



COVID Safe Charter

The University of Greenwich is a community founded on mutual tolerance and respect, and the obligations and responsibilities of its members towards each other. During the challenging circumstances of the Coronavirus pandemic, it is particularly important that we act in accordance with these shared values.



UNIVERSITY of
GREENWICH

greenwich
students'
union



COVID Safe Charter

This COVID Safe Charter sits alongside our **Student Charter**. It sets out the expectations that apply to all students and staff during the pandemic and what you can expect from the University and Greenwich Students' Union (GSU) and Greenwich and Kent Students' Unions (GKSU). Ensuring the health and wellbeing of our staff and students and the communities around us is the top priority for all of us.

We all undertake to:

- Behave responsibly, following the **University's guidance** and government guidance and observing the measures that are in place to ensure our campuses are COVID Safe.
- Maintain social distancing in accordance with the University's guidance.
- Wear a face covering where and when required by the University's guidance unless you are exempt from doing so.
- Self-isolate and contact NHS Test and Trace if you develop any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Promptly inform the University if you develop any symptoms of COVID-19 or if you test positive. You should contact the Safety Unit (safetyunit@gre.ac.uk) if you receive details of an actual or potential case.
- Follow government and University guidance when travelling, including self-isolating (when required) on arrival in the UK from overseas.
- Be respectful and sensitive towards others and the communities around us, remembering that some people have legitimate reasons for not wearing a face covering, and that some people will be more vulnerable than you, and some people may be concerned about those they live with or family members.
- Promptly report any safety concerns, including concerns about the behaviour of others.¹
- Support others who behave responsibly (e.g. by informing the University if they have symptoms or have tested positive).
- Not spread rumours or false or speculative information about individuals related to COVID-19.

The University undertakes to:

- Maintain COVID Safe campuses in line with government guidance, ensuring that our guidance is up to date and informing staff and students when it changes.
- Provide a high-quality blended learning model including face-to-face teaching for smaller groups and online learning/seminars for larger lectures.

- Work in partnership with local authorities and other institutions and agencies to keep our campuses COVID Safe and protect the communities around us.
- Be transparent about the risks to our community while also respecting individuals' privacy.
- Enable discussions about individuals' personal circumstances and reflect the personal vulnerability of students and staff in the measures that we put in place.
- Provide digital alternatives for students who are unable to come to campus.
- Enable staff who are working at home to work safely and with appropriate technology.
- Be flexible and adaptable in our response, planning for possible rapid changes that may affect us.
- Communicate openly and transparently with students and staff about changes that affect them. Our objective in all cases will be to minimise as far as possible any disruption to students' education.
- Provide support services to students through the Student Centre including online appointments and access to hardship funds.
- Support the wellbeing of staff through our Wellbeing Hub, Employee Assistance Programme and sensitivity to individual circumstances and concerns.

Greenwich Students' Union and GKSU undertake to:

- Work collaboratively with the University of Greenwich and relevant partners so that we are aligned in our guidance and processes and can mitigate any risk.
- Provide COVID Safe GSU and GKSU spaces so that students, societies and sports clubs can meet safely.
- Provide digital platforms so that activities can be held online to allow students to engage with their Union in whichever way they are comfortable in doing so.
- Ensure guidance is clear and accessible so that everyone is aware of the role that they must play in ensuring activity is safe and considered in our community.
- Adapt our programme of activity to reflect the University's and government's guidance to ensure the safety of students when engaging with GSU and GKSU.
- Deliver relevant training, toolkits and practical guidance to societies, sports clubs and GSU/GKSU representatives, ensuring there is regular communication with our student leaders and plenty of advice available to support them in engaging with their communities.
- Provide an impartial and free Advice Service to support all students through any challenges relating to COVID-19 and beyond, as well as signposting to support and wellbeing services where appropriate.

¹Concerns can be reported to your line manager/faculty, HR or the Safety Unit (safetyunit@gre.ac.uk).

