

COVID-19: Keeping our Green Templeton College Community Safe and Well in 2020-21

This document provides a brief overview of how we are preparing for a safe and supportive environment at Green Templeton in 2020-21. It will be updated as and when the various university and conference of colleges' policies in draft at the time of writing (13 August 2020) are finalised and adopted by the college in time for the start of the Michaelmas Term.

The college and university commitment

The university has [published](#) its commitment to supporting students' health and wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The college will be adopting a student 'responsibility agreement' to establish clear expectations of behaviour to support the collective health and wellbeing of the student community. A similar agreement will also be in place for our fellows and members of staff. This document is being produced by the collegiate university so that there is consistency across Oxford, and it is expected to be in place from 1 September 2020.

All new students will receive a briefing on the agreement at their college induction and will be asked to sign it. Continuing students will receive separate briefings, and will also be asked to sign the agreement.

Our facilities and services

All Green Templeton facilities and services have gone through a programme of risk assessment, in compliance with relevant guidance produced by the UK government.

Additional facilities are in place for everyone to maintain good hygiene such as through regular hand washing with soap and water or hand sanitiser.

Our spaces, as well as social spaces, communal areas and areas open to the public, have been adapted to ensure social distancing and appropriate ventilation. Clear signage and markings enable all to safely enter, move through, work in and exit buildings and facilities.

Our library and study spaces will operate social distancing through a booking system, capacity limits, with spacing of reader seats, one-way systems, and enhanced hygiene measures.

Our gym, squash and tennis courts will operate social distancing through a booking system, capacity limits and enhanced hygiene measures.

For any activities where maintaining social distancing at all times is more difficult (eg. some college offices), we will adopt additional measures such as the use of further hygiene measures, perspex screens and barriers.

From the start of the new academic year, face coverings will be required during face-to-face activities in indoor shared spaces, with exceptions for both individuals and settings where they are

not appropriate (for example on grounds of disability), or where it is safe to remove them (e.g. when seated at a desk in the library or another socially-distanced study space). The college's policy on face-coverings will be in place in early September.

Our accommodation

We are implementing new household groups for when students arrive from September onwards. Cleaning will continue in all communal areas, with extra time on all touch points and shared facilities. Cleaning of student bedrooms will continue to be suspended.

Our shared accommodation will be split into household groups. The households will be able to socialise, cook and eat together. Residents will be assigned a bathroom and kitchen to share and must keep to those facilities. We will not be allowing visitors into shared accommodation premises for Michaelmas Term. More information will be sent to residents before arrival on which household and facilities they have been allocated.

Our health and welfare support

The university's commitment to supporting everyone's health includes access to a rapid-result COVID-19 testing service. Green Templeton College is situated next door to one of testing, which is being set up on the Royal Observatory Quarter in Oxford.

The college has a protocol in place for responding to reported cases of COVID-19 identified via the testing service. In the event of a number of cases arising in any of our residences, the college will adopt the collegiate university's 'outbreak protocol' and will work with Public Health England, as directed, to support any members of our community who may be impacted.

Students who test positive will receive individual support from both the college nurse and a nominated member of college staff, who will check in regularly with them.

Students arriving in and returning to Oxford from outside the UK are receiving clear and regular advice about self-isolation requirements and have been asked to inform college about their circumstances. Students living in our accommodation will receive household-specific support and guidance for when they need to self-isolate; students living elsewhere have also received [general advice](#) on how to prepare for and manage a period of self-isolation.

A report and support system is in place for any students who are required to self-isolate mid-term. This system is overseen by GTC's Senior Tutor and the College Office Team, working closely with other departments of the college, as necessary.

The college's three Junior Deans, peer supporters and Graduate Common Room (GCR) welfare team will be on hand to welcome and support students through their transition to college, and across the term. Support will include some virtual and socially-distanced events.

Further information will be shared with all students during the registration, induction and welcome programme. All members of our community will receive regular bulletins about our facilities and services, and our support, throughout the new academic year.

Updates on the college's facilities and services are published [here](#).

Last updated: 14.8.20