



Dublin City University – English Language School

COVID-19 Safety Statement – December 2020

This statement is issued to outline Dublin City University English Language School (DCU LS) policy in relation to safeguarding and risk assessment against COVID-19. It should be noted that DCU LS policy is subject to change, in line with guidance from the Government of Ireland and the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE). Therefore, policy relating to COVID-19 safeguarding may be relaxed or enhanced in line with future health advice.

Classroom Delivery and On Campus Activity

The delivery of classes for DCU LS students will ultimately be determined by government and public health policy regarding academic delivery and safeguards. DCU LS intends to deliver classes and indoor academic operations on the following basis:

2 metre distance between persons in classrooms	A 'one way' system to enter and exit campus buildings
Mandatory wearing of masks or visors in classroom environment	Students and staff encouraged to wear masks / visors at all times when outdoors
Mandatory wearing of masks in indoor areas	Outdoor 'close quarter' congregation discouraged
No congregating in halls, corridors or common areas	Regular sanitising of classroom furniture and fixings
Hand sanitising stations provided in classrooms & across campus	Queue system and student ratio / quota for WC facilities

Under no circumstances may proximity of less than 1 metre take place. The above listed measures are not exhaustive, and further measures may be introduced in line with policy as it develops.

General campus policy regarding access to restaurants, library, supermarket will be set and updated by the university. In general terms, persons should anticipate that a minimum social distance of 2 metres should be adhered to, and that restrictions in terms of the numbers of persons simultaneously attending university facilities may be set.

Social Activities

All DCU LS social activities will be reviewed and subjected to risk assessment in light of COVID-19. As a general principle, DCU LS will arrange social activities which are outdoors and in an environment where a minimum social distance of 2 metres can be achieved at all times. DCU LS will discontinue activities where an ability to maintain 2 metre distancing may be compromised or where an event is required to be held indoors (e.g. dancing classes, city centre trips via busy public transport et cetera). DCU LS will design and deliver appropriate social activities which minimise the possibility of spread of COVID-19.

Host Family Accommodation and Campus Residence Accommodation

DCU LS will select appropriate families to receive students for our programmes. In addition to standard DCU LS Host Family vetting criteria, Host Families will now also be required to self-declare a '*fitness to receive student*' statement in advance of receiving a student. Similarly, DCU LS will require attending students to complete a similar statement two days in advance of travel to Ireland.

We intend to offer campus residence accommodation to attending students in summer 2021. A statement on operating protocols for students living in campus residences in summer 2021 will be issued at a later date.

Airport Transfers

It is the policy of DCU LS to achieve a minimum social distance of 1 metre for students and groups who are receiving an airport transfer. Staff and students will be required to wear a mask or visor during the airport transfer process.

Transit to and From DCU Campuses

DCU LS advises staff and students to travel to our campuses on foot or by bicycle if practicable. It is the intention of DCU LS to place students to Host Families located within a walking distance of our campuses. In the event that travel by public transport is required, DCU LS requires that staff and students wear appropriate protection – i.e. mask or visor.