

All Student Email
Thursday 12 March

Dear Students,

I thought it was important to reassure you around the actions we are taking in relation to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) infections occurring globally and within the UK.

Firstly, at the present time there are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus at the University of Chichester. The Senior Management Team (SMT) is closely monitoring the national and regional updates from both Public Health England and the NHS. At present there have been 456 confirmed cases within the UK, which is a relatively low number overall, both in terms of an actual number, and as a proportion of the total population of c.66million. In terms of further context, at the time of writing there have been just three confirmed cases in the region of West Sussex, which has a population of c.850,000 people. Public Health England provide this data publicly and the website link is

here: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/f94c3c90da5b4e9f9a0b19484dd4bb14>)

Secondly, and as a result of this information and following the advice of Public Health England, it has been decided that at the present time the University will continue to operate normally. Of course, we ask all of our students and staff to refer to the information on our website, which is being updated regularly and is available through the main University homepage, Moodle and the intranet site. The page is available here - <https://www.chi.ac.uk/student-life/support-health-wellbeing/novel-coronavirus>

This page links to several PHE and NHS websites, where recommendations are made around handwashing, good hygiene and self-isolation if you suspect you may be suffering from the illness.

Unless you are notified otherwise by the University all teaching sessions are being delivered as usual and we encourage all students to attend them as usual. There are no current plans for the University to close or for taught sessions to be postponed or cancelled. The advice that we would always give to any student who for specific reasons is unable to attend a taught session applies as normal: please ensure that you utilise the resources on Moodle for your modules and complete all tasks as set by your lecturers.

Regular meetings are occurring to ensure the situation is monitored locally and to ensure that national guidance is followed. The Senior Management Team, student support and academic colleagues are planning for a range of potential scenarios. However, currently all aspects of the University are functioning as normal and we hope this continues to be the situation moving forward.

More information will be shared as soon as any further decisions are taken. Please be assured, the safety and wellbeing of our community of both students and staff is of paramount importance to us.

Best regards,

Professor Jane Longmore
Vice-Chancellor