

STUDYING IN THE UK DURING THE PANDEMIC

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CURRENT SITUATION IN UK UNIVERSITIES

- Most students are back on campus.
- Government road map allowing gradual easing of restrictions.
- Social distancing and limits on the number allowed to gather are still in place, and these vary slightly between the four countries of the UK.
- This means some university teaching is still taking place on line, although combined with face-to-face opportunities and social events.
- But precautions are being taken:
 - Limiting the number of students in teaching and social spaces
 - Segmenting students to prevent outbreaks
 - Twice-weekly asymptomatic Covid testing on campus
- Universities are also offering extra support to students, including to help with mental health concerns; support students through self-isolation etc.



ARRIVING IN THE UK

- **Current international students who have been studying online from their home countries are permitted to travel to the UK if they need to do so for their studies.**
- **Students need to be aware of and comply with the border measures:**
 - **The updated DfE guidance for providers in England outlines the arrival procedure including the 'traffic light system' which outlines the differing measures for students travelling from 'Green' 'Amber' and 'Red' list countries.**
 - **Students need to be aware of the requirements before arriving in the UK, including the need to book a test package and self-isolate on arrival.**
 - **If traveling from a country on the 'Red' list, they will need to enter the hotel quarantine system, which requires them to remain in government managed quarantine facilities for 10 days after arrival.**
 - **The guidance also covers the procedure for onward travel to the Devolved Administrations.**

VACCINATION PROGRAMME

- Vaccination programme is well advanced. We expect over 18s to be offered the first does in the coming weeks.
- Everyone under 40 will be offered either a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccine.
- International students will be eligible for the vaccine.
- The updated guidance (May) for HE providers in England provides confirmation that:
 - International students will not be charged for vaccination against COVID-19.
 - Students should make sure they are registered with a General Practitioner (GP), who will contact them directly to book their vaccine via an online or telephone system when it is appropriate to do so. Information on booking coronavirus vaccination appointments is available.
 - This NHS England FAQ document on second doses confirms that in exceptional circumstances different vaccines can be used for first and second doses. Exceptional circumstances include “if the first product received is unknown or if they received a brand that is not available in the UK” meaning that international students who have had the first dose of vaccine outside of the UK are able to receive their second dose in the UK even if they are unsure what vaccine they received for their first shot or that vaccine is not available in the UK.

INFORMATION SOURCES

➤ To stay up to date with arrangements for studying in the UK, please check the following links regularly:

Information specifically for students:

- [UKCISA - international student advice and guidance - Coronavirus \(Covid-19\): info for international students](#)
- [Study in the UK in 2021-22 | British Council](#)

Government information:

- Latest [UK government](#) advice.
- Latest [National Health Service](#) advice.
- Latest [Public Health Wales](#) advice.
- Latest [Northern Ireland](#) advice.
- Latest [Health Protection Scotland](#) advice.
- [Staying alert and safe \(social distancing\)](#)
- [Advice for UK visa applicants and temporary UK residents](#)

THANK YOU

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