

# Guiding Principles for the new term

Over the last month we have discussed the key challenges facing us as we prepare for the new term. From our discussions we now have a set of guiding principles, which are not set in stone, but provide starting points to help us plan our teaching, resources and timetabling. As we plan, and as government advice changes, we will need to adjust accordingly.

1. **Two Welcome Weeks which will be a continuation of the blended approach** with a range of cross university activities available online (including skills and catch-up sessions and programme induction sessions), supported by informal face to face activities and opportunities to explore the campuses where feasible.
2. **Deliver our programmes on campus without social distancing, though teaching staff will be expected to stand 2m back from the class** (this will be kept under review in line with government guidance).
3. **We will provide as much on campus teaching as possible.**
4. **121 sessions will be conducted on campus unless otherwise agreed in advance by both the student and staff member.**
5. **Dependent upon facilities, on campus sessions will be recorded to allow for participation of any students that cannot come on to campus (social isolation, illness, caring responsibilities, inability to get to the UK).**
6. **All programmes will include appropriate opportunities for 'catch-up'.**
7. **We will look for opportunities to live stream to allow students off campus to participate in real time.**
8. **Where sessions are delivered online our preference will be for these to be live.**
9. **We will appropriately support staff to deliver innovative blended approaches (technical support, teaching support).**
10. **We will make full use of both the timetabled hours (9am – 9pm) and general purpose teaching rooms to ensure access to facilities in an inclusive and covid-safe manner.**
11. **We will consider the timetable from the students' perspective and try to avoid situations where students have limited or isolated blocks of time on campus as a result of their module choices. When planning later teaching sessions, we will be mindful of the limited transport options for students on some campuses.**
12. **We will continue to address the digital poverty gap to support all students in a blended learning environment.**
13. **We will continue to provide safe spaces on campus for students to book out and work in individually and small groups.**