

Dear student,

I hope that this email finds you safe and well and that you were able to enjoy at least some of the glorious bank holiday weather. I know many of you will be coming to the end of your assessment period and, for many of you who are studying one of our undergraduate programmes, looking forward to a well-deserved summer break. For others, including our medical and dental undergraduates, our PhD students and those of you on PGT courses, you will be continuing to study through the summer. As you know, you are all permitted to come onto our campuses and make the most of our facilities and of the opportunity to socialise. Please do take part in the programme of [on-campus activities](#) organised by the Students' Union and University. It is important that you look after yourselves and please remember that we are here to support you. So don't hesitate to [reach out for help if you need it](#).

Educational offer for next year

With the end of your assessments, I know many of you have your sights fixed on the start of the next academic year. I therefore wanted to reiterate a few key points from my previous email to you.

Our educational offer next year will be a mix of on-campus and online education. Every programme will have some on-campus education for you to enjoy, combined with the best of online learning. On-campus education is likely to be a mix of seminars, small-group teaching, practical sessions and laboratory work, depending on the disciplinary area.

We expect and encourage all our students to come to our campuses for the start of Semester 1. We know from feedback how much students value on-campus education, and delight in the opportunity to learn and work together in person. We have been reminded over the last year that learning is a social activity, and that bringing students and academics together in person can enable creativity, diversity of thought and excitement that is possible, but difficult, to recreate perfectly online. We have also all been made painfully aware over the last year of the significant detrimental impact on mental and physical wellbeing that lack of social contact can bring. For all these reasons, we look forward to welcoming you all back for the beginning of the first semester.

To students joining us in September from overseas, we are aware there may be ongoing international travel disruption in the autumn. Please do plan to travel to our campuses for the start of Semester 1 if you can, but if you cannot travel to join us at the beginning of the semester, you will be able to follow your course purely online. You will be very welcome, and should plan, to join us on our campuses as soon as you are able to travel.

Covid capacity at Whitechapel and Mile End libraries

In my last email to you, I explained the change to our face covering policy as a result of the update to our [institutional Covid-19 risk assessment](#): you no longer need to wear a face covering when you are sitting down working or studying, as you did previously in some study areas including our libraries. We continue to examine all aspects of our Covid-19 policies and practices in light of the latest Government guidance to ensure our services are open and are as fully available as possible in a Covid-secure way. As a result of this, from 7 June we will begin to increase significantly the capacity of our Whitechapel library. We have also begun to upgrade the study spaces on the ground floor of our Mile End library – you can [find more information about this on our dedicated webpage](#).

Whatever you are doing over the summer months, take care of yourselves and your loved ones, and remember that [we are here to support you whenever you need it](#).

Best wishes,

Colin

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