

FAQs for Students

Hello!

The last few months have been challenging for all, but it's been good to see how many of you have joined the online lessons, and great progress has been made – despite all having to adjust to a new way of communicating – by Zoom!

We are pleased to announce that classes in school are starting again, and we give all our students, both those new and those continuing studies, a warm *IH Newcastle* welcome!

Continued safety for all our students and staff is important to us, so we have listed a few things that you will need to know so that you can get the best from your time in school. We wish you a happy, productive and safe learning experience!

<p>Bubbles</p>	<p>Each class will form one social 'bubble' that will stay together, so that students and staff will not be exposed to more people than necessary.</p> <p>The fewer social bubbles you have, the easier it will be to act against the spread of any illness.</p> <p>If anyone (staff or students) tests positive for Covid-19 or has to self-isolate – all other people in all their bubbles will also need to self-isolate.</p> <p>Please check your IH Hub messages regularly for news.</p>
<p>Class size and social distancing</p>	<p>Your class bubble will be small – average class size will likely be 6 students or fewer. There are clear markings to show where you may sit in a classroom, in accordance with current social distancing rules. Class bubble size is determined in part by how big your classroom is.</p> <p>Students have their own face coverings, and teachers also have face visors. Each class bubble can decide together what will be best for their own class interactions. Please share your ideas with your class!</p> <p>Some tips: Try not to talk directly at anyone's face - sit at angle. Don't shout. Don't hug or shake hands. (We know this is difficult!)</p>
<p>Class times & Break times</p>	<p>Please try your best to stay only with people in your own class bubble. All classes at IH will be starting at different times, to allow students to arrive at school only with others from their own bubble.</p> <p>You will receive a notification from the IH Hub about your class times. Please arrive 10 minutes before your class start time, and not earlier or later.</p> <p>Break times will also be scheduled so that you can avoid contact with those outside your own bubble. If you do find that there are students from other bubbles close by, do be sensible and use your face-covering.</p>



FAQs for Students

<p>Classrooms and ventilation</p>	<p>Each class bubble will also have its own classroom, wherever possible. Teachers will monitor conditions to ensure that the classroom is well-ventilated, with fresh air circulating.</p> <p>Students will be reminded to use the hand sanitiser when arriving for each class.</p> <p>Each classroom has its own supply of cleaning & sanitising materials for the use of all in the classroom bubble. (Students may also use their own hand sanitiser, and use their own supply of anti-bacterial wipes at their own desk spaces, as an extra precaution.)</p> <p>Please ensure that any rubbish is put straight into the bin, and not left on or around the desk.</p> <p>Classrooms are cleaned and sanitised by the school's cleaning team after every class, so please keep the desk spaces clear, taking all personal items with you, each time you leave the classroom.</p>
<p>Cleaning regime</p>	<p>Classrooms, equipment and surfaces are cleaned and sanitised by the cleaning team after every class. Sanitisers/sanitising stations have been set up around the school.</p> <p>Toilets, door handles, bannisters, computer keyboards and other school areas/surfaces are cleaned and sanitised regularly throughout the day.</p>
<p>Closed wings or classrooms</p>	<p>To minimise areas to be cleaned by our team, certain areas may be closed off temporarily to students. Please don't enter these areas.</p>
<p>Students' room and Kitchen areas</p>	<p>There is a coffee machine for students and staff to use, which is maintained by school staff, taking all necessary hygiene precautions. Payment is made by contactless debit or credit card.</p> <p>You will need to bring your own cup and keep this with you after you finish your break. (Re-usable IH cups with lids may also be purchased from Reception.)</p> <p>Sugar is available in individual sachets. There will be no teaspoons or other shared eating utensils or plates etc. Please plan ahead and bring your own, if needed.</p> <p>Although there is a sink, this is for the use of the cleaning team, and we will not provide washing-up implements for students or staff to use, as it will be safer for all to do their own washing up at home.</p>



FAQs for Students

<p>Doors and door handles</p>	<p>It is important that classrooms are well-ventilated, and each class teacher will ensure that this is done without breaking the rules regarding fire safety.</p> <p>Door handles are one place where viruses may be transferred, so all are advised to be aware, and to minimise any risk by washing and sanitising hands frequently.</p>
<p>Face coverings</p>	<p>In line with UK government advice, students and staff will be carrying their own face coverings (e.g. to wear in shops or on public transport), and many will want to wear these in class.</p> <p>IH teaching staff are also provided with face visors. Each class bubble can decide together what will be best for their own class interactions. Please share your ideas/concerns with your class bubble so that you can find what works best for you.</p> <p>If there is any doubt about whether you feel protected enough, please put on your face covering.</p> <p>Do remember that your face covering needs to be cleaned and sanitised regularly.</p>
<p>Hand Sanitiser rules</p>	<p>Make it a habit to use hand sanitiser – the school’s or your own – every time you enter a new room.</p> <p>The school’s hand sanitiser is alcohol-based, and more information on it can be requested from Reception.</p>
<p>Homestay</p>	<p>School will arrange homestay for students who request this, with hosts who live in spacious homes either within walking distance of the school, or that can be reached by taking a short journey by public transport. (Please note that you will need to wear your face covering when using public transport.)</p> <p>A student’s homestay family is also a ‘bubble’. If a student has to self-isolate, the homestay family will need to as well.</p>
<p>Materials</p>	<p>Whenever possible, the school will provide digital materials rather than give out paper copies.</p> <p>The Day one folders for our new students are prepared by staff taking all necessary precautions and wearing suitable PPE – disposable gloves.</p>



