Dear student,

As you should now be aware, the University is moving to remote learning for all taught programmes from Monday 23 March. You will be receiving further updates on this from your Schools and course tutors in the coming days.

The Government has begun daily briefings regarding the country’s COVID-19 response, the first of which was held yesterday. This first briefing presented a significant change in our national approach. As a result, and based on this and the latest Public Health England advice, the University is taking further immediate steps to support the wellbeing of our community and the promotion of social distancing.

In summary, the following has been enacted with immediate effect:

- The cessation of face-to-face teaching as we transition to remote learning unless you are advised of very specific circumstances by your School
- Cancellation of all University public events for the next three months
- Closure of our gym and sports facilities

Any students over 70, those who are pregnant, and those that have the following underlying medical conditions: heart disease; chronic respiratory disease; diabetes; cancer; hypertension and with significantly impaired immune systems **must not come onto campus** other than briefly to collect any personal belongings or learning materials.
The University has provision within its regulations to support the progression of students and award degrees in exceptional circumstances and will apply these regulations if it becomes necessary in the current situation.

Whilst we are encouraging as many staff as possible to work from home, all essential services and facilities, including halls, will continue to remain open to support students who remain in residence.

Please ensure that you continue to follow official guidance, including ensuring that you self-isolate for 14 days if you, or someone you live with, has or develops a persistent cough and temperature.

We know that the COVID-19 pandemic is a cause of real anxiety for many of you and it is more important than ever for us all to look out for each other. We will continue to provide updated information and links to official guidance via our website. Please do have a look at this if you have not already done so.

See the latest COVID-19 advice on our website

Best regards

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