Households in Brasenose College

If you live in College accommodation that includes a shared bathroom/shower and/or toilet and/or kitchen area, then all the occupants that share these facilities constitute a ‘household’.

Please keep up to date with the evolving Government guidance on how to protect yourself and others from coronavirus and on what you can and can’t do in England as a result of the pandemic.

Take joint responsibility for keeping your room and shared facilities clean: By taking care of cleaning your own room and by cleaning shared facilities each time you use them you reduce the frequency of visits from housekeeping staff, keeping everyone safer.

Communal entrances to accommodation: Be aware of high-contact surfaces including door handles and stair bannisters in communal entrances. Wash your hands before leaving your household and immediately after returning.

Social distancing guidance in the College context

Please make every effort to minimise the likelihood of bringing infection back to your household by following these guidelines:

Stay alert to social distancing guidance when you are away from your household

Keep up to date with specific guidance for staying safe outside of your home. In general, follow all relevant signage in Colleges and maintain a two metre social distance from people outside of your household wherever possible. Note that you must wear a face covering on public transport and when attending medical facilities. Annex A provides advice on how to reduce risk where two metre distancing is not possible.

Practice frequent handwashing and good respiratory hygiene

Sneeze into a tissue and dispose of it hygienically, cover your mouth if coughing and wash your hands again. Use hand sanitizers where these are provided.

Exercise and recreation Outdoors

Spend time outside, as frequently as you wish, for exercise. This can be done alone or with members of your existing household. You may also meet outside one person at a time from a different household, but retaining two metre social distancing. Unfortunately, during the lockdown period, there is no organized sport taking place.
Indoors, public or communal venues

You are not permitted to meet socially with others from outside your household indoors.

Visitors to College

During the lockdown period there are to be no visitors to college premises.

Always check with your host on local rules before visiting another college.

Communicate with your household

There will be a variety of opinions and anxiety about the Covid-19 risk across and within households. Work as a household to minimise risk, and have discussions with each other about what activity you think is appropriate and in line with the guidance.

As part of a ‘social bubble’

Guidance on meeting people from outside your household allows, in theory, for a person living in a single person household to connect up with a second household (a ‘social bubble’) – enabling closer contact between individuals without social distancing. Get in touch with domestic.bursar@bnc.ox.ac.uk or covid@bnc.ox.ac.uk if you are in a single-person household and would like to inquire about doing this.

Staying with friends and relations away from Oxford

During the lockdown period, students are not to move between home and term-time addresses, or mix indoors with other households, so staying elsewhere is not permitted.
Annex A

**How COVID-19 is transmitted and how to reduce risks**

COVID-19 is transmitted in three ways:

1. **Direct person-to-person contact** - if an infectious person breathes droplets on you or you pick them up through physical contact with an infectious person.
2. **Contact with a contaminated surface** - if you touch a surface contaminated with the virus and then touch your nose, eyes or mouth, you may be infected.
3. **Aerosol transmission** - fine droplets of liquid containing virus are breathed out, form an aerosol and are carried through the air. You may become infected if you breathe these in.

If you are further away from someone there’s less risk of catching the virus from droplets or aerosol transmission. However, distance isn’t the only thing that matters.

- **Duration** - the longer you are close to an infectious person, the higher the risk.
- **Fresh air** - the risk is lower if you are outdoors, or in a well ventilated area,
- **Direction** - the risk is lower if you are not face-on with the infectious person

The risk of transmission is small at 2m and where possible, you should maintain 2m distance.

If it is not possible to keep 2m distance, reduce the risk to yourself and others at 1m by taking suitable precautions:

- Limit the number of people or households that you come into contact with
- Sit / stand side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them
- Meet people outdoors, rather than indoors
- Keep interactions brief
- Wear a face covering
- Increase ventilation
- Avoid loud talking or singing with others

To minimise the risk of transmission via surface contact, you should
- Regularly wash your hands using soap and water or hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching surfaces and do not touch your face
- Dispose of waste like gloves and paper face masks safely