



What is Hartpury's COVID-19 student vaccination policy?

In order to benefit from the most effective protection against COVID-19, we require eligible Hartpury University and College students who wish to **live in our campus residential accommodation** to have the COVID-19 vaccinations, when made available to them. This also applies to students who take part in Hartpury's **sports activities** outside of academic sessions, or use Hartpury's **livery**. Students will also be required to participate in our testing programme as per the UK Government guidance.

What if a student chooses not to be vaccinated?

It is not Hartpury's intention to make vaccination a requirement for study with us and thus we are not restricting access for any students to be educated.

Students who are not intending to engage with the vaccination programme will still be able to attend all of their in-person teaching on campus, but will not be able to reside in Hartpury onsite accommodation (unless exempt due to medical reasons).

Why has Hartpury taken this decision?

We have taken this decision to protect our student, staff and wider communities, and offer all of our university and college students the best possible experience in this forthcoming academic year.

Hartpury is unique, with both a university and the UK's largest residential college on one campus. Unlike some institutions, our intention for 2021-22 is to continue delivering the vast majority of teaching on-site and in-person, which is important for our vocational subjects.

Our experience in the last academic year was that transmission of COVID-19 cases was low within teaching settings but significant within accommodation, resulting in a large number of lockdowns. This was detrimental to students' engagement with their study and their mental health & wellbeing.

A few stats from September to December 2020:

- **42 out of the 59 accommodation households** (71%) on campus experienced a **household isolation** period. 11 households isolated twice, and one household isolated three times.
- **779 students** out of 1098 total residential students were subject to **self-isolation**.
- A total of **8,377 meals** were provided **free of charge** to students isolating in households. At its peak 335 meals were delivered in just one day by our wardening teams.
- Hartpury established its own COVID-19 Test Centre and carried out more than **28,000 lateral flow tests** (during the entire academic year) by trained members of our own Hartpury staff.

Residential accommodation is part of our commercial operation. No financial support has been received from the government and all additional costs listed above have been funded by Hartpury.

Additionally, Hartpury fully refunded all residential students where government lockdowns prevented them from occupying their accommodation and supported students who were required to extend their time in residence beyond their contracts free of charge.

Do students and parents support the decision?

Yes. Feedback on our stance from students and parents, and from a record numbers of applicants joining Hartpury this year, has been overwhelmingly positive.

The vast majority agree this is a justified and proportionate action, to mitigate against potential detrimental effects, whilst also respecting a student's freedom of choice.