



**Navy Command**

Commanding Officer  
HMS RALEIGH  
Torpoint  
Cornwall  
PL11 2PD

November 2020

My assumption of Command of HMS RALEIGH, and the second national lockdown throughout England, provides a timely opportunity to update the local Torpoint community on our ongoing pandemic response and the impact this has had to delivering training at HMS RALEIGH.

HMS RALEIGH, like many organisations throughout Defence, remains operational and we are continuing to deliver essential training to support the UK Armed Forces' operational outputs, both in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and national security responsibilities. Training is fully risk-assessed and is kept under continual review.

Many of the procedures implemented during the first lockdown remain in place and we continue to assess and implement new control measures as required. Measures include training as cohorts, limiting unnecessary movement, additional hygiene and cleaning and social distancing, which we follow except in a very few instances where essential training tasks necessitate otherwise. In such cases, we have taken additional precautions to reduce the risk to trainees, staff and the local community.

We are fortunate to have our own dedicated medical team at HMS RALEIGH who are on hand to care for any personnel who test positive for COVID-19. Personnel identified as having been in contact with those who have tested positive isolate in line with Public Health England guidance. We continue to work closely with Public Health England South West and our colleagues at Cornwall Council.

Our recruits are told to self-isolate for 14 days prior to joining and are quarantined from the main HMS RALEIGH population for a further 14 days on arrival. Our recruits only leave the establishment for training at Jupiter Point, the Rame Peninsula and across Dartmoor. They are otherwise confined to the establishment until the completion of their 10-week initial naval training course.

While many of my staff are working remotely from site in accordance with UK Government guidelines, for those who are required to come to their place of work, we have made every effort to maintain a safe living, working and training environment.

COVID-19 presents a significant challenge for us all and whilst it is vitally important that training continues at HMS RALEIGH, I would wish to assure you that it is conducted both safely and sustainably. Having the support and understanding of the local community at this difficult time makes a real difference to my workforce and their families and we remain very grateful, thank you.

S Nielsen  
Captain Royal Navy