FAQs for Students

<p>PPE Personal Protective Equipment</p>	<p>School provides this at no cost to staff. Visors and other items of PPE (e.g. aprons, waterproof masks and disposable gloves) are available for teachers and other staff.</p> <p>Students will need to bring their own face-coverings or any other additional PPE they wish to use. Please enquire using our Online Reception if you have any questions.</p>
<p>Principles for Safety</p>	<p>The school will monitor published guidance from all reputable sources, and will use the appropriate measures to make the study environment both safe and comfortable for all. We encourage all staff and students to share their safety concerns/ideas with us.</p> <p>Some principles that influence the rules include: awareness of the social bubbles concept, organised class start times and break times to avoid unnecessary crowding, social distancing, regular cleaning & sanitation, handwashing & hygiene, appropriate use of PPE, timely communication.</p>
<p>Quarantining & self-isolating</p>	<p>While the Covid-19 situation continues, there will be changing UK government guidelines on quarantining and self-isolating.</p> <p>The school will always work in line with the published advice, and clear guidance will be passed on to new students arriving into the country.</p> <p>For those quarantining or those required to self-isolate for whatever reason, there will be provision for joining online classes until the student can join us in person. The IH Hub will be used to send notifications.</p>
<p>Reception</p>	<p>For the safety of all, most of our Reception services will be accessed either online, by phone or by video-call. Students should only visit Reception in person if it is absolutely necessary.</p> <p>For those who need to speak to Reception staff face to face, appointments must be made in advance for them to come when it is safe. Our rule is that there can be no more than 2 clients/students in Reception at any one time, and that the area will be cleaned after every visitor leaves.</p>
<p>Residence accommodation</p>	<p>If you are staying in student residences, your 'accommodation bubble' will be all people in your cluster flat, or just yourself, if you're in a private studio.</p> <p>However, if you interact frequently (without social distancing) with other students from other rooms, then your accommodation bubble will be bigger – please be aware of this and the safety implications for all, in each one of your social bubbles if anyone has to self-isolate. Please act responsibly.</p>
<p>Self-isolation</p>	<p>If you need to self-isolate, please let the school know either by phone or email.</p> <p>You will be sent a message with a link to guidance and the arrangements for your online classes, if you are feeling well enough to attend these. Please act responsibly.</p>

FAQs for Students

<p>Signs & Reminders</p>	<p>Throughout the school there will be markers for 1m distancing – on floors in Classes, Reception, Stairs, classrooms, PSP, Staffroom.</p> <p>There will be reminders to use stairs rather than the lift (maximum 2 persons at one time and wear face covering), keep to the left-hand side when walking, wash hands frequently/thoroughly, general COVID-19 stay safe information.</p>
<p>Social distancing</p>	<p>At least 1 metre’s distance must be maintained between people.</p>
<p>Social Programme</p>	<p>The UK government guidance states clearly its views regarding how many from separate households are allowed to gather together. The social programme organiser will take this into consideration and will arrange activities, trips and excursions accordingly.</p>
<p>Stairs and Lift</p>	<p>Please use the stairs rather than the lift, if possible. Walk only on the left-hand side, keeping at least a metre from person in front. Try to avoid passing someone on the stairs, wait for the other person to go first.</p> <p>No more than 2 persons to use the lift at one time. It’s best to wear a face covering when using the lift.</p>
<p>Stationery</p>	<p>In order to minimise risk of virus transfer, school will discourage the use of shared stationery items, such as paper and pens etc.</p> <p>Please bring your own stationery supplies with you to school.</p>
<p>Temperature (fever)</p>	<p>Covid-19 is characterised in part by patients having a high temperature/fever. We recommend that our students monitor their own health in this regard, and to stay home if there is any doubt.</p> <p>We have thermometers with our First Aid kits so that a check can be done at school if needed.</p>
<p>Toilets & Handwashing</p>	<p>Frequent hand-washing with soap is strongly advised.</p> <p>Our toilets are cleaned and sanitised often throughout the day, but we would recommend that, if possible, students and staff should avoid using shared toilets while the Covid-19 situation is still ongoing.</p>
<p>Visitors to school</p>	<p>All visitors to school should have a prior appointment booked. If not, our staff will need to assess whether it is safe enough for them to come into the school before allowing them access.</p>

