

10/03/2020

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) – update for Students and Learners in the United Kingdom

BPP recognises that our students and learners may have concerns about the ongoing coronavirus outbreak. Your safety and wellbeing is, and always will be, our highest priority and we are closely monitoring this evolving situation and considering the official advice and updates available to us.

Our response to coronavirus is constantly evolving, informed by governmental advice, departmental Business Continuity Plans, and regular Leadership Team meetings. Our main priority is to ensure that we keep our community safe.

If you have any concerns about self-isolation, or how the coronavirus may impact your studies, visa status or student record, please contact your tutor, Programme Support Officer or Programme Leader.

Currently, the risk to the public in the UK has been assessed as moderate, and the latest advice from [Public Health England](#) (PHE) should be regularly consulted and followed. Anyone who has entered the UK in the last 14 days – regardless of their journey origin – must follow the below instructions carefully.

The following guide provides guidance to students/learners who:

- have recently travelled to the UK from Category 1* areas
- have recently travelled to the UK from Category 2** areas
- have travelled to the UK from any other location in the last 14 days
- have been in close proximity to someone who has travelled from Category 1 or 2 areas
- are located in an area outside of the UK or Channel Islands that is impacted by the outbreak
- are concerned about the symptoms of COVID-19

We have published a separate guide for our learners in the Channel Islands. Please contact healthandsafety@bpp.com to request a copy.

* Category 1 areas: Wuhan city and Hubei Province (China); Iran; Daegu or Cheongdo (Republic of Korea); Italy.

** Category 2 areas: Cambodia; areas of China not covered in Category 1; Hong Kong; Japan; Laos; Macau; Malaysia; Myanmar; areas of the Republic of Korea not covered in Category 1; Singapore; Taiwan; Thailand; Vietnam.

More information on Categories 1 & 2 can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>
(last updated: 10/03/2020)

While the overall risk level of the coronavirus to the UK remains “moderate” (source:gov.uk), the Department of Health has described the virus as a "serious and imminent threat" to public health.

This permits the government to plan for all eventualities, and to take extra measures to ensure that the virus is contained.

- Any student or learner who **has travelled to the UK from Category 1* areas** (including airport stop overs) in the last 14 days must self-isolate for 14 days. They must do this regardless of their symptoms, and contact healthandsafety@bpp.com with their recent travel history (evidence of travelling and countries visited will be required). The relevant tutor(s), Programme Support Officer, Programme Leader and Sponsor must also be contacted.
- Any student or learner who has **travelled to the UK from Category 2** areas** (including airport stop overs) in the last 14 days and has symptoms associated with coronavirus (however minor) must self-isolate for 14 days and contact healthandsafety@bpp.com with their recent travel history (evidence of travelling and countries visited will be required). The relevant tutor(s), Programme Support Officer, Programme Leader and Sponsor must also be contacted.
- Any student or learner who has **travelled to the UK from Category 2** areas** (including airport stop overs) in the last 14 days and has knowingly been in close proximity with someone else who is exhibiting the symptoms associated with coronavirus (however minor) must self-isolate for 14 days and contact healthandsafety@bpp.com with their recent travel history (evidence of travelling and countries visited will be required). They must do this regardless of their own symptoms. The relevant tutor(s), Programme Support Officer, Programme Leader and Sponsor must also be contacted.
- Any student or learner who has **travelled to the UK from abroad** in the last 14 days must consult Public Health England and the advice available on the VLE homepage before returning to a BPP centre.
- Any student or learner who has **knowingly been in close proximity** with someone else who has recently travelled from an at-risk area and is exhibiting the symptoms associated with coronavirus (however minor) must self-isolate for 14 days and contact healthandsafety@bpp.com. They must do this regardless of their own symptoms. The relevant tutor(s), Programme Support Officer, Programme Leader and Sponsor must also be contacted.
- Any student or learner who has **knowingly been in close proximity** with someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 must self-isolate for 14 days and contact healthandsafety@bpp.com. They must do this regardless of their own symptoms. The relevant tutor(s), Programme Support Officer, Programme Leader and Sponsor must also be contacted.
- If you wish to travel outside the UK during your programme of study, you may be subject to a period of self-isolation (quarantine) upon re-entry, in accordance with live Government advice. Regions classified as 'at risk' may change in the coming days and weeks. For your own wellbeing, and the safety of fellow students and learners, it is essential that you check live advice as you return to the UK and before you return to classes.

Please consult Public Health England for more general information. Specific arrangements relating to study at BPP can be found on the VLE homepage. These arrangements must be consulted and followed upon re-entry to the UK and before returning to a BPP centre.

Please take a moment to consider your perceptions during this time. Disease does not discriminate, people do. Remember that discrimination and stigma have no place at BPP or in the professions. If

you believe that you have been a victim of racism or prejudice during this outbreak please contact the Inclusion Team at BPP for support and guidance at: Inclusion@bpp.com

Our thoughts go out to anyone impacted by the recent outbreak. If you require any (non-medical) support or advice, please contact your tutor. University attendees can contact their Programme Support Officer, Personal Tutor, Safeguarding@bpp.com or LearningSupport@bpp.com. Our counselling service is available at: www.totalwellness.info. You can also access wellbeing and support information which is available on the BPP VLE/Learning Support/Wellbeing & Mental Health.

All students / learners

Call 111 immediately if you have a fever with a cough, sore throat or shortness of breath

NHS 111 can help if you have an urgent medical problem and you're not sure what to do.

Get free help online or on the phone

To get help from NHS 111, go to 111.nhs.uk or call 111.

NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours. To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue and, to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

I am currently abroad, and I'm worried that I'll not be able to attend my timetabled classes. What should I do?

Please notify your Tutor or Programme Support Officer **and** healthandsafety@bpp.com of the reasons for your absence and your anticipated return date. We will offer support and guidance accordingly.

I have a Tier 4 visa. How will COVID-19 impact me?

If you have not travelled to an at-risk area, have not been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and have no symptoms associated with the virus, you should attend classes as planned.

If you have been put into quarantine or asked to self-isolate, you must stay away from BPP. Please notify your Tutor, Programme Support Officer and healthandsafety@bpp.com of the reasons for your absence and your anticipated return date. We will offer support and guidance accordingly.

External resources:

The UKCISA (UK council for International Student Affairs) will provide guidance. Please visit <https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/studentnews/1457/Self-isolation-and-Covid-19-virus>.

BPP is closely following the governmental advice available here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-immigration-guidance-if-youre-unable-to-return-to-china-from-the-uk>

The Coronavirus Immigration Helpline is available on 0800 678 1767 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm). Calls are free of charge. Alternatively, you can email CIH@homeoffice.gov.uk.

More information on Categories 1* & 2** can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>
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