

## **Teaching and learning in 2021/22**

At this time, it is still too early for us to be certain what safe distancing or other restrictions, including travel restrictions, will be in place for the next academic year.

Our campuses are open and our aim is to have as much on-campus teaching, learning and activities as circumstances allow. The precise amount of on-campus teaching is likely to vary from programme to programme and may depend on the discipline and the stage you are at in your studies.

Within a programme some modules may be delivered fully on-campus, some modules may be a mix of on-campus and online teaching and some modules may need to be fully online.

We are, of course, still living with the pandemic, and we are prepared to make changes in line with UK Government guidance.

COVID infections on our campuses remain consistently low. We expect our students and staff coming to campus to follow the health and safety guidance in place and take regular asymptomatic COVID tests. All adults, 18 years and over, are now eligible to have the COVID vaccination in the UK. We encourage students and staff to have the vaccination to help protect them from infection and to reduce transmission of the virus.

It is possible that in the next academic year we may experience outbreaks on our campuses and a resurgence of coronavirus in London and the UK. In these and other circumstances, we may need to increase or move the majority of teaching and learning online to support you to continue with your studies.

## **Remote study in 2021/22**

It isn't currently clear what travel restrictions, visa delays or other restrictions associated with the pandemic will be in place at the start of the next academic year. If you are affected by such restrictions, we will do what we can to support you to study remotely for the first semester. For some programmes which require specialist practical and clinical learning, remote-only study will not be possible.

Of course, we hope all of you will be able to be in London for the start of term and if you are able to be here, we encourage you to attend all your scheduled on-campus teaching.

## **Start of term**

Our campuses are open, and we expect the start of term to go ahead as scheduled. There are no current plans to have staggered starts in the first semester.

For students wanting to be in London for the start of term but impacted by restrictions in place, the arrival window has been extended. Welcome week will start early this year (13 – 24 September) with teaching starting on 27 September 2021 which means the late arrival deadline will this year be 18 October.

Students who are not able to be in London by 18 October will need to study remotely until the start of the second semester in January 2022 (assuming programme regulations permit).

If your programme cannot be studied remotely and you are concerned that you might not be able to be in London (e.g. due to overseas travel restrictions) then please contact the department in the first instance. You can reach us [here](#).

## **Health and safety measures**

Our robust health and safety measures in place on our campuses and in our residences have helped to keep transmission rates among our community consistently low. These include safe distancing, wearing face coverings unless exempt and regular hand washing or using hand sanitisers, as well as enhanced cleaning regimes.

To enable us to have on-campus activity we will keep these measures in place in line with UK Government guidance. We ask that everyone coming to campus follows the guidance to help reduce transmission of the virus.

## **COVID-19 tests**

Asymptomatic testing (if you don't have symptoms) will continue to be available on our campuses. We expect students and staff to take COVID-19 tests twice a week if they are coming to our campuses or living in our residences, even if they have been vaccinated. Information on testing is available on our website.

Anyone who has COVID symptoms or feels unwell, should take a PCR test to confirm if they have COVID, complete the King's self-isolation reporting form and follow the guidance on self-isolation. We offer support to all our students who need to self-isolate.

## **COVID vaccinations**

The health and wellbeing of our community is our priority which is why we are fully supportive of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in the UK and across the world. We encourage students and staff to have the vaccine when invited to - it can help to protect you and may also help to protect your family and friends

Individuals should register with a UK General Practitioner (GP) to make it as easy as possible for you to access the COVID-19 vaccine in the UK and for any other healthcare requirements you may have. Students can register with King's Medical Centre located on our campus.

Even if the first dose of the vaccine was received overseas, students will be able to have their second dose in the UK. Where possible vaccination centres will aim to provide the same type of vaccination as your first dose. In exceptional circumstances different vaccines can be used for first and second doses, you may not know which COVID-19 vaccine your first dose was or the same product may not be available in the UK.

## **Study abroad**

We are planning a cautious resumption of outbound study abroad in 2021/22. This will require individual student risk assessments and suitable approval. It will also be subject to UK Government guidance, national quarantine restrictions overseas, country-to-country, which themselves will be subject to change, and the policies of host institutions on accepting study abroad students.

## **Assessments**

The majority of exams in assessment period one will be online.