

Dear student,

I hope this email finds you safe and well. I'm very sorry to write to you over the holiday period, but I wanted to send you a short message following the Government's announcement yesterday regarding new measures to reduce the spread of Covid-19.

You may have seen media reports following the Government's announcement saying that universities have now been instructed to start teaching online for most subject areas from next week. The Government will review its instruction to universities, in terms of online teaching, during the week commencing 18 January. Owing to our university calendar, and our planned examination period until 22 January, with teaching starting from 25 January, this announcement does not affect our current plans or operations too much. Our campuses continue to remain fully open, and you are very welcome to come onto our campuses to use the study space and other support facilities if you need to.

Study space and other campus facilities

Our libraries, other study space and support facilities are [available](#) for any student who wants or needs to use them. Our [catering outlets are also open](#) for take away only. The areas inside most of the catering outlets are also designated as study spaces, which means you can eat and drink inside the catering outlets while you study. Other student services will be available from next week as in Semester 1, either online or in-person for students who are on our campuses.

Students studying medicine, dentistry, other clinical subjects and students with planned on-campus activities for professional accreditation

Students on these courses will start in-person on-campus education and placements as planned. If you are on one of these courses you will receive a separate email from your head of year.

In addition, any planned on-campus mandatory activity for professional accreditation will continue. Your School/Institute will contact you directly if this applies to you.

Covid-19 Lateral Flow testing

Lateral flow testing will be available for all students and staff on our campuses. If you are living on our campuses, or are on a course or placement that starts in-person teaching next week, or are using campus facilities, please [book here](#) if you would like to be tested. Please note this form of testing is for people who do not have Covid-19 symptoms. If you have symptoms, please [book a test via the NHS](#).

Research facilities

Our research facilities, including all our research laboratories and the libraries, will be fully open and staff and research students will be able to travel to use them as needed.

Support for students

We continue to live in very difficult times. Remember we are here to support you: there is [online support](#) available to everyone, wherever you are, and there is also [in-person support](#) for students if you need it. Our Students' Union has some excellent [wellbeing resources](#), and, if you are studying, have a look at their information about looking after yourself whilst you [prepare for exams](#).

I will write to you again next week. In the meantime please stay safe, and look after yourselves.

With best wishes for the New Year

Colin

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