

## APPENDIX A: Covid-19 work with Universities

Cambridgeshire County Council and Cambridge City Council have been working in close partnership with Public Health England Health Protection Team, the University of Cambridge (UoC) and Anglia Ruskin University (ARU) to prepare for the return of students and ensure that the health and wellbeing of students, staff and the wider community is protected during the current pandemic.

The LA is part of a weekly regional group brought together by Public Health England. The current national guidance has been translated by the LA, PHE and the universities into specific actions, shown in the table below:

	University of Cambridge	Anglia Ruskin
<b>Governance</b>	A COVID-19 Outbreak Management University Working Group (CUWG) has been set up including members from the County Council Public Health Directorate, Environmental Health Cambridge City Council. This sits within the Education Cell of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Outbreak Control Plan and reports into the daily Outbreak Management Team and into the weekly Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health Protection Board.	
<b>Weekly meetings</b>	The Upper and Lower Tier LAs sit on the UoC COVID-19 Management Team, the Rapid Response Group, and both of the UoC incident management teams - Gold for strategic decision-making, Silver for operational response.	The Upper and Lower Tier LA sits on the ARU COVID-19 Advisory Group would partner with ARU to inform strategic decision making in any COVID-19 outbreaks.
<b>Codes of conduct</b>	Both universities have drawn up codes of conduct for students that include complying with the COVID-19 protective measures, taking a COVID-19 test if symptomatic and informing the university Single Point of Contact of any positive result. For ARU this is presented as <b><u>Covid-19 Safe Behaviours Community Pledge</u></b> . For UoC this is the <b><u>COVID Community Statement</u></b> .	
<b>Social distancing</b>	Social distancing is a key component of the Universities' plans. They have put in place measures to reduce social contact and maintain social distance keeping people 2m apart from those they do not live with wherever possible.	
<b>Face coverings</b>	Staff, students and visitors are expected to wear a face-covering, unless exempt, where it is not possible to maintain social distancing of at least two metres on university campuses. For education activities, face-coverings will be needed if consistent two metre distancing is not possible and other control measures such as physical shielding are not possible.	
<b>Attendance registers</b>	Attendance registers are kept for any teaching space to facilitate rapid identification of possible close contacts if needed.	
<b>Infection control measures</b>	Enhanced infection control protective measures being put in place in both universities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• enhanced cleaning measures, especially for frequently used areas, surfaces, touchpoints and washrooms;</li> <li>• increased availability of handwashing and hand sanitisation facilities;</li> <li>• reducing congestion through measures such as changes to timetables to stagger arrival or departure times or reduce attendance on site</li> <li>• utilising outdoor space;</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>managing entrance to, exit from and movement around buildings, as well as signage with such measures as one way entrances, exits and staircases.</li> <li>Air handling and ventilation arrangements have been fully reviewed to ensure continued supply of fresh air in the workplace.</li> </ul>		
<b>Segmentation of students</b>	Segmentation (such as, the creation of small, sub-networks of students and staff) is one of the suite of possible measures to manage and mitigate risks, and to make it easier to identify and limit those who need to take action in the event of a case or outbreak. ARU and UoC have tried as far as possible to segment students and staff by course, year group, accommodation in teaching and accommodation situations in order to support easier detection of linked cases and enable more targeted closure or quarantine if necessary. Use of segments means that certain classes or student households could be quarantined instead of wider groups.		
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>UoC has created household bubbles for those students resident in colleges. These bubbles will be part of the regular asymptomatic testing programme being run by the university.</td> <td>ARU has created household bubbles for those students living in our owned and managed accommodation.</td> </tr> </table>	UoC has created household bubbles for those students resident in colleges. These bubbles will be part of the regular asymptomatic testing programme being run by the university.	ARU has created household bubbles for those students living in our owned and managed accommodation.
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<b>Staff</b>	University staff will continue to work from home where possible, reducing the number of people on campus and helping to ensure social distancing.		
<b>Teaching</b>	Both universities are taking a blended approach to teaching, in which large lectures for the 2020/21 academic year will be delivered online, with small group teaching, lab and practical work delivered in person in a safe and secure manner.		
<b>Events</b>	It has been agreed that any events planned will be subject to the advice of a Safety Advisory Group (SAG) meeting convened by the District Local Authority. It was in consultation with the SAG that ARU significantly curtailed its face to face fresher week social events and put them online instead.		
<b>International students</b>	Measures are in place in both universities to ensure international students that are required to self-isolate on arrival into the country are safe and well looked after.		
<b>Single point of contact</b>	Both universities have established a 7 day a week COVID-19 Helpdesk function to provide advice and oversight of COVID-19 related support and act as a single point of contact for positive cases and information sharing between the Local Authority and PHE. The UoC have		
<b>Testing</b>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>UoC have their own pathway for rapid testing for all staff and students with symptoms. In addition the UoC are rolling out a weekly asymptomatic testing programme for all students resident in College accommodation.</td> <td>ARU will use the NHS national testing system. To enhance access for students the LA has been working to get macro-level approval to have a Local Testing Site (walk-in site) in Cambridge City in an area that is accessible to Anglia Ruskin students.</td> </tr> </table>	UoC have their own pathway for rapid testing for all staff and students with symptoms. In addition the UoC are rolling out a weekly asymptomatic testing programme for all students resident in College accommodation.	ARU will use the NHS national testing system. To enhance access for students the LA has been working to get macro-level approval to have a Local Testing Site (walk-in site) in Cambridge City in an area that is accessible to Anglia Ruskin students.
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<b>Surveillance</b>	Both universities have procedures in places to notify the LA of <b>every</b> positive student and staff case. These cases will be monitored by the LA Surveillance Cell to identify changes in rates of infection over time with increases flagged if necessary to the LA Outbreak Management Team and Health Protection Board.		
<b>Identifying outbreaks</b>	An outbreak is defined by Public Health England as two or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 among students or staff who are direct close contacts, proximity contacts or in the same cohort in the university or halls of residence within 14 days. A cohort might be a tutorial group, lecture group, lab session, social club, or other defined group within the school.		

