

## CEC Covid-19 Frequently Asked Questions

- **What date will CEC reopen for face-to-face classes?** The school intends to reopen on Monday September 7<sup>th</sup>.
- **What is the social distance that will be adhered to in the school?** School common areas such as the reception, student common room, stairways and corridors will have a 2m social distance rule. In the classroom, the distance will be a minimum of 1m.
- **Do I have to wear a face mask?** Yes, you will have to wear a face mask when in the school. It is mandatory for students, teachers and staff to wear a face mask at all times.
- **Will I get a course book?** Yes, you will receive a course book on your first day as normal.
- **What measures are in place in the school with regards to keeping students safe from Covid-19?** We have put the following in place:
  - Wearing face masks in the building is mandatory
  - Sanitisation stations are located all over the school building
  - School is electrostatically sanitised every day
  - Floor markings clearing note social distance of 2m in common areas
  - An isolation room is in place should anyone feel unwell
  - There is clear signage all over the school encouraging correct hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
  - A screen has been put up on the reception desk
- **Can I speak to a staff member in person?** Yes. Students must make an appointment in advance and they can then speak to a staff member in person. We have a special room for such appointments. There will be a screen partition in place for the safety of both you and the staff member.
- **Can I join activities?** Yes. We have tailored our activity programme to meet the necessary safety guidelines. Outdoor activities will remain the same, though there will be guidelines for public transport and museums. Inhouse activities will be limited regarding the number of participants and face masks will have to be worn
- **Will I have to self-isolate before starting the course?** As things stand at present, anyone coming to Ireland from countries not on the Irish Government's ["Travel Green List"](#) have to self-isolate for 14 days.

If you arrive to Ireland from a country on the "Green List", then you do not have to self-isolate for 14 days. This list is reviewed & updated every 2 weeks and is changed in accordance with a country's rate of infection.

- **What happens if I develop symptoms of Covid-19?** We are asking all our students to inform us immediately if they feel unwell or suspect they have symptoms of Covid-19, either by calling the school during opening hours or by calling the emergency number outside opening hours.

If a student or staff member appears unwell while in school, they will be taken to our dedicated isolation room & we may take their temperature using a non-contact thermometer and if we feel they are displaying symptoms of Covid-19 they will be asked to return to their accommodation.

The student or staff member will be asked to request a Covid-19 test as soon as possible. We will provide assistance in contacting a doctor if needed. If the student or staff member tests positive, everyone who has been in contact with them will be informed. We will offer our full support and assistance to any student in this situation. We have full safety protocols in place approved by a Health & Safety Consultant.

You do not need to pay for a Covid-19 test in Ireland when referred by a doctor.

- **What information will I receive before arriving to Cork?** Before arriving to Cork you will receive our updated student handbook, as well as a welcome induction video so you know what to expect on your first day.
- **What should I bring with me?** We recommend that you bring enough masks or face coverings and hand sanitiser to last you for at least a week. Face coverings are mandatory on public transport, in supermarkets & shops and are highly recommended in other indoor spaces where it is difficult to maintain social distancing. Remember you will be required to wear a face covering in the school & class.

We also recommend that you bring a tablet or laptop with you as many of your class materials will be provided digitally rather than on paper.

Please ensure also that you bring enough pens and paper for your personal use as we cannot provide these items for you at this time.

- **Is it difficult to buy face masks, hand sanitiser & other hygiene products in Ireland?** No, nearly all shops & supermarkets now supply these items and more. We recommend bringing or buying your own personal supply of face masks & sanitiser to have with you at all times.

Face masks & hand sanitiser are widely available and are not too expensive.

- **How can I travel to & from the airport to Cork City?**  
**Travelling to/from Dublin Airport:** We recommend taking the bus to/from Dublin Airport. [Aircoach](#) operates daily non-stop services from Dublin Airport to Cork City centre. Remember, you will need to wear a mask when taking the bus.

Also don't forget to keep your bus ticket, we will give you a CEC voucher worth €20 to use on our activity programme in exchange for your ticket.

**Travelling to/from Cork Airport:** If you are staying with a family then they will meet outside Cork Airport. If you are staying in a residence, we recommend taking a taxi to your accommodation which is in the city centre. A taxi to the city should take 10-15 mins and cost no more than €20-25.

- **Can I travel within Ireland at weekends?**

Yes, public transport is operational in Ireland, but some timetables & routes are running with limited capacity. We recommend checking schedules & booking tickets through [Bus Eireann](#) & [Irish Rail](#). Many of Ireland's most famous attractions like the [Cliffs of Moher](#), the [Guinness Storehouse](#) & [Blarney Castle](#) are open and welcome to visitors.

- **What is the situation like in Cork City?** We're happy to say that many businesses in Cork have reopened and people are enjoying the "new normal" way of life. In Cork you will find many attractions, shops, bars, restaurants, & cafes, all of which are following social distancing & hygiene guidelines. In fact, many of the city streets have been pedestrianised to allow for increased outdoor wining & dining!

- **Where can I get more information about travel & health guidelines in Ireland?** There a number of governments sources for information. We have listed the most important & up to date for you below:

- [Travel Advice](#)
- [Health Advice](#)
- [Advice upon entering Ireland](#)