

FAQs re COVID – Summer 2022

These FAQs will be updated as and when guidance changes or if additional points of detail are required.

Background

These FAQs have been updated to align with latest Government announcements setting out the next steps for living with COVID-19 in England from Friday 1st April.

The latest Government guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-planning-and-response-for-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings>

[People with symptoms of a respiratory infection including COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/emergency-planning-and-response-for-education-childcare-and-childrens-social-care-settings)

As per the guidance, the College has a Major Incident Plan, which details the actions the College would need to take in an emergency situation. The College also has a COVID Contingency plan.

Please continue to report any COVID cases to attendance@godalming.ac.uk (students) or to hr@godalming.ac.uk (staff)

Attendance and Support:

How is attendance and engagement being monitored?

You are expected to attend all lessons in person as per your timetable. All lessons will be registered and we will follow up unauthorised absences as usual.

I am very anxious about being onsite and/or feel I have been adversely affected by the lockdowns/COVID?

This is completely understandable, please contact your Personal Tutor or Health and Wellbeing Officer who are on hand to support and guide you. Staff should raise their concerns with their line manager or the HR department.

COVID Symptoms:

What happens if a student or member of staff tests positive for COVID?

Please follow the [NHS guidance](#). Anyone who has tested positive is advised to stay at home for at least 3 days if you are aged under 18 or 5 days if over 18. If you haven't tested positive but have symptoms of COVID-19 and do not feel well enough to study/work then the advice is that you should stay at home and avoid contact with others until you are well again. You can go back to your normal activities if you feel well enough and no longer have a high temperature.

What happens if I come into close contact with a positive case?

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household or are a close contact, though they should be more careful than usual and pay close attention to see if you have symptoms.

If I have to self-isolate/I have tested positive and cannot come into College, how will I be taught?

You will be able to listen into your lessons via Teams/and or set the work to complete. If you are well enough to do so, please make sure you keep up to date with your classwork and homework until you are able to return to College.

If I have COVID/COVID symptoms and an exam – what should I do?

The Government hasn't provided any specific guidance on this yet. External exams/assessments follow rules set out by Ofqual/JCQ which include procedures for those who are unwell. We will send out a separate communication to students/parents once we have further information. In the meantime, Ofqual published a [guide](#) to formal examinations on 8th March.

Contact Tracing

The NHS Contact Tracing Service has now closed.

Health and Safety:

How is the College keeping students and staff safe?

Sanitation

All staff and students are asked to continue to maintain good hygiene, washing hands regularly, and take personal responsibility for keeping themselves safe as well as play their part in helping to keep our community safe.

Hand sanitisers and wipes will continue to be available in all classrooms and at various locations around the College campus, including the main entrance to every building.

Students and staff are also encouraged to bring their own hand sanitiser.

Ventilation

It continues to be important that spaces are well ventilated – doors and windows should remain open wherever possible. Individuals are responsible for ensuring this happens by opening (or leaving open) windows and doors.

Social Distancing

There is no longer any requirement to social distance onsite. Individuals can choose to maintain at least a two metre distance if possible. However, please note it is not possible for students to socially distance in the classrooms. Staff can choose to remain socially distanced from others, including within the classroom and can continue to attend whole staff meetings/staff briefings online rather than in person, if they so wish. We want all members of the College community to do what they feel comfortable with.

Do I have to wear a face covering?

Face coverings are no longer required to be worn anywhere on campus but all students, staff and visitors can continue to wear a face covering if they so wish. If you have symptoms, have tested positive but are not isolating, or someone in your household has COVID, we recommend you wear a face covering to reduce disruption to learning/College operations.

Home Testing

The requirement to test asymptotically has been removed. Tests are no longer free or being provided to colleges/schools. You can still test if you have old test kits at home or purchase a test kit from a local pharmacy. It is not recommended that young people are tested for COVID unless directed by a health professional.

Where can I find a copy of the College Risk Assessment?

The College has a College COVID Health and Safety Risk Assessment. It will be placed on Godalming Online and the Parents' Portal.

How does the College communicate about COVID related matters?

Regular reminders/updates will be shared with students via the Tutorial Bulletin and with parents/carers via the Parents' Bulletin and with staff at staff briefing/staff meetings. This FAQs document/our College COVID Risk Assessment and College website will be updated as guidance/requirements change.

Last updated

4th April 2022