



The Manor Fields Estate Limited

Manor Fields Putney Hill London SW15 3NE
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7th April 2020

Dear Residents and Leaseholders

We do hope that you are all coping with the continued isolation that we all need to adhere to and that the space and tranquility of Manor Fields provides some comfort in these difficult times.

We wanted to update you on measures that are in place on the estate to keep things operating as smoothly as possible during this nationwide crisis.

RUBBISH COLLECTION

We are very fortunate that two of our porters, Kenza and Dawid, are able to safely make their way to work to clear away the rubbish very early in the mornings and then to return home. Kenza is coming every morning and is covering Armstrong, Newnham, Ripon, Magdalene and Somerville as well as Glenalmond, Selwyn and Keble. Dawid comes three mornings a week and is covering Bede, Gonville and Mansfield as well as Harvard, Balliol and Girton.

It is not possible for rubbish to be cleared every day but every house is covered two or three times a week. Both porters will be collecting rubbish on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

Please can we remind you NOT to put out excess rubbish even if you are using this opportunity to spring clean. Neither the Estate nor the Council rubbish collectors have the capacity to deal with extra rubbish at this time and really need your consideration on this issue for the foreseeable future.

CODE FOR THE HEATH GATES

As previously indicated It was our intention to change the gate codes at the beginning of April. However under the circumstances we have decided to postpone this until further notice.

THE GARDENS

Many residents have generously offered help around the garden while the gardeners are unable to come to work. Some will be aware that our Head Gardener, Jo, has been extremely unwell recently with pneumonia and has understandably had to adhere to very strict self isolation under the care of her doctor. In her absence Valerie Ferguson has organised a team of people who are kindly watering the pots around the estate and we are aware that some residents are watering the window boxes - although this is not always an easy task to reach and all care should be taken.

The spring planting in many of the pots and boxes is coming to an end and Jo has plans in place to replant with the summer plants just as soon as the gardeners can return safely to work. So whilst some areas may not look as well manicured as we are used to, please bear with us as we monitor the steps we are able to take over the next few weeks.

HYGIENE AND CLEANING THE STAIRWELLS

Residents will have noticed that spray bottles of hand sanitiser were put into each stairwell last week for your use and protection. Please advise the office if you need to have the bottle refilled. The spray bottles should remain on the table in the entrance hall at all times.

Some residents have also kindly taken it upon themselves to vacuum their stairwells in the porters' absence. We are very grateful but please take care and ensure that you protect yourself and your fellow residents by cleaning any surface that you touch and washing your hands both before and afterwards.

OUTDOOR EXERCISE

The fine weather has been a wonderful boost and we are all aware of how lucky we are to have the gardens and the heath available to us at this time - albeit to be used with adherence to the Government's specific guidelines regarding reasonable exercise. What we would ask is that in using the garden you have consideration for your fellow residents - especially the elderly and more vulnerable. They need to be able to safely enjoy the outdoors as well and it can be quite daunting to venture outside - so please keep in your household group, maintain your distance and share the space considerately.

We are sorry that we can not accommodate residents' requests for space to play sports on the estate (other than young children's soft ball games on the main lawn), especially at this time, and we respectfully ask that everyone adheres to the rules regarding the use of the gardens for the enjoyment of all.

SUPPORT FOR RESIDENTS

It is wonderful that so much support is being offered around the estate, in houses and stairwells as we care for our neighbours and friends.

The Manor Fields Covid 19 support group has about 40 volunteers and a number of residents have identified themselves as vulnerable. Help offered includes collecting shopping and prescriptions, IT advice and support, the loan of books, making of face masks, cooking and a friendly voice at the end of the phone.

There are volunteers across the estate, so if you need help do please let us know by contacting the office or mailing Cathie Sherning at casatmanorfields@gmail.com

We are also very grateful to those who are offering practical help to Heather whilst she mans the office single handedly with support from Maria who is working remotely from home.

Please remember that if you need help you only need to ask. And thank you to everyone for your contribution to the Manor Fields effort.

We will keep you posted as the government's plans for the forthcoming weeks become clear.

Stay safe and well.

The Directors