



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) POLICY AND ADVICE

Information for Cavendish School of English concerning coronavirus (COVID-19).

This page is updated with guidance from the Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO) and Public Health England (PHE).

1. WHAT IS CORONAVIRUS?

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that include the common cold and viruses, such as SARS and MERS. A novel coronavirus, identified as COVID-19, is a new strain not previously identified in humans and that is the type we are currently monitoring.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has been working with Chinese authorities and global experts to learn more about the virus, how it affects the people, how they can be treated, and what countries can do to respond.

2. WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)?

Common signs of infection include respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, shortness of breath and breathing difficulties. In more severe cases, infection can cause pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome and kidney failure.

3. WHAT PRECAUTIONS CAN I TAKE?

Standard recommendations to prevent infection spread include regular hand washing, covering mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing, and thoroughly cooking meat and eggs. Avoid close contact with anyone showing symptoms of respiratory illness, such as coughing and sneezing. The School has hand sanitizers available across its campus. For more on the latest advice, check the WHO website.

4. WHAT PRECAUTIONS IS THE SCHOOL TAKING TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS?

The School is monitoring Public Health England guidelines about prevention and spread of Coronavirus. Currently there are no additional measures specified by Public Health England however the School has revised its cleaning programme and rotation to include the wiping down of key surfaces including hand rails and door handles in high footfall areas and hand sanitiser gels are available in all key locations.

5. WHAT IS THE CURRENT SITUATION?

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) currently advises against all but essential travel to mainland China, as well as against all but essential travel to certain parts of the Republic of Korea (South Korea). It is also advising against all but essential travel to 10 small towns in the Lombardy region (Codogno, Castiglione d'Adda, Casalpusterlengo, Fombio, Maleo, Somaglia, Bertonico, Terranova dei Passerini, Castelgerundo and San Fiorano) and one in the Veneto region (Vo' Euganeo) of Italy.

Cavendish School of English has therefore suspended any travel to these regions on School business, as well as recruitment of students from affected regions until further notice.

6. IF I HAVE RECENTLY RETURNED FROM ABROAD, DO I NEED TO DO ANYTHING?

If you have travelled to the UK from any of the following areas (listed below) you should immediately self-isolate, stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu. This advice applies even if you do not have any symptoms.

You should contact NHS 111 and inform them of your recent travel. If you are a student, contact your stream manager and, if you are a member of staff, contact your line manager.

- Wuhan city and Hubei province, China (for return travel in the past 14 days)
- Iran (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Daegu or Cheongdo, Republic of Korea (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Any Italian town under containment measures, Italy (for return travel on or after 19 February)

If you have travelled to the UK from any of the following areas (listed below) in the last 14 days and are experiencing a cough, fever, shortness of breath or flu-like symptoms, you should self-isolate and call NHS 111. If you are a student, contact your stream manager and, if you are a member of staff, contact your line manager. If you do not have any symptoms, there is no need to take any action.

- Cambodia (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- China
- Hong Kong
- Northern Italy (North of, but not including, Pisa, Florence and Rimini) (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Japan
- Laos (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Macau
- Malaysia
- Myanmar (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Republic of Korea
- Singapore
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Vietnam (for return travel on or after 19 February)

If you are not in the UK, follow advice from your local healthcare provider and local government, and update yourself on WHO recommendations. If you are a foreign national in one of the impacted countries, please familiarise yourself with the latest information provided by your closest national embassy in the region.

The WHO also recommends regularly checking advice from the National Travel Health Network and Centre.

7. HOW DO I SELF-ISOLATE?

The UK Government has provided guidance on how to self-isolate here;

www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-self-isolation-for-patients-undergoing-testing/advice-sheet-home-isolation

8. WHAT IF I AM STUDYING IN MALTA?

Cavendish School of English is following the advice of both Public Health England and the Maltese Ministry of Health & Prevention. In instances where this advice differs, the School will generally employ the higher standard of the two and the School's FAQs will reflect that.

If you have travelled to Malta from any of the following areas (listed below), you should immediately self-isolate, stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu. This advice applies even if you do not have any symptoms.

You should also seek medical help and inform them of your recent travel. If you are a student, contact your stream manager and, if you are a member of staff, contact your line manager.

- Wuhan city and Hubei province, China (for return travel in the past 14 days)
- Iran (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Daegu or Cheongdo, Republic of Korea (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Any Italian town under containment measures, Italy (for return travel on or after 19 February)

If you have travelled to Malta from any of the following areas (listed below) in the last 14 days and are experiencing a cough, fever, shortness of breath or flu-like symptoms, you should self-isolate and seek medical help, informing them of your recent travel. If you are a student, contact your stream manager and, if you are a member of staff, contact your line manager. If you do not have any symptoms, there is no need to take any action.

