**St John’s College Arrangements for Quarantine in College Accommodation**

UK Government regulations currently require a quarantine period to be undertaken by people upon arrival in the country. Some countries and territories are exempt from this requirement and no quarantine is required for travellers from these areas.

[Check this link to find out whether you may be required to quarantine on arrival in the UK.](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors) Please check this site frequently before you travel to the UK, as the list of countries exempt from the quarantine requirement changes with little advance notice.

If your country or territory does not appear on the exempt list, you must undergo a period of 14 days quarantine during which you are expected to self-isolate and must follow [government guidance that places specific restrictions on your movements](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk).

**Note** that if you are travelling from an exempt country, but make a [transit stop](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors#transit-stops)in, or if you visit a country or territory that is non-exempt in the 14 days before you arrive in England you will need to undergo the 14 day quarantine period upon arrival.

**All** travellers entering the UK from abroad are required to complete an [online Public Health Passenger Locator](https://www.gov.uk/provide-journey-contact-details-before-travel-uk) form with your journey and contact details 48 hours before arrival in the UK. The online form is located [**here.**](https://visas-immigration.service.gov.uk/public-health-passenger-locator-form?_ga=2.48305382.1135572332.1597839391-760669231.1583159752)When you arrive at the UK border, you will need to show either a printed copy of the document attached to your confirmation email or the document attached to the confirmation email on your phone.

If you are arriving from within the Common Travel Area (CTA, comprising Ireland, Isle of Man and Channel Islands) and have been within the CTA for the last 14 days before entering the UK, you need not complete the Public Health passenger form or self-isolate.

If you are required to quarantine, when you arrive in England you should go straight to the place where you are staying. This need not be College accommodation if, for example, you are staying/quarantining with relatives. If you are not coming straight to College and are required to self-isolate and will quarantine elsewhere, you must inform Student Service (studentservices@joh.cam.ac.uk) of your arrival date and forward to your College a copy of your Public Health passenger location form.

In travelling to your place of quarantine, Government guidance is to use public transport only if there is no alternative. When using public transport in the UK, the law requires you to wear a face covering and stay 2 metres apart from other people. Be sure to pack a face covering or scarf to cover your nose and mouth before you travel. Everyone arriving from abroad (whether required to quarantine of not), should familiarise themselves with [UK regulations for face coverings](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own) before their journey to the UK. [**The University and Colleges have issued a joint statement on face coverings**](https://www.cam.ac.uk/coronavirus/news/university-and-colleges-joint-statement-on-face-coverings) which applies to their premises.

If you have symptoms of coronavirus infection you should not travel. The most important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of the following:

* A new continuous cough
* A high temperature
* A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If you develop coronavirus symptoms while in transit to England, tell one of the crew on your plane, boat, train, or bus. They will let staff in the airport, port or station know, so they can tell you what to do when you arrive. If you have coronavirus symptoms you will not be allowed to travel by public transport and will need to demonstrate that you have suitable accommodation for self-isolation. If you do develop coronavirus symptoms when in transit, you should contact Forecourt Porters Lodge (Porter@joh.cam.ac.uk (01223 338671))(once you arrive in the UK

Many of you have questions about the impact of current UK quarantine requirements on your arrival in Cambridge. The policies set out below for quarantine in College accommodation have been developed following extensive consultation by University representatives with Public Health England, with other Colleges and within St John’s College, to ensure that we have the capacity to provide the support students may require.

**What does quarantine for travellers returning to the UK entail?**

You will find an extensive answer to this question at [**Coronavirus (COVID-19): how to self-isolate when you travel to the UK**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk) . The key points, if you are required to quarantine, are as follows:

* You should self-isolate for a full 14 days in one place, where you can have food and other necessities delivered
* You cannot leave your accommodation to visit public areas
* You cannot go shopping
* It is important to avoid contact with other people as much as possible while in quarantine in order to reduce the risk of transmitting coronavirus

**Will the College provide accommodation for students required to quarantine?**

If you have booked College accommodation for the Michaelmas term, you may book additional nights of College accommodation in order to complete any required quarantine before the start of your course. You should notify Student Services (student.services@joh.cam.ac.uk) to inform them of your date of arrival. At the moment, we are unable to offer College accommodation for quarantine to students who will be living in private accommodation in Michaelmas term.

**When should I plan to arrive in Cambridge if I am required to quarantine?**

If you are required to quarantine, we encourage you to arrive at least 14 days before the official start of your course or, if you are a new student, of Freshers’ orientation (dates set out below). Even earlier arrivals may be possible if rooms are available. Quarantining students may arrive any time from 11th September. All other international students may arrive any time from 18th September.

