

Dear student,

I hope that this email finds you safe and well, and that you are enjoying a bit more freedom to socialise and resume everyday activities with the easing of restrictions as part of the Government's Step 2 out of lockdown. It is great to see so many of you on our campuses, though I continue to be very frustrated we are not yet allowed to invite you all back for in-person education. We are discussing with Government for all students to be able to return for in-person education as part of the Government's third step out of lockdown, which is currently scheduled for 17 May.

Although we cannot resume in-person teaching for all of you right now, as I have continually highlighted during the pandemic any student can return to our campuses at any time if you feel that your wellbeing would be better served by being here. There is [a range of social and sporting activities](#) on offer. Activities are added all the time, do please have a look! Walking around one of our campuses the other day it was lovely to meet and chat with students from our law society, who were holding an event outside, as well as seeing students taking a break from their studies to play badminton, table tennis and have a drink in our outside bar. Do please come and join in!

### **Getting a vaccine and staying safe**

The UK vaccination programme is going well, and by the end of July everyone over the age of 18 will be offered a vaccine. You must be registered with a GP to be invited for a vaccine, so **please do register with a GP** if you haven't already done so. There are more details on our [Student Health Services webpages](#). I would encourage everyone to have the vaccine to keep yourself and others safe.

We were pleased to help with the roll out of vaccines by hosting a vaccination centre on our Mile End campus, where over 16,000 local residents were vaccinated. The NHS has now folded our centre into the large vaccination centre that is now set up in Mile End Park.

It is of course important that we all continue to keep safe on and off our campuses. If you are on our campuses please follow our [Covid Code](#), and continue to [book a Covid-19 test](#) at one of our centres twice a week. From mid-May, we hope to be able to offer you Covid-19 lateral flow tests to take away and do at home, as well as continuing our on-campus testing service.

To finish with some good news - I hope you have seen that we received the [EcoCampus Silver Award](#) in recognition of the work taking place to improve the environmental sustainability of our campuses! It is great to see our progress in this area rewarded: I know it is a subject of great interest to students. We are now working towards the next award!

I know many of you will be facing assessments soon: please do look after yourselves as you study; it is really important to take breaks, meet up with friends and exercise if you can. Have a look at the Students' Union [Study Well campaign](#) for some tips.

I will write to you again soon.

Best wishes,

Colin

Professor Colin Bailey, CBE, FREng, BEng, PhD, CEng, FICE, FIStructE, MIFireE  
President and Principal | Queen Mary University of London | Mile End Road | London | E1 4NS

