

Dear student,

I understand you are worried about coronavirus. We appreciate that this is an extremely worrying and difficult time and recognise many of you are understandably anxious. Your, and our staff's, welfare is our top priority. There is no new information in this email. Instead, I am just setting out again the decisions we have taken so far, as I realise there are rumours, comments on social media, and other misinformation circulating. Please do continue to follow the University's official communication channels and government advice and check www.qmul.ac.uk/coronavirus for regularly updated guidance from the University.

At the moment, we have no confirmed cases of coronavirus on our campuses and our University remains open. Please do continue to come onto campus, unless you are feeling unwell in which case follow the advice on our website and the official government advice <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

If you are feeling anxious about coming on campus or feel that you, or those you live with, are likely to be at higher risk from the virus, due to underlying health conditions, please follow Government and NHS advice [here](#) and take appropriate precautions. Our student health and welfare services are also there to support you.

Lectures and other classes

For the majority of subject areas, from 23 March you will not be expected to come onto campus for lectures and other classes.

We expect that the campus will remain open after 23 March and that you will continue to be able to access the library and other facilities (such as those for research), with some possible restrictions. We are working hard to make learning and teaching materials available online, as soon as possible. Please be aware:

- Some learning materials are already available online and will be available online before 23 March, replacing the need for large group lectures. You will be told by your School/Institute where this is the case.
- Some learning materials will only become available after 23 March, and some learning activities will be extremely difficult to conduct online. We are working hard to make as much available to you as soon as possible, and also to put in place arrangements for tutorials and small-group teaching.

Your School/Institute will keep you updated and do look out for emails on a daily basis.

Assessments

We are working hard to make arrangements for assessments in the majority of subject areas to be online. Many of you will be working towards assessments in May/June; please do keep studying using

all the material that is available to you! We have agreed there will be no large group face-to-face assessments, such as formal written exams, in April, May or June. Alternative assessment arrangements will be put in place. Your School/Institute will be in touch with you in relation to any essential practical assessments and other small-scale assessments. Please keep in close touch with us and keep a look out for emails from the University, and from your School/Institutes. We guarantee students will not be disadvantaged by the arrangements that we put into place, including international students who have travelled home. All students expecting to graduate this year will get an award. Information on future PhD vivas will be available shortly.

Living on campus, and accessing facilities

Our University is open and all the normal facilities you access are open and available to you. At the moment, we envisage this will continue to be the case beyond 23 March. If you have concerns, our wellbeing and residential teams are here to support you.

International students, and students studying overseas

Last week, we have offered international students the choice of returning home, owing to possible future travel restrictions. This offer includes all students from the European Union. We have also written to our students currently studying in partner institutions overseas to offer them the choice to come back to the UK.

Students holding Tier 4 Visas

We are following UKVI advice in relation to the implications of coronavirus. You must continue to engage with online learning materials and assessments in order to satisfy the conditions of your visa. If you decide to leave the UK please inform your school/institute. This will be counted as authorised absence.

I will write to you again during the week. If you have questions please have a look at our FAQs, contact the student enquiry team, your school or institute or me, at the address below.

Best wishes,

Colin

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