


From: [MASSON, MARGARET](#)
To: [MASSON, MARGARET](#); [CHADS-BURSAR C.D.](#); [WILSON, ASHLEY P.](#); [CHADS-SUPPORT C.D.](#)
Subject: Covid-19 Update for Residents of Chad's Bailey, Trinity and Hallgarth Accommodation
Date: 24 March 2020 13:18:14
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

For all Chad's students who are staying in College accommodation - whether Bailey Buildings, Trinity Hall or Hallgarth Street, with some extra information which I have highlighted so you can easily see what is new.

As I hope you all know, the UK government issued new guidelines last night which involve a much stricter degree of social distancing to help protect ourselves and each other from the virus. Please make sure you have read this guidance here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



Coronavirus (COVID-19): what you need to do - GOV.UK

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The headline message from Durham University is to strongly recommend that any students who have the option to should move back home if possible. Please do take this advice if you are in a position to do so in advance of any further government restrictions on travel or movement.

We do understand that this is not an option for many of you and will of course do our best to support you in College accommodation, but, as I'm sure you realise, the aspects of this that require physical staff presence will be minimal.

Staff presence

- College is now operating with a much smaller staff team present. Most staff have now been advised to work from home. For the coming week, we still hope to be able to operate a [24/7](#) reception cover (although that does not mean the porter will always be present in reception, but they will be around College). We will review this after the first week and will likely need to scale back somewhat. We will let you know.
- Some of our cleaners are in on Monday and Tuesday to finish cleaning public areas of college. After that, we will not ask them to come in but will make sure there are cleaning materials available for you to clean your rooms. **Please do all you can to keep your area of college clean and tidy.**
- Please keep visits to reception to a minimum and although our staff are incurably friendly, please keep your distance - for their sake even more than yours. They are at higher risk and we are grateful that they are willing to continue to be present.
- **Please do not make any unnecessary online orders for delivery to College.** Reception coverage will be increasingly scaled back and it is increasingly unlikely that someone will be

available to accept delivery.

Buildings

- For the time being, as the government is encouraging us to do all we can to avoid the spread of this virus, we will continue to keep communal areas of the College locked - dining room, libraries, common rooms. We will keep this under review.
- Although we are encouraged to **practice social distancing**, there are spaces in college - the Quad, the gardens - where we can still be with others but at a distance and amidst lots of fresh air.
- Take extra precautions to **prevent fire**: no unattended cooking, electrical equipment etc
- Take extra precautions to **keep our buildings secure**. Ensure that doors are shut behind you; do not share codes with anyone else. If you see anything concerning, please report it at once to reception.
- There may be contractors in some buildings over the next few weeks - we will try to give you more information about this ahead of time.
- Please be responsible about **waste disposal**. Government guidelines suggest: *When cleaning you should use your usual household products, like detergents and bleach, as these will be very effective at getting rid of the virus on surfaces. Clean frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, handrails, remote controls and table tops. This is particularly important if you have an older or vulnerable person in the house. Personal waste (such as used tissues) and disposable cleaning cloths can be stored securely within disposable rubbish bags. These bags should be placed into another bag, tied securely and kept separate from other waste. This should be put aside for at least 72 hours before being put in your usual external household waste bin. Other household waste can be disposed of as normal.*
- In your Chad's building, please ensure waste is bagged and put into the bins in each house or taken daily to the main bins at Trinity or within the garage at Main College.

Sharing Space and Resources

- **We are living in challenging times when cooperation has never been more important. If you are sharing fridges and freezers, especially at Trinity Hall, please ensure that everyone has a fair proportion of the space.**

Your health and safety

- Continue to follow health advice from the Government, the NHS and Public Health England's Latest health advice and information and guidance <http://www.durham.ac.uk/coronavirus>.
- Please avoid contact with others; to avoid risk to yourselves and to others, please practice social distancing - even although this goes against all our instincts to be sociable and friendly.
- If you do feel unwell with a new continuous cough or a fever, you should stay at home for seven days and visit 111.nhs.uk. Do not go to your GP or pharmacist.
- Do look after your mental health - although you should keep your distance, do keep in touch with others virtually. We hope that the **chad's-john's still here and back early facebook page** **here:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/269255520311999/?ref=share> will be an effective way of staying in touch for you especially - a kind of virtual community to

offer mutual support and to reach out for help from fellow Chadsians.

- If you do feel unwell with a new continuous cough or a fever, you should self-isolate for seven days and visit 111.nhs.uk. Do not go to your GP or pharmacist.
- Practice self-care - sleep, food, exercise.
- Please find attached a document with advice about what to do if you need to self-isolate. **In advance of any such necessity, please make sure you have enough supplies to last for 7 - 14 days in case you are not able to go shopping.** Remember, on-line ordering services will be stretched beyond capacity, so you should not depend on them.
- **The Government has today issued specific guidance on isolation for residential educational settings.**

Important guidance includes:

- **Residential children's homes, special schools and colleges, other residential FE provision, University Halls of Residence, and mainstream boarding schools,** are usually considered households for the purposes of the household self-isolation policy. Meaning, the setting should self-isolate for 14 days if any resident shows symptoms. See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- **It is important to decide whether the whole setting should be treated as a single household or as multiple households. For example, where residential provision is spread across several, separate buildings, you may wish to treat these as different household.**

We have concluded that undergraduate residences along the Bailey (Queens, Epiphany, MC, Lightfoot, Langford, Grads, & Ramsey) together with Hallgarth Street and Trinity Hall should be treated as separate households.

Trinity Hall: please note that this means ALL residents will need to self-isolate for 14 days if anybody shows symptoms. Please report these to chads.support@durham.ac.uk immediately.

Hygiene

- Please make every effort to clean up after yourselves. This is especially important when using communal kitchens and bathrooms. Please disinfect each surface you have touched and please wash up any crockery and cutlery right after use.
- wash your hands often (and probably use handcream!)

Student Support

- Staff are mostly working from home now so please continue to access Chad's student support on-line: chads.support@durham.ac.uk. Our chaplain, David Rushton chads.chaplain@durham.ac.uk and your college tutor will also be happy to offer on-line/distance support. Support from the University Counselling Service is still available on-line. Please check here: <https://www.dur.ac.uk/counselling.service/>

Student Minds has a very good website that may be of help: <https://www.studentminds.org.uk/coronavirus.html>

Please let chads.support@durham.ac.uk know immediately if you are doing the following:

- self-isolating (not tested);
- self-isolating (tested awaiting results);
- Confirmed case of Covid-19.

Information

- Please ensure that St Chad's has your current mobile phone number by e-mailing chads.support@durham.ac.uk
- We will send you e-mails when there is new information to share
- Please let us know if you decide to move out/leave Durham.
- Please check the University Covid10 webpage and if you have a question or comment that is not addressed within the FAQs, please email coronavirus.information@durham.ac.uk

Contact details

- Chad's reception: [0191 334 3358](tel:01913343358)
- College Officer on Duty: [07930 623050](tel:07930623050)

Stay safe and stay in touch!

All good wishes,

Dr Masson

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