COVID-19 secure ‘Play Safe’ guidelines – return to play

• The court can be booked via the RMS system. Five minutes before your court time, please visit the Porters’ Lodge to collect the key. This will have been sanitised between users. Please sanitise them yourselves before handing back to the Porters.
• Before heading out to play tennis, you should undergo a self-assessment symptom check for any COVID-19 symptoms. If you have symptoms please self-isolate and follow College guidance on reporting symptoms.
• Changing facilities are not be available so you should be changed ready to play. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before arriving at the court (use a sanitiser gel if washing hands is not possible).
• Take hand sanitiser with you. Avoid touching court gates, fences, benches etc. but where this is not possible, use sanitiser after use
• You are required to wear a face covering when in public areas of the College and where you cannot socially distance, so please ensure you carry one with you.
• Please use your own equipment. Players should not share items such as towels.
• Take the minimum amount of equipment that you need to play.
• Clean and wipe down your equipment, including rackets and water bottles before and after use.
• Bring a full water bottle and do not share food or drink with others.
• You should not arrive more than 5 minutes before the session is due to start. If players are still on the court you must allow them to leave before you enter - if you need to wait then do so away from the courts and clear of the gates.
• Those leaving the court should sanitise all touch points, including the gate latch at the end of their session. Please take your rubbish with you (including used wipes) and dispose of it.
• Once your session has finished please leave the court promptly. Avoid gathering on or around the court after playing.
• Ensure you take all your belongings with you and do not leave anything on court. We must dispose of anything left behind.
• When you have finished playing you should return to your accommodation and shower.

Recommendations during play

• Both singles play and doubles play is permitted with people from both inside and outside of College, as long as you adhere to social distancing guidelines before play, during play, during breaks and after play.
• Do not make physical contact with other players (such as shaking hands or high five).
• Avoid chasing the ball down to another court if other players are using it.
• For doubles, consider agreeing in advance which player will take the shot if a ball travels to the centre of the court.
• Players are advised to limit their interactions with anyone outside of the group they are in (e.g. players on another court).

Equipment & Facilities

• If players wish to, they can choose to use their own marked tennis balls.
• If you choose to use shared balls then extra care must be taken to ensure you do not touch your face during play, and you should clean your hands before play and immediately after finishing (use hand sanitiser).
• Players should still avoid using their hands to pick up tennis balls from other courts - use your racket/foot to return them.
• Avoid using other equipment such as courtside benches, net handles or court sweepers where possible.
Hygiene

- Hand hygiene is imperative - hand sanitise at intervals if you have to touch communal surfaces including balls.
- If you need to sneeze or cough, do so into a tissue or upper sleeve.
- Avoid touching your face.

Supervision & Spectating

- Where a disabled player requires the attendance of a carer, it is permitted but they should remain off court and limited to one per player where possible.
- Carers and players should remain socially distanced whilst attending play and follow all of the College guidance.
- There should be no spectating.

Travelling to Murray Edwards College (external visitors)

- Walk or cycle if you can. Where this is not possible, for example when travelling via taxi or bus, ensure you follow current government guidance around face coverings on public transport. Please observe the one-way system and wear a face covering in all public areas in College (e.g. Porters’ Lodge).

Using Murray Edwards College facilities

- Murray Edwards College members should use the toilets near or in their accommodation. External visitors must use the facilities near the Dome Dining Hall. This is a short walk from the courts, so we would recommend using the facilities before beginning your game so you have the most time on the court.