

COVID-19 Guidance for Student Groups

Introduction

This guidance for GKSU student groups covers all activity delivered by sports clubs, societies, community action groups, RaG and student media. Information has been interpreted from the UK's government website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

Information was correct at the time of issue (January 2020) and if there are changes/further updates this will be communicated to student groups.

In Person Activity

Following the government announcement that we are in a third national lockdown, please do not come onto campus until you hear from the University that it is possible to do so or unless you are already living on campus. Only essential campus facilities are open.

Student Group activity is only permitted virtually. We are not accepting room bookings at this time.

The below information was correct while Medway was a Tier 2 area and will be updated shortly after the end of the lockdown with new guidance.

Before any student group activity is permitted to take place, GKSU must have received a risk assessment from the committee. In addition, all committee members must have completed GKSU's online Risk Assessment Training module. Failure to adhere to the below guidelines may result in disciplinary action.

Student groups are encouraged to conduct their activities online or outdoors, reduced indoor activity is permitted as detailed below:

- Student group activity is limited to 30 people.
- Student groups will be permitted to book rooms on campus, however due to social distancing room capacity will be significantly affected. You may wish to re-think your activities (i.e could they be delivered in two adjacent rooms?).
- The revised room capacity will be clearly communicated in each room and for the safety of members must be adhered to. This will override the 30-person limit guidance. The mezzanine in The Student Hub has a maximum capacity of 18.
- Where possible doors and windows should be opened to encourage good ventilation.
- Committees must keep a record (name, contact number) of all attendees and store the data in line with GDPR (further guidance will be released by GKSU).
- Key government public health messages must be adhered to by all members including:
 - Members should be told not to attend any activity if they are feeling unwell
 - Cover the mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve (not hands) when coughing or sneezing
 - Put used tissues straight in the bin
 - Wash hand regularly with soap and water for at least 30 seconds or use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
 - Avoid close contact with people who are unwell
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
 - Do not touch face, eyes, nose or mouth if hands are not clean
- Sports are permitted, however activity must be in line with National Governing Body (NGB) advice; Details can be found [here](#). Where NGB advice isn't available GKSU will determine what mitigating actions are required.

Social Distancing

- Students must remain a distance of 2m (1m if this is not possible) apart from each other when undertaking activities.
- Physical contact must be avoided (hugs, handshakes etc).

Face Coverings

- All members should wear face coverings when moving around campus buildings or in enclosed spaces (e.g seminar rooms). It is recognised that there are circumstances where face coverings are not possible for some individuals so please be respectful.

Equipment

- Where possible equipment should not be shared; if essential then strong hygiene practices should be in place before and after use (e.g hand washing/hand sanitizer, wipes etc).

Socials

- In line with government advice student groups will only be permitted to socialise as follows:
 - Only socialise indoors with members of up to 2 households – this includes when dining out or going to the pub.
 - Socialise outdoors in a group of up to 6 people from different households or up to 2 households (anyone in your support bubble counts as one household)
- A social is any social activity/meet up that falls outside of the aims and objectives of your group (i.e is not core activity).
- Celebratory meals, fundraising events, balls etc. will therefore not be permitted at this time.

Travel

- Student groups will be encouraged to not share a vehicle with those outside of their household or support bubble; if absolutely essential then students will need to:
 - Share transport with the same people each time
 - Keep to small groups of people at any one time
 - Open windows for ventilation
 - Travel side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them
 - Face away from each other
 - Consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle
 - Clean vehicles in between journeys
 - All passengers (including the driver) should wear a face covering.

Trips

- Trips will be permitted but must take into account all the above mitigations.
- Overnight stays are only permitted in groups of up to two households, whilst maintaining social distancing with anyone that students don't live with or are not in the same support bubble.

What to do if someone has COVID-19 symptoms?

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal
- Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

If these symptoms are displayed, then you should:

- Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
- Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

- Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.
- Contact Campus Security:
 - Kent Students <https://www.kent.ac.uk/estates/services/security/contact.html>
 - Greenwich Students <https://www.gre.ac.uk/articles/archive/public-relations/campus-security>
- Further information can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>
- University of Kent updates can be found here: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/student/coronavirus>
- University of Greenwich updates can be found here: <https://www.gre.ac.uk/articles/public-relations/coronavirus-faqs>

If you have ANY questions about the activities you plan to deliver please e-mail activities@gksu.co.uk