

International Epidemic of an Infectious Disease Policy 2022

LanguageUK policy for dealing with international epidemic outbreaks of infectious disease is based on UK government bodies or other recognised medical advice.

It comes into effect when LanguageUK feels it should take containing action to avoid the spread of the epidemic. It will not apply to isolated cases of “simple” illness.

LanguageUK will only close upon the advice of the UK government and English UK.

If an epidemic has been declared by the authorities, students should not travel to Canterbury if they suspect that they are carriers of the infectious disease in question.

If a student has an unrelated serious medical condition, he or she should consider postponing their visit to the UK. In these cases, LanguageUK will always consider any requests sympathetically.

In cases of pandemic, terrorism, or closure of air space, LanguageUK will look sympathetically at the individual circumstances and may issue a credit for part or full course fees, and help the students rebook their course later if requested. In these circumstances, LanguageUK will not charge a cancellation fee, but the one-week notice period for cancelling accommodation will apply.

Any member of staff or student who presents the symptoms of an infectious disease during LanguageUK hours will be isolated from other members of the team. LanguageUK will allocate a room for quarantining students who are unwell and suspected of having an infectious disease. The students should return to their homestay at the earliest opportunity and continue the self-quarantine process there. If a member of staff presents symptoms, they will be sent home until they feel better, have completed a self-isolation period if applicable, have taken a test (if applicable PCR) or until a doctor confirms they are fit to return to LanguageUK.

The homestay provider will be informed immediately.

Students should inform LanguageUK when they feel fit to return to normal classes. Student absences for the period they are away from LanguageUK during this period will be marked as authorised.

LanguageUK will keep in close contact with students if they are ill. If appropriate LanguageUK will provide language work for the student to do at home/hospital. The student may also be able to attend classes online.

If staff numbers are significantly reduced through illness LanguageUK may have to take exceptional short-term measures, such as combining classes. LanguageUK will do all it can to ensure that the students receive the excellent provision that they would normally expect.

There may be cases where students suffering from an illness are unable to travel as planned at the end of their course. LanguageUK will help them to extend or find alternative accommodation and to re-arrange any travel plans if necessary.

All the above statements are dependent on Government regulations and advice and recognises that situations can change daily. LanguageUK vigorously encourages students to take out health and medical insurance to cover expenses incurred if they fall ill while in the UK.

Policy written Dec 2021