

Covid-19 Policy

Updated 9th March 2020

UK Government Advice

The latest advice from both the [UK government](#), the [National Health Service](#) and the [Boarding School Association](#) regarding COVID-19 are updated regularly. Schools may have stricter individual requirements than the government advice. All travellers who have been in an affected area within the quarantine period of 14 days must take action until they have been symptom free in the UK for 14 days.

Covid-19 Symptoms - a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath. **Quarantine** – 14 days. **Self-isolation** – stay indoors and avoid contact with other people. Self-isolation requirements depend on the affected area visited.

Category 1 affected areas

- Iran
- Hubei province in China
- special care zones in South Korea (Daegu, Cheongdo, Gyeongsan)
- Italy since 9th March

Action - You must self-isolate even if you have no Covid-19 symptoms.

Category 2 affected areas

- mainland China outside of Hubei province
- South Korea outside of the special care zones
- Cambodia
- Hong Kong
- Japan
- Laos
- Macau
- Malaysia
- Myanmar
- Singapore
- Taiwan
- Thailand

Action - You must self-isolate if you have Covid-19 symptoms however mild.

Schools

- [Academic Families](#) continues to work with our partner schools to ensure that students are safe and well-cared for.
- We support schools protecting their community by requesting that all visitors to campus – including returning students - who have recently been to one of the affected countries remains symptom-free in the UK for at least 14 days before entering school grounds.
- We understand and support the decision of schools to advise students not to travel home to an affected area during the holidays because of the need to quarantine on their return to the UK and the impact this may have on their education.
- [Academic Families](#) continues to support our students by providing host family accommodation and residential courses, so our students do not need to travel to an affected country and then quarantine on their return
- We will not host any students with a host family whose members have been to an affected area within 14 days of hosting, with or without symptoms.
- We cannot provide quarantine or self-isolation at our host families and parents must make quarantine plans if their child arrives in the UK expecting to attend school and is unable to do so.
- We cannot host any student attending school who displays Covid-19 symptoms. We expect schools to isolate the student until such time as they are admitted to hospital or their parents arrive to take care of them.
- In the event that a school is directed to close by a government agency we will make our best endeavour to accommodate our students providing they do not have any Covid-19 symptoms.

Staff

- [Academic Families](#) staff are not currently travelling to any countries in the affected areas or attending exhibitions or events where attendees from affected countries have not been quarantined for more than 14 days.

Hosts

- All Academic Families students being placed with a Host for half term or Easter holidays have been in the UK for more than the required quarantine period indicated by government agencies.
- We understand that boarding schools have been extremely vigilant monitoring the health of their boarding communities and restricting visits to the schools from anyone who has been to one of the affected areas in the previous 14 days and as such, we believe our students are no higher risk than anybody else.
- We will not ask any Host to accommodate a student displaying Covid-19 symptoms or who has been in an affected area within the previous 14 days.
- We are unable to place students in households where a member has been in an affected area within the 14 days before hosting, regardless of symptoms.

Students

- Students whose family lives in affected area, are advised to remain in the UK for the foreseeable future. This will avoid their school requiring them to quarantine for 14 days on their return to the UK before returning to school.
- We are unable to support quarantine or self-isolation.
- Schools may request that any family or friends from an affected area, visiting a student should complete 14 days quarantine and remain symptom free before spending time with the student.
- We will support each student's continued stay in the UK when not at school.
- We can provide host accommodation and residential short courses but are unable to guarantee specific locations due to high demand.
- Students worried about Covid-19 or that they are unable to return home should contact us for additional support.
- **Government and school regulations do not allow students to stay in an hotel, Airbnb or private accommodation unless accompanied by a responsible adult over the age of 25.**

Students arriving in the UK

- Students arriving in the UK from an affected area will be unable to go to school until they have completed a minimum of 14 day quarantine period free from any Covid-19 symptoms.
- We are unable to accommodate quarantine students but will try to assist parents to find suitable Airbnb or hotel accommodation.
- Parents are responsible to arrange for their child to be accompanied by a responsible adult over the age of 25 for the full 14 day quarantine period.
- Providing they are Covid-19 symptom-free and not from a Tier 1 country, students and their responsible adult will be able to stay in their own accommodation without any restrictions on their movement.

Students whose school is closed

- In the event of a prolonged school closure, Academic Families will provide short term host family accommodation only for healthy students until they return home or are cared for by family or friends.
- Any student displaying Covid-19 symptoms must remain in isolation within the school's isolation provision until they are clear of symptoms for 14 days or are admitted to a medical facility.
- If a student develops symptoms after being placed in a host family or on a residential course and their school is closed, then Academic Families will instigate the proper testing and isolation procedures and require their family or friends to assume responsibility for their care or admit them to a medical facility.

If you display symptoms of Covid-19 you should remain indoors and dial National Health Service Advice on 111 from any phone especially if you or someone you have been in contact with, has recently arrived from an affected area.