

Good morning everyone. I hope you are well and staying safe. Queen Mary is here to support you; your health and wellbeing is our first priority.

Travel restrictions across London and implications for staff and students

This morning, we heard that transport across London is beginning to be restricted, with some underground stations already closed. We do now need to accelerate moving all our activities online. Most of our teaching is already online, and there will be no further face-to-face teaching after 5pm today.

Students living in residences

With future travel restrictions likely, if you live in student residences we now encourage you to consider going home if you can. If you vacate your room we will release you from your contract and refund any money paid in advance. If it is not possible for you to go home, you are of course welcome to stay in your residence and please be reassured key facilities will be available to you and we will continue to support you.

Temporary buildings closure

We will look to temporarily close down some buildings from tonight; for example, the library premises will temporarily close from 5pm this evening. I will keep you updated about temporary building closure via these communications and [our FAQs](#). It is important to note that the University is not closing, some students will continue to live on our campuses and some research will also continue on our campuses. We will however be operating the majority of our activities online.

Closure of primary and secondary schools

Yesterday, we heard that schools will close to the majority of pupils from tomorrow until further notice. This closure does not apply to universities and Queen Mary remains open. As I've said before, some students will continue to live on our campuses, and we will continue to provide the facilities they need and support them. I know that some of you will also be juggling caring responsibilities with studying, and that the closure of schools will exacerbate that. If you need help, please talk to your academic adviser, School or Institute. We will do everything we can to support you.

If you have any questions, please contact your School or Institute, residential services (if you are in residences), the [Student Enquiry Centre](#) or me at principal@qmul.ac.uk.

Best wishes

Colin

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