

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance for staff and students

4 March 2020

This is an evolving situation and individuals should check www.gov.uk/coronavirus for the most up-to-date advice and guidance.

Novel coronavirus (Covid-19) is a new strain of coronavirus first identified in Wuhan City, China in December 2019. Cases have been confirmed worldwide, as well as a number in the United Kingdom. Understandably, staff, students and visitors will have on-going concerns around the virus.

We would like to reassure staff, students and visitors that Central Bedfordshire College is in regular contact with Public Health England (PHE) and it is our strategy on this matter to follow their advice, together with guidance from the Department of Education (DfE) and the NHS.

The welfare of our students and staff continues to be our highest priority and we will continue to monitor the situation, daily.

For staff or students returning from travel abroad, the message remains unchanged: follow the latest advice from PHE, which can be found below.

Current guidance for returning travellers

Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people immediately if you have travelled to the UK from:

- Hubei province in China in the last 14 days, even if you do not have symptoms
- Iran, [lockdown areas in northern Italy](#) or [special care zones in South Korea](#) since 19 February, even if you do not have symptoms
- other parts of mainland China or South Korea, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan or Thailand in the last 14 days and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath (even if your symptoms are mild)
- other parts of northern Italy (anywhere north of Pisa, Florence and Rimini), Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar or Vietnam since 19 February and have a cough, high temperature or shortness of breath (even if your symptoms are mild)

Use the [111 online coronavirus service](#) to find out what to do next. Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

On the advice of PHE, the College remains open and we recommend that students, staff and visitors attend their scheduled activities as normal.

We will continue to follow daily guidance from the DfE and PHE and promote [good hand hygiene](#) in line with the Department of Health and Social Care's public information campaign.