Visitors at St Catharine’s College

January 2021

This policy is intended to cover day-to-day access to the College. It is not intended to cover admissions, outreach and open days, which will be planned and considered separately. It includes the new restrictions on visits to households introduced by the Government as part of the national lockdown effective from 6 January. Advance notice of the lifting/easing of lockdown measures may be limited so updates to this policy may require a few days for the College to process and the cooperation of our community in the meantime.

Who is permitted to visit College properties?
The national lockdown means that all visitors must have a “reasonable excuse” for leaving or being outside your household. Under these limited circumstances and subject to any special provisions noted at the top of this policy, the following groups may visit College properties:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>St Catharine’s students resident in Cambridge</th>
<th>To access your own household and facilities allocated to that household; To buy food from the Catzebo; or To visit the Chapel for communal worship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>St Catharine’s Fellows</td>
<td>To work, where you cannot reasonably work from home; To visit the Chapel for communal worship; or (Resident Fellows only) To access your own household and facilities allocated to that household</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Catharine’s staff</td>
<td>To keep the College operational and provide a safe, supportive environment for our academic community, based on working arrangements agreed with line managers; or To visit the Chapel for communal worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students from other Cambridge Colleges</td>
<td>To access a support bubble (where permission has been given by the Senior Tutors of the respective colleges)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractors</td>
<td>To undertake works and subject to specific risk assessments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinands (2) and visiting preachers</td>
<td>Under the supervision of the Chaplain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student drop offs / pick-ups</td>
<td>No more than 2 companions in circumstances where there is a genuine need to move despite the national lockdown (you should not move back and forward between your permanent home and student home during term time)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Who is not permitted to visit College properties?
There are some notable groups who are not permitted to visit, after careful consideration by the College:
- College Members (including alumni, members by special election, and former Fellows) who do not fall into any of the permitted categories;
- Visiting Scholars (unless needing access to supervise);
- Postdoctoral Associates (unless needing access to supervise);
- Non-members of the College who have been granted dining rights;
- Non-members of College who frequently attend chapel services;
- Visiting sports teams;
- The Girls’ Choir and parents of the Girls’ Choir;
- Members of the Cambridge Chapels Youth Choir (which usually sings one service a term during the school half term); and
- Family members/friends except pick-up/drop-offs: by exception, family members may be allowed as day visitors, subject to the approval of the Senior Tutor and the latest restrictions.

**Restrictions on visits to households during the national lockdown**

The College has always intended to permit visitors to enter student households so long as Government guidelines and regulations are followed.

However, from 6 January, it is against the law for anyone in England to meet socially with family or friends unless they are part of your household or support bubble—and this includes student households.

A support bubble is defined by the Government as a support network that links two households based on specific eligibility criteria. Students and Fellows living in College accommodation should ensure a single support bubble is only ever set up with the agreement of all members of the households that are extended by this arrangement before commencing visits or overnight stays within the bubble. Changing circumstances may mean that a support bubble is appropriate for students in residence who may not have been able to form one previously:

- If forming a bubble with another household in the St Catharine’s community, please let us know for contract tracing purposes by emailing asymptomatic@caths.cam.ac.uk; or
- If forming a bubble with another household that includes members of other colleges, please seek permission from the Senior Tutors of the respective colleges.

All students are strongly encouraged to refer to [our accompanying guidance on meeting in person](#) to identify COVID-secure and lawful ways of meeting up with individuals who are not in their own household.

**Dining**

Catering provision will be restricted to students, staff and Fellows of St Catharine’s College, in line with UK Government guidelines and regulations. Staff and Fellows may only use catering facilities if they are already on the Island site for permitted reasons.

**Record keeping**

The College has introduced a new electronic system for recording non-College members visiting the Island site. This is available to visitors on arrival at the Porters’ Lodge.