

Information issued at: 6th March 2020



Coronavirus (Covid-19): guidance to anyone visiting or intending to visit NET offices or assessment centres

This is a fast moving, developing situation. Centres located on training or education campuses should also comply with any local requirements that may be introduced as a result of local conditions or advice from the Department of Education. Where updated guidance is universally applicable, NET will issue further communications to centres.

NET's approach is to follow official advice from the expert government agencies, with an emphasis on ensuring effective hygiene practices. We ask all visitors, staff and candidates to NET offices or assessment centres to follow the guidance and personal hygiene standards below.

Before travelling to any NET office or assessment centre, please check whether you may be Category 1 or 2, following any recent international travel. See: www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public

Category 1 situation:

As of 5 March 2020, if you have been to one of the following locations you should self-isolate and **not visit or enter any NET office or assessment centre even if you have no symptoms**: any Italian town or other location under 'containment measures', and including Wuhan City and Hubei Province, Iran, Daegu or Cheongdo (Republic of Korea).

Instead, please see the official information and advice on what to do, at the above link.

Category 2 situation:

As of 5 March 2020, if you have returned from one of the following countries in the last 14 days: Cambodia, China (except the areas mentioned above), Northern Italy (north of Pisa, but outside of the area under containment measures), Thailand, Japan, Laos, Macau, Myanmar, Singapore, Vietnam, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia and **have any (even mild) symptoms, you should not visit or enter any NET office or assessment centre.**

Instead, please see the official information and advice to do, at the above link.

When at NET offices or assessment centres:

If you are at any NET location and while there, you feel unwell (e.g. with any cold, cough or flu-like symptoms):

- please take all precautions not to spread airborne or contactable germs - cover your mouth and nose with a tissue if and when you cough or sneeze and avoid touching people, surfaces and objects with unwashed hands.

- make the local NET or assessment centre staff aware.
- please arrange to leave the premises, and then follow official guidelines on what to do next (see the link above and information from Public Health England*, below).

All visitors, candidates and assessment centre staff are strongly advised and encouraged to wash their hands and/or use hand-sanitiser on arriving in the building after using public transport or after coughing and sneezing.

Hand washing facilities and hand sanitiser should be available at all times. Assessment centre staff are asked to pay particular consideration to cleaning and, where required, disinfection, of assessment areas and equipment.

General Hygiene

Public Health England* recommends that the following **general cold and flu precautions** are taken to help prevent people from catching and spreading COVID-19:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze;
- Put used tissues in the bin straight away;
- Wash your hands with soap and water often – use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available;
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are or appear to be unwell;
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces; and
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.

[*www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england](https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england)

Please check the government sources above for the latest general information and advice.

Best regards

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