COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN
Trinity College Dublin

Executive Summary

September 2020
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COVID-19 is within the community and will become part of the college community throughout the coming year. It is important to remember that:

- Outbreaks in Trinity are very likely. Two confirmed cases in the same area constitute an outbreak.
- Asymptomatic transmission is a key risk in the university setting
- Increased cases and outbreaks in Trinity could increase local prevalence
- All staff and students must take all preventative measures to prevent the spread of the virus – as if everyone has the disease and thus is a suspected case.
- Trinity should plan for an increase in cases or an outbreak associated with our buildings
- Effective systems to record and respond to cases, particularly those within accommodation or academic departments, are required to be able to understand where transmission is occurring within the college
- There should be clear plans for communication and encouraging adherence if an outbreak occurs.

In such circumstances, the COVID-19 Response Plan includes the following:

- TCD’s system to facilitate rapid testing of suspected cases. This is being managed by the setting-up of an on-site testing facility managed by College Health in consultation with HSE Public Health Department
- TCD’s systems to ensure confirmed cases of COVID-19 are urgently followed up in collaboration with HSE Public Health Department.
- TCD’s systems to support the public health risk assessment by HSE Public Health Department which will guide outbreak control measures.
- TCD’s systems and procedures for taking and retaining contact information in keeping with data protection and confidentiality requirements on campus to support the public health risk assessment
- TCD’s communications and instructions developed to encourage students and staff to download the COVID-19 Tracker App and record their close contacts using the HSPC definition of a close contact on a daily basis
- TCD’s dedicated spaces provided to isolate confirmed cases and facilities to support students or staff members in self-isolation
- TCD’s systems to facilitate public health communications on site. This can be augmented using the SafeZone App.

The COVID-19 Response Plan elaborates on the Implementation Guidelines should cases of COVID-19 be confirmed on campus. Specifically, it focuses on:

1. Prevention and Protection
2. Outbreak Response Team
3. Detection of potential cases of COVID-19 - Testing pathway
4. Confirmation of COVID-19 and Contact Tracing
5. Public Health Risk Assessment
6. Outbreak Control Measures and Public Health Principles
7. Appendix 1: COVID-19 Roles and Responsibilities
8. Appendix 2: COVID-19 forms for Student s and Staff
9. Appendix 3: Legislative role of the HSE Medical Officer of Health

What to do if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 on Campus is included here

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1 In keeping with data protection and confidentiality requirements
2 In keeping with data protection and confidentiality requirements
3 Using the HSPC definition of a close contact
What to do if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 on Campus

If there is a suspected case of COVID-19, the staff member or student must be sent for testing, await the result and not attend College. No further action is required at this point.

If your Result is Negative you may return to College after 48 hours*

Head of School/Unit/TRI must contact their COVID Coordinator by phone or email

COVID Coordinator must contact the E&F Duty Team at covidresponse@tcd.ie and ensure correct contact tracing form has been completed

College Health and E&F Duty Team will ensure COVID-19 Response Team is kept up to date

*Dependent on HSE Guidelines i.e. a close contact of a confirmed case (0 & 7 day tests) or you are still unwell.

If your Result is Positive

If a staff member, you must notify your line Manager or Head of School

If a student you must notify your Course Director. The Course Director must notify the Head of School

Head of School/Unit/TRI must contact College Health at covidnotify@tcd.ie