

Liverpool John Moores University
Response to Department for Education on COVID-19 Outbreak Plan

Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) have been working since the beginning of the calendar year on its COVID-19 Recovery Planning. An Incident Management Team (IMT), chaired by the Chief Operating Officer and Registrar meet regularly to determine the University's institutional strategy, and how this will be operationalised. IMT report directly to the Vice Chancellor, and Executive Leadership Team to ensure senior level sign off of plans.

A dedicated LJMU microsite with extensive communications, and documentation for students and staff is operational. IMT have audited relevant guidance documentation (i.e. Dfe and SAGE), to ensure the University is complying with expectations. We are satisfied this is the case, and can make the audits available if required.

<https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/microsites/moving-forward>

Specifically with reference to LJMU's COVID-19 Outbreak Plan, the following points are made:

1. We are working in partnership with the Liverpool City Council COVID-19 Community Outbreak Control Plan. This aims to prevent clusters, outbreaks and onward transmission by rapid identification, local testing and isolation of cases. Liverpool City Council's Director of Public Health is part of this group, and has approved LJMU plans.
2. We have partnered with Liverpool Health Partners to co-ordinate testing regimes. A COVID procedure has been published on the microsite detailing how the University will respond to outbreaks, namely the 'Procedure for the management of suspected and confirmed cases of Covid-19'. This is accessible at the LJMU microsite:

<https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/~media/files/ljmu/microsites/moving-forward/guidance-and-principles-for-covid-risk-assessment.pdf>

3. The Director of Student Advice and Wellbeing is a member of the CAMPUS Shield working group alongside other institutions in the City, Public Health Liverpool, and local GPs. The group's Terms of Reference detail communication and information to all partners around outbreaks within the student population as a key function of the group.
4. The University of Liverpool have developed a partnership with Liverpool Clinical Labs to deliver tests on campus. LJMU have invested in this initiative, and details are published on the LJMU microsite. This facility will be available to individuals display symptoms and wish to take a test. This arrangement is in addition to existing NHS and public health facilities.

<https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/microsites/moving-forward/information-for-students/testing>

5. Accommodation providers have developed COVID19 safe rules for their particular facilities. This includes safe move in procedures, and safety measures within accommodation such as communal areas being closed. Guidance has also been developed regarding what we expect of students and links with the behavioural code. Students are being advised not to arrive at university if they have experienced any symptoms in the past 14 days, and are also advised not to travel if they develop symptoms once in Liverpool. Registering with a local GP is also critical and referenced with the guidance.
6. A Student and Staff Code of Conduct has been established with respect to social distancing, and following all University, and Government guidance.

<https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/~media/files/ljmu/microsites/moving-forward/code-of-conduct-poster.pdf>

7. LJMU have reserved additional student accommodation in the event of the need to isolate individuals or groups of students, and in the event of an outbreak will take steps to encourage students not to return home.

8. We are aware of the announcement by the Health Secretary regarding the NHS Test and Trace app that launches on Thursday 24 September. LJMU are working as part of Liverpool City Council COVID-19 Community Outbreak Control Plan to ensure we have NHS QR code posters visible on entry to the campus. As part of this work, LJMU are also determining how our own testing will link to national test and trace.