

Dear student,

I hope this email finds you safe and well. Remember that we are here to support you, and do get in touch if you need help, through your School/Institute, our [wellbeing services](#), or the [Student Enquiry Centre](#). Please remember that you are not alone and we are here to help you.

Your educational offer for the rest of this semester

As you know, under the new national [government guidance](#), we are able to resume in-person teaching for students who are studying practical or practice-based subjects and need access to specialist equipment and facilities from 8 March. I am delighted this means that we can resume in-person educational activities for many of our students. We have been working very hard to timetable in-person activities for those of you on the relevant courses. If you have not yet heard from your School/Institute about whether, under the new government guidance, we are able to offer you in-person educational activities and if so, what activities are on offer, you will be contacted very shortly.

Please be aware that although we encourage you to come to the in-person educational activities, you can continue to follow your course online if you wish to do so (except those courses, such as medicine, dentistry and other clinical courses, where the practical elements are an essential part of the course. Your School/Institute will tell you if that is the case).

I am very sorry we are not at this point able to invite all our students back for in-person educational activities. For those of you who are not on practical or practice-based courses, the Government is set to review whether we can welcome you back for in-person education in mid-April. I realise this is disappointing news. We are continuing to discuss what we can offer you within the constraints of the new government guidance. If you have any questions about your learning, please ask your Advisor or your School/Institute.

Please remember that any student on any of our courses is welcome to come onto our campuses, or return to their accommodation, if you need to access our facilities or quiet study space, or feel your overall wellbeing would be better served by being on campus. There is plenty of study space available on our campuses and we will be opening more up from Monday to make sure we can meet the needs of all our students. Please do [use the bookable spaces](#) to study, as we can then ensure the spaces you are using are Covid-secure.

Social activity

From 29 March, national Covid restrictions will be eased such that you will be able to meet with one other household (or up to six people from different households) outside, and also at that point outdoor sports will be able to resume. Working with our Students' Union, we will be looking to see how we can make the most of this easing of government restrictions in our [events and activities programme](#). Do keep checking the programme as events and activities are added frequently. Please [visit the gov.uk website](#) for the rest of the Government's roadmap out of the current restrictions.

I know that everyone is desperate for a bit more freedom to socialise. However, Covid-19 is still circulating, albeit now at a lower level, as the country rolls out the vaccine programme. It is important therefore that everyone continues to follow the government guidance for everyone's safety.

Keeping safe on and off our campuses

It is still really important that everyone does everything they can to ensure they keep safe on and off our campuses. Please remember to follow the [Covid Code](#), and wear your face covering when needed. On our campuses, remember to wear a face covering all the time in our libraries, and when moving around inside buildings or if two metre social distancing cannot be maintained. In addition, if you are living or travelling regularly to our campuses please [book a Covid-19 test](#) twice a week at one of our Covid-19 test centres.

Vaccine roll out in the UK

The vaccination programme across the UK is going well. I'm pleased to tell you that over 12,500 local Tower Hamlets residents have been vaccinated at our vaccination centre alone! The Government has set a target to offer all adults in the UK a vaccination by the end of July. You need to be registered with a GP to be offered a vaccine, so if you are not currently registered anywhere, please make sure you register. There is more detail about how to do that [on our website](#).

I do hope everything is going well for you. These are very difficult times: please do look after yourselves and each other, and keep safe. Please also remember that we are here to support you, and do not hesitate to reach out if you need help.

I will write to you again next week with a further update, or earlier if necessary.

Best wishes,

Colin

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