

Boarder return to school protocol from March 8th

Buckwood will accept boarders currently not at school already from Monday March 8th for the remainder of the Easter term (ending on Friday March 26th).

In order to minimise the potential for Covid-19 transmission to our boarding community and to minimise further disruption to boarders already at school, this protocol has been put in place.

There are 2 different types of student arriving – those coming from countries on the UK ‘red list’ of countries requiring quarantine in Government approved hotels and those coming from countries not on this list who can quarantine at school or with their UK guardian.

All boarders upon return to school from overseas are required to isolate for 10 days in line with UK government rules. The rules around isolation and travel can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/how-to-quarantine-when-you-arrive-in-england>.

Prior to travelling to the UK everyone must:

- take a coronavirus (COVID-19) test and get a negative result during the 3 days before you travel
- book and pay for a travel test package, which will include COVID-19 tests to be taken on or before day 2 and on or after day 8 of your quarantine. **These packages cost £210 and must be booked through the website link above.** (If you are booking a test to release Covid-19 test then information about this is below but it must be booked prior to travel.)
- complete a passenger locator form with details of where you will home quarantine when you arrive and the travel test package booking reference number

Please note that providing false or deliberately misleading information when filling out your passenger locator form is an offence punishable by imprisonment. You could be fined up to £10,000, imprisoned for up to 10 years or both if you do not provide accurate details about the countries you have visited in the 10 days before you arrived in the UK. Isolation can take place at school provided there are available rooms for this, but isolation can also take place with UK guardians if that is preferable. During isolation, learning can be accessed online via Microsoft Teams.

Boarders isolating due to international travel quarantine rules can also opt into the test-to-release scheme which means that on the 5th full day of isolation they can complete an additional PCR test. Should this return with a negative result you are then released from your 10-day isolation however, it is important to note you will still be required to complete a day eight PCR test. A test to release test can be ordered at <https://covid19.oncologica.com/> **Students coming from a country on the UK red list (list can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/transport-measures-to-protect-the-uk-from-variant-strains-of-covid-19#travel-bans-to-the-uk---banned-countries>) are not eligible for the test-to-release scheme and are required to isolate at a government approved hotel – we cannot host them at school under current rules.**

Boarders arriving to school having spent the period of school closure within the UK must take two lateral flow tests (LFT) on day 1 of arrival and day 4 after arrival at school. If negative, they can board as normal. If positive, they must take a PCR test and isolate until the result is returned. If the PCR test confirms the result, they must isolate for 10 full days along with any identified close contacts and their household with whom they spent the period of closure. Any boarders isolating at school due to travel quarantine must remain in their rooms during this period of time. Meals will be brought to them during this waiting period and lessons can be accessed online.