



Royal Holloway College - Coronavirus Safe-guarding Advice

We recognise that safety is important and the health, safety and well-being of students, staff and our community is a priority at Royal Holloway. Our staff have been working hard to prepare a Covid-secure campus that reflects government guidance and restrictions.

In response to the on-going impact of the pandemic, at Royal Holloway we are adapting our courses for 2020/21 to combine face-to-face and online teaching and learning support. This so called 'blended approach' builds in flexibility to both accommodate social distancing and ensure that if further restrictions or lockdowns are imposed, our students won't have interrupted study.

Students living in our halls of residence will be grouped into households and they will be expected to maintain social distancing with people they don't live with. The same will be expected of students living in shared private housing. For students arriving from countries where the UK government requires a period of self-isolation, and who are staying in our halls of residence, we will provide self-isolation accommodation.

Our annual Be A Good Neighbour guidance will be delivered to students living in the community in private sector accommodation and will be accompanied by additional digital information specific to the current situation which can be amended and updated as guidelines or restrictions change. The Be A Good Neighbour booklet will remain broadly the same and will not contain specific advice about Covid-19 as we're anticipating this will change throughout the year. The Covid-19 guidance and advice will be delivered digitally - primarily on the intranet and via social media / video content. We will seek to include reference to raising awareness about vulnerability in the wider community within these messages and encourage students to respect and support the different health needs of others.

Extra hygiene measures have been put in place on our campus, including hand sanitiser stations at high-traffic locations, and everyone is encouraged to wash their hands regularly. Additional cleaning has been introduced with cleaning schedules posted in teaching spaces, and wipes and gloves will also be provided for self-cleaning. Everyone on campus will be strongly encouraged to wear face coverings when they feel it is appropriate to do so.

To facilitate social distancing in the classroom and around campus, we have reduced the capacity of teaching and learning spaces. Room layouts have been adjusted to reflect requirements and the number of staff working on campus will be reduced. Signage has been installed across campus to help people navigate the campus safely and to remind people about the importance of hygiene and social distancing. Additional car parking and bicycle racks will be provided on campus for students and staff who would prefer to avoid public transport if they can.

Royal Holloway offers students a campus experience and we want to continue to ensure that we offer a positive, supportive and vibrant environment which respects the current context. Whilst social spaces will have reduced capacity, the university is working hard to make sure more spaces are available so that students can still meet up, face-to-face, with friends. This year many social activities that would normally be face-to-face to help new students make friends will now happen online, and on campus events will be designed according to social distancing requirements. Students will also be able to take part in activities such as Hall Life events; volunteering; faith and departmental groups.

Alongside these practical changes on our campus, we will be launching a campaign called Playing your Part to communicate to our students the importance of adhering to social distancing guidelines and reinforcing the important role that everyone plays in protecting themselves, others and the whole community. This campaign aligns to the public health campaign of Surrey County Council so that messages our students and staff see on and off campus are consistent.

Please do encourage ERA members to visit the local community area of our website and also sign up to our termly newsletter for local resident's called Community Matters as these will include updates on Royal Holloway's news of relevance to the local community. There is also a coronavirus updates page on our website here. <https://www.royalholloway.ac.uk/about-us/more/local-community/>

Best wishes, Helen

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