



Note Verbale No. A251/21

Protocol Department of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office presents its compliments to all diplomatic missions and consulates and has the honour to provide an update on the further measures of Her Majesty's Government in response to the spread of the Omicron variant.

In addition to the measures set out in Note Number A235/21 and an amendment to the measures detailed in Note Number A207/21, the Secretary of State for Health and Social care has reintroduced the requirement for international travellers to take a pre-departure test up to 48 hours before travel to the UK. From 4am Tuesday 7 December anyone aged 12 and above, including diplomats and their recognised dependants wishing to travel to the UK will need to show a negative pre-departure test (LFD or PCR) regardless of vaccine status or country of departure.

For clarity, members of diplomatic missions and their recognised dependants remain exempt from completing the passenger locator form, mandatory testing on arrival, managed quarantine and self-isolation. However, for public health reasons, are strongly encouraged to complete tests on or before by the end of day 2 and, if applicable, on day 8 after arrival.

The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office does not require a Form 0 to be submitted in order to advise of arriving diplomats. However, missions should continue to notify DMIOU in advance of the arrival of new accredited/appointed staff via Form 1.

Protocol Directorate assures diplomatic missions and consulates that application of these regulations is without prejudice to any immunity from jurisdiction or inviolability that an individual might enjoy otherwise than by the operation of the regulations.



Protocol Directorate of the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all diplomatic missions and consulates the assurances of its highest consideration.

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07 December 2021

