Robinson College
Visitors and Guests Policy

NB: This policy is subject to summary updating should developments of the pandemic change and/or differing national, local or College control measures be applied.

Governing Advice:

Public Health England (PHE) guidance for meeting people who you do not live with can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-people-from-outside-your-household-from-4-july#staying-alert-when-meeting-people-you-do-not-live-with

In summary - You should only meet people you do not live with, in 3 types of groups:

- you can continue to meet in any outdoor space in a group of up to 6 people from different households
- single adult households – in other words adults who live alone or with dependent children only – can continue to form an exclusive ‘support bubble’ with one other household
- you can also meet in a group of 2 households (anyone in your support bubble counts as one household), in any location – public or private, indoors or outdoors. This does not need to be the same household each time.

It remains the case – even inside someone’s home – that you should socially distance from anyone not in your household or bubble. Those who have been able to form a support bubble (which is those in single adult households) can continue to have close contact as if they live with the other people in their bubble. This should be exclusive and should not change.

College Policy:

It is vital that all students note and accept that when they come into residence in College, they join a new household, leaving their old (family) household at home. Several people from several old households combining together to form a new single household has of itself, heightened risk. However the main area of risk is that each member of this new household may start to introduce friends, visitors or guests from multiple other households and that is entirely contrary to the PHE guidance of no more than two households or a support bubble socialising together indoors.

Therefore College policy will be as follows:

What constitutes a Visitor or Guest?:

- For the first 14 days in residence (i.e. until 20 October) while we all “acclimatise”, essentially, anyone you do not live with, including Robinson students from other households, non-Robinson students/others and your own family members at home, should be regarded as visitors to your household.
- Once we have “settled”, assuming no infections, we can relax the definition a little to exclude other Robinson students. However, any non-Robinson person will continue to fall within the definition of a visitor or guest.
For clarity, at Robinson there are NO single adult households apart from the two single occupant flats.

For reference, PHE advice on making a support bubble can be found here: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/meeting-people-from-outside-your-household-from-4-july#making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household.

Advice on Visitors to College’s non-residential areas:
- Please keep visitors to the minimum and only where necessary.
- Outdoors in the College gardens but excluding the lawns at 2 Sylvester Road, you may gather in a group of up to 6 people from different households, but retaining 2 metre social distancing.
- In indoor communal areas, for example in the Garden Restaurant, JCR, RBCB, local social distancing instructions must be observed.
- Work-related in-person meetings with visitors in non-communal areas should take place only where absolutely necessary and be in line with the College’s risk assessments.

Advice on Visits to households in College accommodation areas:
- Household visits with social distancing:
  - Your household can host a visit from one other household at any one time provided social distancing is maintained.
  - You should keep a list of your visitors in the preceding 21 days for Test and Trace purposes.
  - You will need to liaise as a household group to minimise the number of visitors to your accommodation areas. It is important to avoid having visitors from multiple households visit your own household at the same time; consider using group-chats to coordinate visits – especially for larger households.
  - In theory, there should be a 14-day break between the introductions of one household visitor from another to allow for the incubation period.
  - Such visitors should not stay overnight.
  - You may not hold or attend group celebrations/parties/gatherings of any size where it’s difficult to maintain social distancing.
- As part of a ‘social bubble’:
  - Guidance on meeting people from outside your household allows, in theory, for a person living in a single person household to connect up with a second household (a ‘social bubble’) – enabling closer contact between individuals without social distancing.
  - In the interests of safety and equity to all members of a shared College household, people living in College accommodation will not normally, in most circumstances, be allowed to operate social bubbles in this way. To do so might be unfair or lead to undue pressure on other members of a shared household since a social bubble is permitted to contain only 2 households in total.
  - Further, all members of both households in the social bubble must isolate for 14 days if any member of either household becomes symptomatic. Therefore even though PHE guidance may permit this, visitors should not stay overnight in College accommodation.
Advice on Visits to communal areas or households in other colleges:
- Always check with your host on local rules before visiting another College.
- Only stay with friends or relations away from your college accommodation when absolutely necessary.
- Only stay overnight away from your college household with members of one other household (social distancing must be maintained) and keep a list of people you stayed with in the preceding 21 days for Test and Trace purposes.
- Undergraduates should discuss any planned Term time absence from Cambridge with their Tutor in advance.

Monitoring and Enforcement:
Universally, we need to be aware that any and all of the measures introduced in this difficult time are designed to look after the health of those in our community most susceptible to infectious diseases. While many of us may feel that we are not members of the groups most likely to be affected by the COVID-19 virus, if our behaviour increases the risks for others, that behaviour would be reprehensible. Accordingly, we all need to be conscious of our actions and/or our omissions and consider their likely impact upon others. In essence, please think about others and do not assume that life can carry on as normal.

- College does not have the resources or the inclination to “police” this policy in a painstaking way.
- However, Porters and other staff will react as necessary where infringements of the policy become evident and complaints are received.
- Largely, it is the College’s expectation that students will need to be self-policing and demonstrative of a caring and communal spirit.
- Undue peer pressure on fellow students to accept infringements of this policy and/or pressure to remain silent would be regarded as unacceptable.
- Annex 1 to the Code of Discipline will be applied where egregious behaviour is evident in respect of this policy.

College Officers
July 2020