result they should NOT attend campus and must inform us of their absence by emailing: safeguarding@stamford.ac.uk or safeguarding@peterborough.ac.uk

Record your test results

Students are reminded to log their COVID-19 test results on the Student Hub and NHS system. Guidance on how to record results can be found on the Student Hub [Here](#)



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Tracing close contacts and isolation

From 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend campus as normal, unless they have a positive test result. If you test positive in this period, you must arrange a confirmatory PCR test and follow the latest Covid-19 isolation guidelines.

Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:

- fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
- all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
- people who can prove they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine

If you have tested positive for Covid-19 the isolation period has been reduced from 10 days to 7 days provided you return a negative LFD test on days 6 and 7 of your isolation period. These tests must be 24 hours apart. If you are still positive for either of these LFD tests you must continue to isolate for 10 days.

If you test positive (LFD) or feel unwell when you are at college

If anyone tests positive whilst on campus or develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, we are advised to send them home and they should follow public health guidance. Individuals will be given appropriate first aid and care, isolated from others in an appropriate and ventilated space and arrangements for safe travel home will be made.

Get the COVID-19 Vaccine

We strongly encourage all those who are eligible to have the vaccine to do so, so that they can enjoy the full-range of opportunities available at college without disruption to their studies. Ensuring our Group's community is as safe as possible is our top priority. [You can find your nearest drop-in clinic here.](#)

Mandatory wearing of face coverings

All students, staff and visitors are now required to wear a face covering when walking around campus, in all communal areas, on college transport and in classrooms, unless exempt. Students that are exempt are asked to have their exemption card visible or visit the Wellbeing Teams for a pass. We have given out a significant amount of disposable face coverings over the last three months and given that the government is making the wearing of face coverings mandatory we now expect all students to bring their own face covering. Students are advised to have several face coverings so that they can wear a clean face covering each day.

Face visors or shields can be worn by those exempt from wearing a face covering but they are not an equivalent alternative in terms of source control of virus transmission. We are asking all individuals who have been previously exempt from wearing a face covering to reconsider whether they now wish to revisit this and limit the number of infections and possible disruption to learning.

Wash your hands and maintain good hygiene

Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. All students should clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitizer which are readily available around all campuses.

Ventilate rooms

Students are reminded that ventilation is an important way to mitigate the risk of catching COVID-19. If you can ventilate rooms please do so. You should balance the need to increase ventilation while maintaining a comfortable temperature. Students are advised to bring additional layers of clothing during the winter period to ensure they are warm.

Practise Social Distancing

Whilst there is no formal requirement to socially distance we are asking all students to minimise, where possible, close contact with other individuals. This will reduce the chance of catching COVID-19 and therefore reduce the risk of disruption to your education and illness.

Summary

Our priority is to ensure that all staff and students are safe and that our students continue to have face to face education as much as possible. We know that remote and online education, however well delivered, cannot replicate the building of relationships between students and staff nor the close supervision and hands-on training vital to developing vocational competence. For these reasons it is essential that students follow the guidance and minimise the chance of further disruptions to learning.

Thank you for cooperation.



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