COVID: Increased Susceptibility and Disability/Impairment Impacts

We are asking that all new and continuing students who may have increased susceptibility, or particular vulnerability, to infectious diseases (ISID) such as COVID-19 and also those with disabilities/impairments that are impacted by COVID-related social distancing measures to let us know by 31st August. This information is essential: it will allow us to work with you to put in place the right advice and, where necessary, specific arrangements.

If you have increased susceptibility to infectious disease:
The UK government’s public health agency, Public Health England (PHE), has published guidance to help you understand if you have underlying illnesses that could put you at a higher risk, or a very high risk, of serious COVID-related illness. Check these two links to see if you fall into one of these groups, and if so follow the advice below.

Very high risk group:
A very small number of people with significant underlying health conditions are in the very high risk category for serious COVID illness.

- Please inform the College immediately via tutorial@hughes.cam.ac.uk
- Arrange straight away for a letter from your physician or specialist medical consultant detailing your condition and outlining your preventive health needs in the context of plans to enter a residential student environment.
- You will be contacted by the College’s Deputy Senior Tutor (Welfare) to discuss any need for further information, and to develop a plan for study and living arrangements – working with the relevant University Departments where necessary.
- Please refer to the University’s ISID webpage for further information on the range of support available depending on need.

Higher risk group:
People with a wider range of underlying health conditions may belong in the higher risk group for more serious COVID-related illness.

- Please inform the College immediately via tutorial@hughes.cam.ac.uk.
- Arrange a consultation with your physician or specialist medical consultant for personal advice based on your plans to enter residential student environment.
- Provide further information on your condition through the College nurse’s health information form when asked to do so.
- Prepare for you arrival in Cambridge by reading and understanding the advice on social distancing and household hygiene provided on the Cambridge ISID webpage and other student information that will be provided in the coming weeks.
- Work with your College Tutor and/or College Nurse to address any remaining concerns.

If you have a disability or impairment which is impacted by COVID-related social distancing measures

Please let us know if you have a disability or impairment (these might include long term health conditions or mobility impairments, or particular mental health conditions) which is impacted by social distancing measures. Students in this category will be asked to:
o Confirm straight away to the College (tutorial@hughes.cam.ac.uk) that you have already registered your disability with the University’s Disabilities Resource Centre (DRC).

o You will be contacted by the College’s Deputy Senior Tutor (Welfare) to check that you have appropriate arrangements for study, and accommodation that meets your specific needs.

o Please refer to the University’s ISID webpage for further information on the range of support available depending on need.

If none of the above apply then you do not need to reply at this stage.

Please note that information will be held by the College as sensitive personal data according to its data management policy and may be shared on a need to know basis with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC). Sharing of data with other parts of the Collegiate University (e.g. Department) will be discussed in advance with you.

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