	<p>The LA surveillance cell and both universities are keeping a record of every positive case to enable them to proactively identify the signs of an outbreak in order to take immediately action. This information is passed to the Environmental Health Team to have an overview of the wider community issues</p>
<p><b>Outbreak management</b></p>	<p>Outbreak Management plans have been written by both universities in close collaboration with the LA and PHE and signed off by the LA Director of Public Health. There are clear protocols in place for actions on identification of an outbreak with roles and responsibilities agreed. The Local Authority and PHE sit on the highest decision making bodies relating to COVID-19 in both universities. Scenario planning exercise have been carried out with both universities to test the processes in place on identification of single cases and outbreaks. More complex scenario testing has been carried in the UoC and is planned with ARU to look at situations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increased prevalence of infection locally that requires interventions on the whole community, including students and staff;</li> <li>• a large-scale outbreak that may result in substantial restrictions implemented at a local level that impact on the activities of the university;</li> <li>• a localised outbreak in student accommodation;</li> <li>• a localised outbreak involving a particular student or staff member, faculty or department.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Off campus work with EHOs</b></p>	<p>In partnership with Public Health, Environmental Health at the Cambridge City Council have been working with businesses to ensure that they are COVID-19 safe. Environmental Health have been proactively visiting businesses, in particular licensed premises such as bars, restaurants and pubs, to give advice and support for them to remain open safely and to ensure customers, including students, can have a safe experience of the City. Environmental Health have been working with the accommodation services at both ARU and UoC to ensure that the accommodation provided meets all the necessary requirements. Private housing providers have been given advice on how they should support students who need to self-isolate if necessary and on deep cleaning required with any positive cases found living in off-campus accommodation.</p>
<p><b>Comms</b></p>	<p>Both universities recognise that clear and timely communications are key to managing the spread of the virus and dealing with outbreaks. They have set up websites (below) and are working with the LA to develop communications plans for returning students and to refine a campaign aimed at 18-30 year olds when they are off campus. The LA have supplied scripts for the universities to turn into their own video material warning about people's behaviour in their free time not being COVID-Safe, including translations and shared communications materials highlighting issues to do with living in houses in mass occupation. Supportive quotes from the Director of Public Health and the Leader of the City Council have been given to the universities for their press releases and all general campaign messages and materials shared. The LA have launched and continued to promote the harder hitting campaign #Cancel COVID aimed at people aged 18 – 30 which concentrates on avoiding the risk of a local lockdown. This is a mix of physical posters, social media posts using council channels - including Instagram and tiktok, both organic and paid for. It also includes personal messages from advocates designed to resonate with the target audience, which have so far included popstar, DJ and Love Island contestant Marcel Somerville, the members of Cambridge university elite boat squad, contestants from RuPaul's Drag Race, and actress Miriam Margoyles of Harry Potter and Call The Midwife fame whose video was viewed 12,000 times in its first two days. The next iteration of the campaign – along with a continued</p>

	emphasis on advocate endorsements – will be to focus on symptoms, self-isolation and support.	
	<a href="http://www.cam.ac.uk/coronavirus/stay-safe-cambridge-uni">www.cam.ac.uk/coronavirus/stay-safe-cambridge-uni</a>	<a href="https://aru.ac.uk/study/september2020/COVID-19-secure-campus">https://aru.ac.uk/study/september2020/COVID-19-secure-campus</a>