

## Email to students - Coronavirus: update from the Principal

Dear student,

I hope this email finds you well, and that you are enjoying your first semester. It is wonderful walking around all our campuses and seeing so many students and staff chatting, laughing, playing different sports and games - and of course working and studying hard! It is really important of course that you work hard: if you have any questions or concerns about your studies, your Advisor is your first port of call. If you are looking for somewhere to study, please also be aware that we have recently launched a new service to help you find study spaces across our campuses outside of our library buildings. We have over 3,700 of these spaces, which you can find on our [Library Services website](#).

Do make sure you are also taking advantage of all the social and extra-curricular activities provided for you. There is a wide variety of activities on offer – have a look at the [programme](#), which includes in-person and online activities.

### Incidents on campuses

I'm sorry to tell you that there have been a small number of incidents of young men who are not Queen Mary students seriously disrupting lectures. We have increased security across our campuses to prevent this happening again, and are liaising with relevant authorities regarding the individuals themselves. Should an incident of this nature happen in a lecture or other learning activity you are part of, please **do not** try and intervene – just call Queen Mary security immediately on 3333.

Please can everyone behave respectfully in learning environments, in line with our values. The reported incidents involve people who are not our students, but should any of our students become involved in such incidents, or invite non-students onto campus, we will use our disciplinary processes as it is vital that every student has the opportunity to learn and enjoy their university experience.

### Covid safety on our campuses

I'm pleased to tell you that cases of Covid-19 among our communities, and in the local area, remain very low. The single most important thing we can all do to ensure Covid safety is to be fully vaccinated. Please can I encourage you to get vaccinated as soon as possible! Being vaccinated means you will not need to self-isolate if you are defined as a close contact of someone who has Covid, and also means you are far less likely, if you get infected, to become very unwell. If you are vaccinated you are also significantly less likely to spread the virus, and so are keeping others safe as well. We are hosting a [vaccination centre](#) on our Mile End campus, which can be used by students, staff and the general public. You can either book via the [NHS](#) or attend as a drop-in. Overseas students can also have the vaccine even if they have received a different vaccine overseas. If you have not been vaccinated, [visit the NHS website](#) as soon as possible for information on how to book an appointment, and [visit the Tower Hamlets council website](#) for more information about drop-in centres and vaccination events in Tower Hamlets. And if you have had one jab, please do make sure you get your second.

As well as being vaccinated, it is also important to take lateral flow tests regularly each week, either in [our test centres](#) or by using a home test kit. Please remember to register the result of the tests. If you develop symptoms, take a test straight away.

I hope you are having a great time here. If you have any questions, please contact your Advisor, the [Student Enquiry Centre](#), or, of course, you can contact me at the address below.

Best wishes,

Colin

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