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An update on our plans for the new academic year

Dear student,

We are writing to provide you with a further update on our plans for the 2020/21 academic year. This builds upon previous information we have provided to offer holders with more detail about the activity we are putting in place.

While many staff and students are currently working from home, the University is working through a process to re-introduce campus-based working in labs, offices and study spaces where it is safe to do so, in line with the latest UK Government guidance. You should discuss your options with your research supervisors and/or your centre/programme director in the first instance. We will do our best to enable you to proceed with your research project, wherever you begin your studies.

To help with our planning we will be asking you in August if you are planning to live in Bath, or if you intend to study at a distance. If you cannot join us in Bath we will ask you to provide your reason and intended study location. This will ensure that the appropriate resource is dedicated to support your mode of study, and make the best use of our physical space for those studying in Bath.

If you're on a programme with a taught phase, the University has been working hard to ensure you have access to a quality blended learning experience. As a student you will find your programme has several modes of delivery: In-person teaching and engagement, Live Online Interactive Learning, Independent Learning and Remote Learning.

Most University induction activities will begin on 28 September, but if you're on an integrated PhD or some science courses your induction activities may start on 21 September, and you'll be contacted about this. You can read more about our [Roadmap to reopening campus](#) and how we're planning for the coming months.

Best wishes

Cathryn Mitchell

Doctoral College Academic Director



University-owned accommodation: arrival dates and arrangements for quarantine

If you do not need to quarantine and you have applied to live in the University's accommodation, you will receive notification of your allocated accommodation in August. You will also be informed of a specified arrival date. You will need to make arrangements to arrive on the specified arrival date, which will be between 17-22 September. This six-day period has been designed to maximise your safety as you arrive and unpack – ensuring that it is easy for you to maintain social distancing and take the stress out of moving in.

The University will hold allocated accommodation up until 31 October 2020 and will start charging from the point that you take up your room. From 1 November 2020, if you wish the University to hold your room, you will need to start paying for your accommodation, even if you have not moved to Bath. You can choose to give up your allocated room and reapply for a place in accommodation from 1 January 2021 if you are not able to take up your room by 31 October and do not wish to pay for it.

If you are travelling from outside the UK and do not need to undertake a period of quarantine, you will need to book into private sector accommodation if you arrive before your specified arrival date.

Unless you have specifically applied to live in family accommodation, the University will not be able to accommodate any family members who decide to travel with you to Bath. This is to ensure the safety of those living in your allocated University accommodation.

The UK Government is currently requiring all those entering the UK to undertake a 14-day period of quarantine, unless they are coming from a country where a travel corridor has

been established, or from Ireland, the Channel Islands, or the Isle of Man. The most up to date list of [countries where a travel corridor exists can be found on the gov.uk website](#).

If you are planning to travel to the University from one of the countries not on the travel corridor list, and have chosen to live in the University's accommodation, the following arrangements have been made to support your quarantine period.

Arriving between 29 August and 5 September

Arrangements for quarantine period

You will be provided with 14 days of free quarantine accommodation and food on the main campus.

Arrangements after quarantine period

You move into your allocated university accommodation, which you will start paying for.

Arriving between 6 September and 16 September

Arrangements for quarantine period

You need to make your own arrangements to quarantine off the university campus in private sector accommodation. You will need to make your own arrangements to provide food.

Arrangements after quarantine period

You move into your allocated university accommodation, which you will start paying for.

Arriving after 17 September but before 31 October

Arrangements for quarantine period

You will need to book into designated quarantine accommodation on campus for 14 days. You will need to pay for the quarantine accommodation, but free food will be provided.

Arrangements after quarantine period

You move into your allocated accommodation. You will pay for your accommodation from the point you move in.

Arriving on 1 November or later

Arrangements for quarantine period

You will need to book into designated quarantine accommodation on campus for 14 days. You will need to pay for the quarantine accommodation, but free food will be provided.

Arrangements after quarantine period

You move into your allocated accommodation. You will be paying for your accommodation from 1 November, regardless of when you arrive.

Transport to Bath from London Heathrow Airport

The University is making arrangements to put on coaches from London Heathrow airport from 29 August to the 5 September inclusive and 17-22 September to support transport to Bath. Further details of these transport options will be provided to you in August.

Transport to Bath from other locations

The University will not be making arrangements to meet you from other airports or points of entry to the UK. We would encourage you to [read the UK Government's advice on travelling safely from your point of entry to the UK](#).

Students who need to undergo a period of quarantine and have any queries should e-mail quarantine@bath.ac.uk.

Chartered flights to the UK from China - please respond by 5 August

If you're considering travelling to the UK from China, the University is planning for a range of scenarios to support our students and would be grateful if you would let us know how you plan to travel to the UK by completing [this survey on a possible Hainan Airlines charter service](#). The survey will close at 23.59BST Wednesday 5 August.

More information about our plans to support our students will be communicated in the next weeks. Your feedback and any further developments regarding international travel will inform these plans including discussions around the possibility of providing charter flights in partnership with Hainan Airlines. You will be contacted by Hainan Airlines directly in the event that charter flights are available to book.

Private-sector accommodation

If you're moving into private-sector accommodation in Bath and need to self-isolate on arrival you will be responsible for arranging this and for buying your food during any period of quarantine.

For all students in private accommodation, the [Students' Union Advice & Support Centre](#) offers a contract-checking service, as well as other information on finding housing.

If you are moving to Bath from outside the UK, you will also have online access to our [Living in a New Culture course](#).

Living in Bath: activities on campus

As they do every year, our Students' Union will deliver a varied and full programme from the start of your time with us, and our active societies are finding new ways to offer the exciting and inclusive experience for which they are known. A series of Creative Workshops will also be available throughout the year, connecting talented professionals from across the Arts with students, to share skills that can be applied to all elements of future employment.

You may be keen to use the incredible sports facilities and services at Bath. Whether you wish to take some gentle exercise, get a little fitter, try something new or compete for the University, we are working on plans to meet a range of interests and personal goals. The Sports Training Village plans to reopen in early August after a successful period supporting over 60 of the elite athletes based at Bath return to training. The virtual exercise and well-being classes programme enjoyed by many over recent months will continue throughout the academic year and new outdoor fitness classes are starting shortly, initially on the beach volleyball courts. Competitive leagues are set for a January 2021 start though some individual and non-contact sports events may be held in Semester 1 and student club leads are working with staff to provide an inclusive, fun and engaging experience.

We are adapting some of our existing services to the current situation, building on our successful support of students living on campus after lockdown occurred in March 2020. A variety of food and drink outlets will be available to you across campus and our well stocked campus supermarket will be open to meet your needs.

We look forward to welcoming you soon. If you have any questions, please [contact the Doctoral College](#).

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