

Students are playing it safe

Many choosing to adopt social distancing at home

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PETALING JAYA: Public university students although now back with their families in the comfort of their homes are playing it safe.

Most of them chose to adopt the “new normal” approach by way of social distancing at home.

The first batch of students, back in their respective hometowns from their Klang Valley campuses, had undergone health screening, including temperature checks, before boarding buses.

The authorities also ensured none of them had any symptoms such as sore throat, cough, cold and shortness of breath, prior to the journey.

Worried that they might be asymptomatic, several of the students interviewed said they would adopt the one-metre rule to be on the safe side.

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia software engineering student Muhammad Syazwan Hakimi Hishamuddin said he went straight to the bathroom for a shower upon reaching his house yesterday.

The native from Baling, Kedah, said there were no hugs but cheers and laughter.

He added that his father, who picked him up, was very worried about him travelling in the bus with so many other students.

Baling has been declared a green



Keeping a safe distance: Students sitting one-metre apart while waiting for their turn to board the bus to their hometowns at Dewan Tuanku Canselor Universiti Malaya. — Bernama

zone but Syazwan Hakimi said he would continue to practise social distancing.

For Muhammad Fahmi Saleh, 20, it was the best feeling in the world to be “back in the arms of his family”.

The Universiti Putra Malaysia student said there was no physical

contact when he reached his home in Kulim at the break of dawn.

“I make it a point to maintain a safe distance from my family members.

“This is not easy as I have four nephews and nieces,” he said, adding that young children were affectionate and love to be hugged.

Fahmi also said that it had been some time since he last tasted his mother’s cooking.

Azizah Darus made his favourite ayam masak kicap (soy sauce chicken) for breaking of fast.

Azizah said she was very grateful that her son had a safe journey home.