St Giles International COVID-19 Update

Temporary School Closures: UK, USA & Canada

Following the spread of COVID-19 across the world, and the restrictions in place in the UK, USA and Canada, we had to take the very difficult decision to temporarily close all our adult year-round centres, as of the end of 20th March in the UK, 18th March in Vancouver and 16th March in New York City. The closures are due to local and national restrictions imposed to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our cities and towns. With the need to act responsibly as a business and with the protection of our staff and students at the forefront of our minds we felt that this was the only option for us.

The situation is under constant review in line with news being released as to when lockdown measures are to be relaxed in each of our schools’ regions, but we hope to be in a position where our centres in the UK and USA are able to open at the beginning of June. With regards to St Giles Vancouver, provided that the official government advice regarding entry of foreigners into Canada remains in place, we are aiming to re-open from the beginning of July 2020. We are unable to confirm this at present as it is reliant on the wider lockdown situation in each of our regions, but we will update our website as soon as we have further updates.

For any students who are currently studying with us and staying in accommodation organised by us, there will be no immediate changes to these arrangements.

St Giles Live: Online English Lessons & More

On Monday 6th April, we officially launched St Giles Live, our exciting new online package for students. It offers the following:

- Online lessons (20 or 28 lessons per week) at a choice of different time zones.
- A choice of different courses, such as General English, examination preparation, One to One, Platinum and Junior courses
- Use of our e-learning software already available, which offers interactive exercises based on course-book material in use throughout the St Giles group
- An online social programme: get to know other students from around the world through activities such as online happy hours (log onto Zoom from home & bring your own drink) and virtual cinema nights. You can see our sample programme here, or follow @stgiles_international on Instagram.

St Giles Live will be available to existing or future students who have courses disrupted by COVID 19 and new students who wish to enrol for St Giles Live only.

Find out more about St Giles Live here.

Postponement Terms & Conditions

If your course has been disrupted by COVID-19, you can:
- Use your course credits on St Giles Live or
- Postpone your course to start any time until the end of 2021. We will only charge the direct costs incurred, provided that we hear from you prior to your original start date
St Giles Flexible Guarantee: Book Without Worry

Book your course between 16.03.2020-30.06.2020 and if needed, you can postpone your course to start any time before the end of 2021 or cancel free of charge (only direct costs will be applied).

The decision to temporarily close our centres has been one of the most difficult that we have had to take. During St Giles’ 65 years of operation, we’ve dealt with ups and downs in world events but the destructive spread of COVID-19 has been unlike anything we’ve seen. We’ve therefore had to take appropriate action in line with this, and we hugely appreciate your support at such a difficult time.

With our very best wishes,
Hannah & Mark Lindsay
Deputy CEO & CEO

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