Dear student,

I want to update you on an important decision that we have made to suspend all face-to-face teaching for students on taught programmes from the evening of Friday 20 March, moving to remote teaching from Monday 23 March. This is an important step to help ensure the wellbeing of our students and staff as a precaution against COVID-19. It is important to be clear, however, that we are not closing the University - just changing the way we deliver teaching.

University buildings including specialist facilities, libraries, cafes, gyms and sport facilities, halls of residence and other University facilities will remain open to all students for the time being. We will continue to keep this under close review. All student services will remain open unless advised otherwise.

Our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) already underpins a high quality blended-learning experience, and our academic colleagues will also be using Microsoft Teams to support this move to remote teaching. Our Heads of Schools are already working with their teams to progress these plans and will be using this week as a period of transition and you will receive module/course-specific advice as the week goes on and further information on assessments will follow.

I know that you will have many questions about the evolving situation with COVID-19 and what this means for your education. I want to reassure you that we already have a number of ways in which mitigating circumstances can be considered to ensure that our students are able to progress and graduate and are developing detailed plans based on this.

For our international students this may be a particularly difficult time and I want to reassure you that the University is here to support you. We are working on providing further additional information and will share this with you shortly.

Should you need support, do please look at the information available on our university website.

Please also ensure that you look out for emails providing you with updates, studentcentral and the FAQs on our website.

Best regards

Professor Ruth Whittaker
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education and Student Experience)