

Dear Student

Following the Prime Minister's statement at the weekend relating to a proposed second lockdown, we are writing to you, to update you on the arrangements for teaching and learning that will be in place until at least 2 December 2020.

Your safety and that of our staff is our foremost concern. We have consulted the government guidance to create a plan that safely enables you to continue to access your learning with UCS. During the lockdown period from 12:01 on Thursday 5 November to midnight on Wednesday 2 December, we will continue to deliver all your timetabled lessons in person from classrooms and we will simultaneously broadcast these lessons so that you can access learning remotely if you ever need to isolate or are unable to attend learning in person for any reason.

We ask you to note that if you are a residential student living on Sparsholt campus or at Burma Road, the government has been clear that you will not be allowed to travel home, from Thursday 5 November for the full duration of the lockdown period, including at weekends. Campus bus transport, for those who use it, will still be available during the lockdown period and learners living locally will be able to continue to travel on to campus each day.

We would like to reassure you that we have made amendments to your timetable to deliver more of the theoretical elements of your programme during this lockdown period, so that students who have told us they need to learn remotely, are able to access learning without impacting engagement in the practical elements of the curriculum. Please check your timetable regularly from Thursday for these revisions. We will adjust the teaching plans to provide more practical delivery later in the academic year.

During this period of enhanced restrictions, the Library and the HE Study Centre will remain open although we are required to close social areas, the Gym and the Sports Hall. Updated Government Guidance also requires face masks be worn in and around campus at least until 2nd December.

We will update you over the next few days on mental health support measures available to students and ask you if you have any immediate concerns in this regard, please contact the College Wellbeing Team at wellbeingteamsparsholt@sparsholt.ac.uk. Similarly, if you have any residential concerns, please contact the duty warden and finally any concerns regarding your course of study, please contact Fiona Montrose or Jessica Lacey on 01962 797200.

Please accept my assurance that we are committed to supporting you to fully achieve your learning goals.



Caroline James

Dean of Higher Education

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