Bear in mind the following dates as you make your travel plans:

*New undergraduates* should plan to arrive in time to complete any required quarantine before the start of official in-person orientation activities that begin on Friday 2 October and continue throughout the following week.

*New postgraduates* should plan to arrive in time to complete any required quarantine on or before Saturday, 3 October. College welcome activities for all students, both undergraduate and postgraduate will commence on 3 October and continue through the following week.

*Continuing students, both undergraduate and postgraduate,* should plan their return to Cambridge in time to complete any required quarantine before the official start of Term on Thursday, 8 October.

**What if I am unable to arrive in time to complete quarantine before orientation or classes begin?**

The College and the University know that not all students will be able to arrive early to quarantine or may face delays in making travel arrangements. It should be possible for you to complete quarantine during the first two weeks of term, whilst following classes or meeting with supervisors remotely, but you must notify the relevant individuals well in advance so that all necessary arrangements can be made.

*New undergraduates* who are unable to arrive in time to complete any required quarantine period before orientation begins on the afternoon of 2 October should notify Student Services (studentservices@joh.cam.ac.uk). *Please put ‘quarantine question’ in the subject line of your email.*

*Continuing undergraduates* who are unable to arrive before the start of classes on 8 October should notify their Tutor, their Director of Studies and Academic Adminstrator

*New postgraduates* who are unable to arrive before 3 October should notify the Postgraduate Administrator, Ms Angela Mansfield (a.m.mansfield@joh.cam.ac.uk). *Please put ‘quarantine question’ in the subject line of your email.*

*Continuing postgraduates* who are unable to arrive before the start of instruction on 8 October should notify their Tutor, their principal Supervisor and Postgraduate Administrator, Ms Angela Mansfield (angela.mansfield@joh.cam.ac). *Please put ‘quarantine question’ in the subject line of your email*

**Appendix A (attached) contains a list of items you may wish to bring with you to help you through your period of quarantine.**

**Will I be able to spend quarantine in the room I have booked for Michaelmas term?**

We will aim to book all early arrivals directly into the room you will occupy in Michaelmas term; where this is not possible (e.g. because the room is occupied by another student until the end of September) we will arrange for you to complete quarantine in another College room.

Students are permitted to complete quarantine in non-en suite accommodation, but they and the other students with whom they share a bathroom and/or toilet and kitchen must follow very strict social distancing guidelines. In most cases, we are operating a ‘household’ model this year with a group of individuals having shared facilities. [**Government guidance can be found here**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk)

* Quarantining students should minimise use of shared areas in all cases
* Minimal contact with surfaces in hallways, doorways and lobbies should be encouraged
* Where shared facilities are used (e.g. bathrooms, kitchens) all members of the household must maintain scrupulous COVID-secure practices.
* Non-quarantining students do not need to observe quarantine movement restrictions but will need to engage with COVID-secure practices in shared areas and facilities

If a student should develop coronavirus symptoms when in isolation in a household, then they need to complete the online College form (*link*) and the [**normal regulations for self-isolation apply**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

**What happens if I am in a double set and my room mate does not have to quarantine?**

In this instance, you may be asked to quarantine in a room other than your own. Please alert student services to this situation when you contact them to let them know your date of arrival.

**How will I get food during quarantine?**

The College buttery dining room is open for take-away service for lunch and dinner. In addition, the College bar has been adapted to offer a ‘order and collect’ take-away service that quarantining students will be able to order on their U-Pay account*.* (Instructions on how to set up a U pay account will be available when you arrive in College.). Quarantining students will not be able to pick up these meals themselves. Your self-isolation supporters will do this for you. The JCR/SBR are setting up arrangements for new students in quarantine and, where these are not available, the College Catering service will deliver take-away meals that have been ordered. Further details will be provided on your arrival.

You may also be able to order take-away meals and groceries from the many local delivery services if your self-isolation supporter can arrange delivery to your room.

Quarantining students may use the kitchen that is closest to their room to prepare meals, but are required to observe the following guidelines:

* Only one person in the kitchen at a time; as rooms fill up you may need to organise a group chat to coordinate access to the kitchen
* Wash your hands before, during and after using the kitchen
* Wash and put away any items you have used before leaving the kitchen
* Clean kitchen surfaces (including the handles to microwaves, kettles and refrigerators) before and after you use them (supplies will be provided in each kitchen)
* Wear a face covering at all times when outside your room, removing it in the kitchen only when necessary to taste your food or drink

**What College buildings may I enter while in quarantine?**

Barring emergencies, students in quarantine may not enter any College building except their own residential premises.

