

Dear student,

I hope this email finds you well. It is great to see more students back on our campuses!

New regulations from Government

The announcement from Government yesterday included explicit guidance that universities and all education institutions, should stay open. Please do continue to go to your face-to-face educational activities, as well as engaging with the online learning. If you have any questions about your in-person educational activities please contact your School/Institute directly. We will also continue to provide support to students, both in person and online.

You will have noticed that the new regulations from Government include tough new penalties for those not abiding by face covering regulations or meeting in groups larger than six. Please do take note of the regulations and abide by them, on and off our campuses and in your accommodation. Also, please do remember to follow our [Covid Code](#).

Test and trace

Tracing those who have been in contact with anyone who has Covid-19 is really important in containing the virus. We have robust test and trace processes in place across our campuses that gives us vital and specific information we need to proactively trace contacts. In addition to these processes, we are part of the national NHS Test and Trace programme: from tomorrow you will be able to download the national NHS app, and you will see in all venues on and off campus (including shops, cafes and leisure facilities) posters for the QR codes you will need to scan. Please note, the NHS app is not a replacement for our own measures, so please continue to closely follow our local procedures. Please also take seriously any contact made to you, whether by us, the national test and trace system, or through the NHS app, and follow all guidance provided.

Concerns or enquiries

We are living through particularly difficult times. If you do have any questions or concerns, there are many staff ready to help you. You can contact your School or Institute, residential support services if you are in our student residences or the [Student Enquiry Centre](#). In addition, we are setting up an enquiry line for any Covid-19 related concerns that you or anyone else may have. Details will be on the website shortly.

Some good news: Queen Mary named runner up for University of the Year!

Finally, I wanted to share some good news. We have been named runner up for the University of the Year (second to the University of Oxford), and named the most inclusive university in the Russell Group, by the [Times and Sunday Times Good Universities Guide 2021](#). The guide's authors note that "Queen Mary continues to prove that social inclusion and academic success are not mutually exclusive." It is wonderful to see the ongoing hard work of all our staff and students rewarded in this way.

I hope you are enjoying the start of term. Please do look after yourselves and stay safe. I will write again next week.

Best wishes,

Colin

Professor Colin Bailey, CBE, FEng, BEng, PhD, CEng, FICE, FIStructE, MIFireE
President and Principal | Queen Mary University of London | Mile End Road | London | E1 4NS

