

COVID-19 POLICY 2020/2021

We are delighted to inform our students that we will be opening LanguageUK for face to face teaching in the classroom from Monday 7th September 2020. We are slowly starting to prepare and welcome back staff and students. English UK have given us information and guidelines along with the Government guidelines to ensure a safe re-opening for English language centres across the United Kingdom.

We have been busy implementing all risk assessments, health and safety of the building and we are now ready to open!

The main focus of LanguageUK is to retain the health and wellbeing of students and staff in the wake of this pandemic and to make sure Covid-19 remains outside the school buildings. One thing we do have is a very large spacious school.

There Will Be Several Safety Measures in Place at The School So Students Can Learn Safely Together While Maintaining Social Distance

- Building access clearly communicated through signage.
- Class sizes will be 6 maximum to maintain social distancing.
- The bubble approaches.
- Keeping groups of students and staff together and reducing contact with other groups of students this will mainly come into play when our junior programmes restart.
- Cleaning stations in each classroom are provided along with hand sanitiser, wipes, and spray disinfectant.
- Classrooms will be sanitized after each session.
- Classroom doors will be left open and all windows will be open to aid ventilation and to avoid students and staff touching doors.
- All classrooms in use will be cleaned every day.
- Hand sanitiser is available on every floor and in the reception area when you walk in.
- Break times will be staggered.
- The location of classes will be staged across different floors to ensure separation is maintained.
- We have a one-way system around the school which will be explained, this includes stairwells one for going up and another for coming down.
- We have toilet facilities on each floor with clear instructions for use which will be explained. The toilets will be cleaned 4 times a day.
- Online and digital resources will be used instead of hard copies.
- There will be no reception available, but you will be met at the front door by administration staff who will be in masks. For now, we shall set up a virtual reception and will ask copies of your passport to be sent digitally and any meetings you would require this can be done by WhatsApp, Facetime, Zoom.... when we feel we can lift the virtual reception we will be able to face to face which is preferable.
- As per Government instructions all students must bring with you face masks this is always now compulsory for any Public transport in England for Shops and now for wearing in the school. Under these new rules Police can fine up to £100 if you are not wearing a mask on Public transport and in the shops.
- Teachers will wear masks depending on Government guidance and will maintain social distancing.
- We have two conference rooms available for larger classes or specialist courses to accommodate up to 10 in one and 20 in another.
- Our canteen area and garden are also available and has now been set up to include social distancing.
- There is no kitchen access for students to heat up meals.

What we expect from you?

- You must not travel to the UK if you, or any of the people you have had contact with, are showing symptoms of Covid-19 (high temperature, new continuous cough or loss of taste or smell).
- So, we can take the necessary precautions, you must let us know if you have any pre-existing conditions which place you in a high-risk category for COVID-19.
- You must let us know if you or someone in your home has had a confirmed or suspected case of Covid-19 in the last 19 days.
- You are always expected to 'social distance'. In the UK that is 1 metre + which means a minimum of 1 metre, more if possible.
- Limits on the number of people you can see socially have changed. From Monday 14 September, when meeting friends and family you do not live with (or have formed a support bubble with) you must not meet in a group of more than 6, indoors or outdoors. This is against the law and the police will have the powers to enforce these legal limits, including to issue fines (fixed penalty notices) of £100, doubling for further breaches up to a maximum of £3,200.
- Our social programme activities will still run with social distancing measures in place.
- Before entering the building, please use the hand-sanitiser provided. Once inside, we ask you to wash your hands in hot water with soap.
- Please use a tissue if you sneeze or want to blow your nose and put the tissue in one of the small disposable bags which we have in every room. These bags should then be put in the red 'General Waste' bins
- You should bring a supply of masks with you (masks are optional in classes; you must wear them in shops and on public transport)
- We will use digital handouts and you can email us homework, so, if possible, please bring a laptop/i-pad with you on your first day at LanguageUK. Students should only use their own books and pens.
- We recommend you bring your own water flask.

What you can expect from us (in school)?

- LanguageUK classrooms are spacious and there will be at least 1 metre + between desks/students.
- All rooms will be ventilated as much as possible before, during and after classes.
- We will stagger lesson times to reduce the number of students in the common areas at the same time.
- Classrooms will be cleaned between classes and deep cleaned at the end of each day. Toilets will be disinfected during the lessons while students are in class.
- There are tissues and hand sanitisers in the hallways and in every room. Please sanitise your hands in the entrance before coming into the school.
- You can get lunch in one of the many cafes near the school.

What you can expect (in homestays)?

- We have provided guidance to our homestay hosts on how best to keep themselves and their students safe at home.
- We are only providing single room accommodation, except for family members travelling together.
- We have measures in place in case you need to self-isolate in line with current government guidance.
- We will ensure backup/emergency accommodation is available should it be needed.
- We will communicate regularly with our host families on the latest government guidance on social distancing regulations.
- We are only using existing host families that we know and trust.

- We will identify hosts in high risk groups and avoid placing students here.

What you can expect from us (in the school residences)?

Students staying in Ivy Lane self-catering accommodation will be provided with clear guidance to ensure their safety.

We have carried out measures to ensure the residences are COVID-19 safe.

Common areas in the self-catering residences will be sanitised daily and cleaned by professional cleaners weekly. Students will be expected to keep the houses clean and work surfaces clear and their own bedrooms.

We have measures in place in case you need to self-isolate in line with current government guidance, and a separate house to have students in isolation and quarantine.

We will ensure backup/emergency accommodation is available should it be needed.

What will happen if the Quarantine law is still in place in the UK?

Students from some countries might have to quarantine for 2 weeks. We have made sure you can safely quarantine with us in one of our residential houses. U18 will be in homestay only. Please be aware visitors arriving during the quarantine period will need to complete the Public Health Passenger Locator Form before you travel online. You will need to show your completed form at the UK border, either printed or on your phone. You must submit your form online up to 48 hours before travel. You will need to give border control the address of where you are staying and how you are travelling there, (we would suggest you book a private transfer with LanguageUK).

During self-isolation, you can join your normal class on-line, every day.

<https://www.gov.uk/provide-journey-contact-details-before-travel-uk>

Please see the latest information on how to quarantine using the link below. Please do not worry we will be here to support you every step of the way:

Please see <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>

Information on local COVID alert levels, including what they mean, why they are being introduced and what the different levels are.

Local COVID alert levels set out information for local authorities, residents and workers about what to do and how to manage the outbreak in their area. Local COVID alert levels are sometimes called 'tiers' or known as a 'local lockdown'.

Please see full guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-levels-what-you-need-to-know>

Do I need insurance?

YES, if you want cover for COVID-19, we recommend you take out your own insurance before leaving home.

How will I get to and from the airport safely?

For now, we suggest booking a transfer with us one student per taxi. The taxi will be cleaned and sanitised after every journey.

What is open in Canterbury? What is there to do in my free time?

<https://www.canterbury.co.uk/events>

<https://www.canterbury.co.uk/>

Any other questions please contact info@languageuk.co.uk

Updates can also be found on

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

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Review ongoing