



2021-22 COVID-19 ABSENCE GUIDANCE

As you are making your final preparations for starting your programme at the College, we thought it important to advise you of processes and procedures regarding absence reporting in relation to COVID-19.

If you are unable to attend the College, you should report this immediately to the Absence Hotline (01772) 225959, making sure you leave your ID number, name and are clear about the reason for your absence, especially if it is COVID-19 related as we have duty to report COVID-19 related absences to the Government.

The following guidance will support you in determining whether you are required to isolate or whether you are able to continue attending campus in relation to COVID-19. Examples in which 'not attending in circumstances relating to COVID-19' could apply are:

- You are required to self-isolate if you have symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, new continuous cough, loss of taste or smell), and arrange a PCR test
- If you have had a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test, you must self-isolate and arrange a confirmatory PCR test
- If you test positive following a PCR test, you should continue to self-isolate in line with public health guidance or as advised by NHS Test and Trace
- If you test negative and feel well, you can stop self-isolating and return to college
- If you are aged over 18 years and 6 months and have not received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, and are identified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case, you are legally required to self-isolate
- If you are aged under 18 years and 6 months, or have received both doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, and are identified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case, you are advised to arrange a PCR test although there is no legal requirement to isolate whilst awaiting the result.
- You are required by legislation to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine following international travel from a non-exempt country
- If you are clinically extremely vulnerable and under paediatric or other specialist care and have been advised by your clinician or other specialist not to attend. In this situation, the college would require written confirmation.
- If, following advice from Directors of Public Health via the college, as part of outbreak management you are asked to isolate.

Remote Learning

If you are not attending college because of government guidance or legislation relating COVID-19, we will endeavour to support remote learning and the provision of high quality learning resources, including the short term loan of laptops and internet access for students who are eligible. This can be arranged through direct communication with your curriculum leader or student manager.