Effective 26 December 2020

At 00:01 on 26 December 2020, Oxfordshire will become a Tier 4 Covid-19 area. People will therefore be unable to leave or be outside the place they are living unless they have a reasonable excuse (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-4-stay-at-home). This document describes the wider impact of the Tier 4 rules on students living in College.

Your household is the group of people living on your floor within a staircase, and this space is your household space. The other floors in your staircase are different household spaces, and the people living on them are different households. You must NOT access other floors in your staircase, and remember that the rules for mixing within a household apply only to your floor.

Within your household space:
- You do not have to maintain social distancing;
- You do not have to wear a face covering;
- You must NOT mix with any self-isolating students, even if your entire household is self-isolating.

Under Tier 4 restrictions, you are advised not to meet socially or carry out any activities with other persons, and to minimise time spent outside your homes. Members of a single household must not socialise with any persons from another household in any indoor setting, whether in or outside College, or in any private garden. You may exercise or visit a public outdoor place, including an outdoor communal area in College, with other members of your household or – if you are on your own – with one person from another household. If meeting with someone from another household, social distancing should be maintained.

Anyone staying in College over the vacation period who is the only person resident in their household may form a support bubble with another household until other members of their household return. For Covid-19 purposes, you will then be treated as a member of the household you have formed a support bubble with. If you are in this position, please contact the Porters’ Lodge (lodge@stcatz.ox.ac.uk).

If you experience any of the primary symptoms of Covid-19 – a high temperature; a new, continuous cough; a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste – please contact the Porters’ Lodge immediately, by phone (01865 271700) or email (lodge@stcatz.ox.ac.uk).

Please help us keep everyone safe and free from self-isolation restrictions by adhering to these rules. Doing so will mean that you are less likely to have to self-isolate because someone else has tested positive. Please remember that no one is safe, unless everyone is safe. For this reason, any students found to be in breach of these or other College or Covid-19 rules can expect to face consequences, from formal warnings for relatively inconsequential transgressions to more serious consequences for repeat or serious transgressions. These may include the restriction or revocation of rights to access College or University premises, facilities or activities, including through: exclusion from face to face teaching; the removal of scholarships or other College privileges; formal censure; suspension; and in the most serious of cases, termination of College membership.

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For further information, support and advice:

- See the College’s Covid-19 Protocol for Students: What to do if you experience symptoms, and the University’s Guidance on Self-Isolation and Testing and What Do We Mean by a ‘Recent Close Contact’? (if you would like a hard copy, please request one from the Porters’ Lodge);
- Consult the University’s online Covid-19 information and resources for students;
- Contact the Porters’ Lodge or the Junior Deans (juniordean@stcatz.ox.ac.uk).

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