- Cambodia (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- China
- Hong Kong
- Northern Italy (North of, but not including, Pisa, Florence and Rimini) (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Japan
- Laos (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Macau
- Malaysia
- Myanmar (for return travel on or after 19 February)
- Republic of Korea
- Singapore
- Taiwan
- Thailand

If you are in Malta and begin to experience symptoms of a respiratory infection, follow advice from the Maltese Health Authority. Do not travel while sick, self-isolate and avoid contact with others, seek medical care immediately and inform them of your recent travel or symptoms, wash your hands regularly with soap or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available, and cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.

If you require medical support or would like to make an enquiry, contact the Maltese Ministry of Health and Prevention on 800 111 11 and the Dubai Health Authority on 800 342.

9. WHAT IF I AM STUDYING IN CHINA?

If you are studying in China, follow advice from your local school and the Chinese government, and update yourself on WHO recommendations, as well as the latest information from your embassy in China. The FCO currently advises British citizens in China who are able to leave, to do so; the British Consulates-General in Wuhan and Chongqing are currently closed. WHO also recommends regularly checking advice from the National Travel Health Network and Centre.

10. WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF A MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY IS TESTED FOR CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)?

Public Health England and the Department of Education have now released guidance to educational settings about COVID-19.

In accordance with this advice, no special control measures or restrictions are required if anyone has been in contact with a suspected case of COVID-19 in an educational setting until test results are known. The NHS is testing a large number of individuals who have travelled back from affected countries as a precautionary measure. The vast majority of these tests have been negative.

If a suspected case is confirmed to be COVID-19, Public Health England will contact the School to discuss the case, carry out a risk assessment and advise on the actions or precautions that should be taken to ensure the continued safety and health of our community.

11. DO I NEED TO BE WORRIED ABOUT OTHER STUDENTS TRAVELLING FROM THE IMPACTED REGIONS?

Measures are being taken by all the relevant authorities to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and Public Health England have assessed the risk to the public as moderate, with the risk to individuals remaining low.

If someone you know has travelled from the following areas (listed below), has developed symptoms of cough, fever or shortness of breath, and you are worried about them, we suggest you read these FAQs carefully, encourage them to stay indoors and call NHS 111.

- China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the last 14 days, or
- northern Italy (defined by a line above, and not including, Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos or Myanmar since February 19.

You can help anyone that is unwell by remaining calm, empathizing with their situation and following the Public Health England guidance.

12. I'M PLANNING TO VISIT CHINA IN A FEW MONTHS. CAN I GO?

We will continually update School policy as the situation evolves and post updates here to keep you informed. Do also check official sources, including WHO, Public Health England and FCO for the latest advice to help plan your travel.

13. WHAT IS THE CURRENT UK FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE (FCO) ADVICE FOR IMPACTED REGIONS?

UK citizens

Following a change in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advice (as of 1pm GMT 4 February 2020), all UK citizens have been advised to leave mainland China if they're able to do so (this doesn't include Hong Kong or Macau). Therefore, we recommend that staff, students and faculty, who are UK citizens, should follow the FCO advice and leave mainland China. We recommend that they contact their local consulate if needed and update their stream/line manager.

Other nationalities

We recommend non-UK citizens read and consider the FCO advice, consult their own country's advice, contact their local consulate if needed and update their stream/line manager.

The latest foreign travel advice from the FCO is available [here](#).

14. WHO IS MONITORING THE DEVELOPMENTS AROUND CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AT THE SCHOOL?

The School has been monitoring the situation since the news broke and continues to be guided by Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and Public Health England (PHE) advice.

A School-wide working group of senior decision-makers has been formed and is in daily communications.

15. WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

You can stay committed to our community's values by coming together and supporting all who are affected by these events.

If you would like to find out more ways to help our global community, contact the Student Association, who will direct you to the relevant student club.

16. WHAT IF A MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY STARTS TO FEEL UNWELL ON CAMPUS AND SHOWS SYMPTOMS SIMILAR TO CORONAVIRUS (COUGH, SHORTNESS OF BREATH, FEVER) EVEN IF THEY HAVE NOT BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE AREAS AND ZONES SHARED VIA THE GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE)?

If someone starts to feel unwell and is not from any of the countries listed on the FAQs then normal first aid procedures should be followed. There are first aid located in House A at reception, House B in the Academic Office and House C by the computer suite.