**Will I be able to use the College gardens while in quarantine?**

You are allowed to exercise in any garden attached to your place of quarantine, but you must stay 2 metres apart from other people staying there at all times.

**Can I get reading material from the SJC Library to prepare for my course while in quarantine?**

The library is happy to help. Firstly, if you have access to your course Moodle site, you might already find that the material you need has been uploaded as PDFs or links to ebooks. If you don't find your material on Moodle, or want to see what is available in Libraries, use the library catalogue iDiscover ([https://idiscover.lib.cam.ac.uk](https://idiscover.lib.cam.ac.uk/)). If you find books that you need, or would prefer a PDF of a book chapter, just email library@joh.cam.ac.uk and we will bring the books to your college residence or email you the chapter scan. Alternatively, send us an email, and we'll check if we have what you're looking for. You are also very welcome to suggest that the library purchase books via our website.

**I have left belongings in College storage. Can I get access to these while I am in quarantine?**

Yes. Notify Student Services (studentservices@joh.cam.ac.uk) as soon as possible of your arrival date and provide a description of the items you have left in storage. Arrangements will be made to move your belongings into your room before you arrive to begin your quarantine. Please note: we need at least three working days’ notice to arrange for the retrieval and delivery of belongings from storage. Retrieval of belongings while you are in quarantine may be possible but cannot be guaranteed.

**How much will I have to pay for accommodation during quarantine?**

Additional nights of accommodation for quarantine purposes will be charged at the standard student rate for the room that you have booked for Michaelmas Term.

**Paying for two extra weeks of accommodation will be a serious financial hardship for me. Can the College help?**

Any St John’s student who experiences unanticipated financial hardship may apply for hardship funds. Consult your Tutor in the first instance to discuss your situation.

**What other support is available to me while I am in quarantine?**

Tutors will check in with new students by email and offer a Zoom or Skype meeting soon after you begin your quarantine to introduce themselves and discuss any concerns you may have. You may contact them by email at any time after your arrival to ask questions or request a follow-up meeting. Some Tutors may be on holiday in September. If that is the case we will put you in touch with another Tutor to provide support while you are in quarantine.

The College is organising a group of volunteer supporters who will provide practical assistance to students in quarantine at specified times. They might deliver take-away meals from the buttery dining room or pick up your post from the Porters’ Lodge. As we expect to have a large number of students in quarantine, please bear in mind that our student volunteers have many calls on their time and are unlikely to be able to respond instantly to requests. Details will be provided as this scheme is finalised.

Porters are on site 24/7. Please contact them at any time with any concerns at 01223 338671.

**What happens if I develop symptoms of coronavirus while I am in quarantine?**

* Complete the [online form](https://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/college-covid-19-symptom-reporting-form) andphone the Porters’ Lodge to inform them, so they can advise and support you
* Follow the [University’s instructions to schedule a quick, free test](https://www.cam.ac.uk/coronavirus/students/health-and-wellbeing#testing)
* Follow the normal (non-quarantine) UK [guidance for possible or confirmed coronavirus infection.](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection)

**Key telephone numbers:**

Porters Lodge tel: 01223 338671 Lead Clinical Nurse tel: 01223 338664 / 07919058221 NHS tel: 111 (24hrs a day)

**The guidelines set out above are subject to change in accord with updates to UK government, Public Health England or University policy. Please consult current** [**UK government instructions for travellers**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk/coronavirus-covid-19-how-to-self-isolate-when-you-travel-to-the-uk#how-to-travel-to-the-place-where-you-are-self-isolating) **frequently before you start your journey; these may change without notice.**

**APPENDIX A**

**Items that you may wish to bring with you for use in College:**

* A first aid kit for minor cuts and abrasions (and anything you would normally source from the Porters’ Lodge or Nurse). Paracetamol or similar.
* A digital thermometer
* Basic Personal Protection Equipment for personal use: mask, gloves, hand sanitiser or soap (Note: The College will provide 2 face coverings for each student)
* Three days’ supply of non-perishable food that you could use in event of a lockdown and/or at the start of your quarantine period
* Phone, laptop or ipad that you can link to home delivery shopping in the UK
* Clothing and bedding and towels sufficient for a two-week cycle between washes
* Individual cooking and dining utensils and crockery
* Chargers in good working order for all of your devices
* Access to a credit card or enough cash to cover your average two-week expenditure
* 2-6 week supply of prescription medicines, contact lenses, contact lens solution, batteries for hearing aids, sanitary products etc
* A list of emergency contact telephone numbers (not stored in phones or on devices)– College, local, family
* Other items that support your unique needs
* Named cushion/rug (for outdoor seating)