



COVID Safe Charter

The University of Greenwich is a community founded on mutual tolerance and respect, and the obligations and responsibilities of its members towards each other. During the challenging circumstances of the Coronavirus pandemic, it is particularly important that we act in accordance with these shared values.



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COVID Safe Charter

The University of Greenwich is a community founded on mutual tolerance and respect, and the obligations and responsibilities of its members towards each other. As the government's COVID rules change and restrictions are eased, it is particularly important that we act in accordance with our shared values by taking responsibility for our own behaviour and acting to keep each other safe.

This COVID Safe Charter sits alongside our **Student Charter**. It sets out the expectations that apply to all students and staff during the pandemic and what you can expect from the University and Greenwich Students' Union (GSU). Ensuring the health and wellbeing of our staff and students and the communities around us is the top priority for all of us.

We all undertake to:

- **Behave responsibly, following the University's guidance and government guidance and observing the measures that are in place to ensure our campuses are COVID Safe.**
- Get vaccinated against COVID-19 unless you cannot get vaccinated for medical reasons.
- Get two lateral flow device (LFD) tests with 3-4 days between tests when you first return to campus or our halls; thereafter, get tested regularly twice a week with 3-4 days between LFD tests.
- **Wear a face covering where and when this is required by our guidance, unless you are exempt from doing so.**
- **Help us to understand that you are exempt from wearing a face covering by displaying an exemption badge or lanyard where relevant.**
- **Self-isolate and contact NHS Test and Trace if you develop any symptoms of COVID-19.**
- **Self-isolate if you are identified as a close contact unless you are exempt from self-isolation.**
- **Promptly inform the University if you develop any symptoms of COVID-19 or if you test positive, or if you are self-isolating for any reason. You should contact the Safety Unit (safetyunit@gre.ac.uk) if you receive details of an actual or potential case.**
- **Follow government and University guidance when travelling, including self-isolating (when required) on arrival in the UK from overseas.**
- Be respectful and sensitive towards others and the communities around us, remembering that some people have legitimate reasons for not wearing a face covering, and that some people will be more vulnerable than you, and some people may be concerned about those they live with or family members.
- **Promptly report any safety concerns, including concerns about the behaviour of others¹.**
- **Not spread false or speculative information about individuals related to COVID-19 or rumours or misinformation about COVID-19 or vaccination.**

In this section, **bold** indicates individual behaviours that we consider to be mandatory. Other behaviours are ones that we would ask you to follow as a responsible member of our community and society.

¹Concerns can be reported to your line manager/faculty, HR or the Safety Unit (safetyunit@gre.ac.uk).

The University undertakes to:

- Maintain COVID Safe campuses in line with government guidance, ensuring that our guidance is up to date and informing staff and students when it changes.
- Deliver as much face to face teaching on campus as we are able to within government guidance and safety requirements.
- Work in partnership with local authorities and other institutions and agencies to keep our campuses COVID Safe and protect the communities around us.
- Work collaboratively with Greenwich Students' Union and relevant partners so that we are aligned in our guidance and processes and can mitigate any risk.
- Ensure that our ventilation, cleaning and other COVID Safety measures comply with government guidance and sector standards.
- Be transparent about the risks to our community while also respecting individuals' privacy.
- Enable discussions about individuals' personal circumstances and reflect the personal vulnerability of students and staff in the measures that we put in place.
- Provide digital alternatives for students who are unable to come to campus, where possible.
- Enable staff who are working at home to work safely and with appropriate technology.
- Be flexible and adaptable in our response, planning for possible rapid changes that may affect us.
- Communicate openly and transparently with students and staff about changes that affect them, consulting in advance where possible. Our objective in all cases will be to minimise as far as possible any disruption to students' education.
- Provide support services to students through the Student Centre including online appointments and access to hardship funds.
- Support the wellbeing of staff through our Wellbeing Hub, Employee Assistance Programme and sensitivity to individual circumstances and concerns.

Greenwich Students' Union undertake to:

- Work collaboratively with the University of Greenwich and relevant partners so that we are aligned in our guidance and processes and can mitigate any risk.
- Provide COVID Safe GSU spaces so that students, societies and sports clubs can meet safely following government guidance for activities and venues.
- Provide digital platforms so that activities can be held online to allow students to engage with their Union in whichever way they are comfortable in doing so.
- Ensure guidance is clear and accessible so that everyone is aware of the role that they must play in ensuring activity is safe and considered in our community.
- Deliver relevant training, toolkits and practical guidance to societies, sports clubs and GSU representatives, ensuring there is regular communication with our student leaders and plenty of advice available to support them in engaging with their communities.
- Provide an impartial and free Advice Service to support students through their academic related issues, as well as signposting to support and wellbeing services where appropriate.



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