

Dear student,

It felt much quieter on our Mile End campus this morning as I walked into work. Many of our research and teaching activities have now transitioned online, and staff are working very hard to complete the transition.

Following my email yesterday, some more students have chosen to go home. Some of you however remain living on campus and I want to reassure you that we will provide the facilities you need whether you remain on campus or choose to leave. Wherever you are, please do continue to study and use all the materials available to you.

Libraries

Some of our core student facilities are now transitioning online. This includes our libraries premises, which will be temporarily closed from 6pm on Friday. We will keep the decision to temporarily close the library premises under review. Please note that the libraries will still be fully operating online.

Field trips

We have already taken the decision to cancel international field trips. We have now decided to cancel all UK based field trips as well until 1 July 2020. We are continuing to monitor the situation about when field trips can resume.

DDS and advice and counselling

You can still contact Advice and Counselling as normal through the [webform](#) for either advice or counselling queries and you will get a response quickly. Unfortunately, we are temporarily not able to offer face-to-face appointments. In addition, some specialist services may be limited. Please do however contact us via the webform if you need support.

The Disability and Dyslexia Service will still be providing support to students with a disability or specific learning difference and all support will be provided online. Please email dds@qmul.ac.uk if you have any questions about DDS support.

PC labs

To ensure everyone's health and safety we have decided to temporarily close some of our PC labs. The canalside PC labs will be kept open for students, and we will monitor how busy they are: if they become very busy, we will look to open other spaces where students can use PCs on campus.

Graduation

I have had some questions about graduation from students. I reiterate that everyone who is expecting to graduate this year will get an award. In relation to the physical graduation events planned for July, we have decided to postpone them for the time being and will be back in touch when we have new dates.

Maintaining the quality and values of our education

I wrote yesterday about the importance of maintaining the quality of our education as we transition it online. There is terrific work going on across disciplines to achieve this, and great collaboration between students and staff, through the Staff-Student Liaison Committees, to continue to ensure our education is co-created.

Research

We are transitioning as much as we can of our research activity online, and making local arrangements, with full risk assessments, where it is possible and necessary to keep working on campus. PhD and MRes students, and others who have research as part of their courses, should

already have been contacted by their research supervisor, academic advisor or Head of School/institute about their particular projects. If this is not the case, do get in touch with your School or Institute. We will work hard to ensure that no one is disadvantaged by arrangements we have to put in place due to the coronavirus pandemic. There is more guidance available [here](#).

Students' Union

The Students' Union has decided to temporarily [close its facilities](#) now, and will have communicated that yesterday.

I know everyone is worried, about themselves and about family, friends and loved ones. Do support each other. University staff are here to support you and do reach out to your School/Institute, student residential services (if you are in our residences), the student enquiry desk or contact me at principal@qmul.ac.uk if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes,

Colin

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