

This appendix to the Student Code of Conduct comes into effect from September 1st, 2020 until otherwise noted by the Institute. The Institute reserves the right to update and make edits to this document to be in line with evolving National Public Health or Department of Education or Higher Education Authority guidance. This document together with all updates will be clearly noted by date and posted on the Institute's website.

At GMIT the safety and health of students and staff is a priority. This document outlines the protocols that all students must adhere to in order to protect our GMIT community from this highly contagious, malign, and dangerous disease - COVID-19. Everyone has a moral duty to avoid contracting the virus and inadvertently exposing those at most risk of the disease. As a proportion of the population have no symptoms when infected our behaviour is crucial in ensuring the health of everyone.

It is expected that we all commit to a strong regime of personal responsibility of behaviour to ensure physical distancing and hygiene, that will help protect all the GMIT community. In turn, GMIT has invested heavily in improved ventilation and in the provision of handwashing and hand sanitisation stations with an intense schedule of cleaning and sanitising of classrooms and common spaces.

Student Actions:

1. Before attending campus, students must complete the Pre-Return to Campus Form that is integrated into the student registration process. Following this process, GMIT will liaise with students deemed at high risk / very high risk with regard to arrangements for attendance on campus.

2. Students **must not attend campus if unwell** or especially if experiencing any of the COVID-19 symptoms which include –
 - Runny nose (hay fever like)
 - Headache,
 - Sore throat
 - New cough
 - Fever (38°C or more)
 - Shortness of breath
 - Loss or change to sense of smell or taste

If experiencing any of these symptoms, students must immediately contact their local GP or the Student Health provider for your campus, follow the advice of the GP, and stay at home and self-isolate and do not attend college until advised to do so by your GP. Self-isolation means staying indoors and completely avoiding contact with other people. This includes other people in your household, as much as possible.

Contact details for the Student Health providers are –

Dublin Road Campus and Cluain Mhuire Campus 091 742228

Mayo Campus (Dr. Stephen Patten) 094 9021999

Letterfrack Campus (Dr. Alexander Michel 095 43465).

In addition, students must notify GMIT immediately by emailing covidofficer@gmit.ie or phoning 091 742708 / 0852092713 immediately if they are diagnosed with Covid-19.

After the Covid Officer has been notified that a student has tested positive for COVID-19, contact tracing will be conducted to determine if there was exposure to other members of our community so that GMIT can assist Public Health to take appropriate next steps to mitigate further spread of the virus. Consistent with GDPR governing patient confidentiality, the Institute will not share any patient's contact details or private medical information.

Students diagnosed with COVID-19 must comply fully with all public health guidelines and must self-isolate for up to 14 days. Self-isolation means staying indoors and completely avoiding contact with other people. This includes other people in your household, as much as possible. See the full HSE guidelines - [How to self isolate](#)

Students who have been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, or who live with someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 (even if they themselves feel well) must comply fully with all public health guidelines and must restrict their movements for up to 14 days.

However, close contacts and those who live with a Covid-positive person, who are fully vaccinated or have had a positive Covid PCR test in the past 9 months, and do not have Covid symptoms, normally need not restrict their movements. However, in certain cases this advice may change, so you must follow the specific advice given by the HSE Contract Tracing team. A contact tracer will tell you what you should do when they phone you. See the full HSE guidelines - [How to restrict your movements](#)

If absent due to any illness, students should forward the relevant medical cert to their School office.

Please refer to the "Return to Campus Post-Quarantine Policy" for more information on the process on returning to GMIT following a positive Covid diagnosis.

3. Students attending campus are strongly encouraged to download and use the [HSE COVID-19 Tracker App](#). The use of this app will greatly help with any contact tracing required and thus it is vital that all students use this app.

Every time you attend campus, please complete the "Daily Health Check Form"

[Daily Health Check Form](#)

This online form reminds you to check yourself daily for Covid symptoms

For every class attended on campus, we need to record attendance and location within the room, thus students are requested to sign into their class using the online

[Class Attendance & Location Record](#)

Students should be aware of whom they come into contact with and keep a contact log of the staff and students that they are in contact with (any contact over 15 minutes).

4. Students should ideally travel to campus alone. It is recommended to avoid public transport if possible, by walking, cycling, or driving by oneself. If it is necessary to share a lift or to use public transport, then face coverings must be worn. Ensure good ventilation in the car or bus you are using.

5. Students must comply with the [Current HSE COVID-19 Guidelines](#) at all times. These guidelines include references to the importance of physical distancing, respiratory etiquette, the use of face coverings, the importance of hand washing and the avoidance of large group gatherings.

The current HSE advice must be complied with both within the campus and outside the campus. Complaints reported to the Institute of student behaviour contravening Public Health recommendations will be considered, investigated, and may lead to disciplinary action.

Students must comply with any local restrictions on movement as determined by the Government and/or HSE from time to time.

6. Students must, at all times comply with the current GMIT health guidelines set out in this document while on GMIT campus or on Institute organised activities. These will be provided on the GMIT website and on signage/posters throughout the campus.
7. Students who plan to travel or have returned from abroad must comply with [Irish Government Advice Regarding International Travel](#)
8. **Other advice:**
 - COVID-19 prevention measures also apply in your accommodation so please ensure ventilation (by opening windows/ door) in shared living spaces.
 - Masks should be worn outside during any fire drill, due to the close proximity of people during such drills.
 - Students are advised not to share personal items (pens, phones, etc), beverage or food with others.