



**QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST**

OUR CAMPUS COMMITMENT

How we are offering
you a safe campus
experience in 2020-21

**RUSSELL
GROUP**

**SHAPING
A BETTER
WORLD
SINCE 1845**

WELCOME TO QUEEN'S



Professor Ian Greer
President and Vice Chancellor

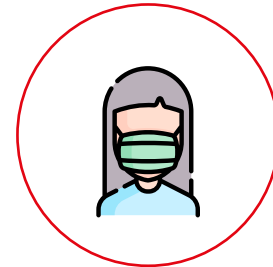
Over the past few months, every aspect of society has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. In these unprecedented times, we are conscious of the considerable anxiety and uncertainty you are all facing regarding your forthcoming year of study.

I hope this guide will provide you with some clarity and reassurance about the steps we have taken to prepare the type of learning and student experience you can expect when you arrive back on campus, and above all, the measures we have in place to ensure your safety.

We are mindful that an important aspect of studying at Queen's is meeting new people from different backgrounds and have the opportunity to develop different skills. We are confident that we will be able to deliver a memorable and meaningful student experience, even within the context of the challenges we are all facing due to COVID-19.

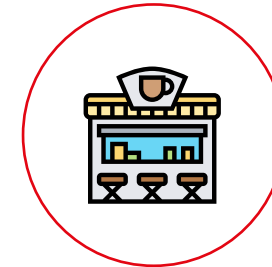
I trust you will find the information helpful and look forward to welcoming you back to Queen's.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU



ENHANCED HYGIENE MEASURES

Face coverings and hand sanitiser will be available to all staff and students, with additional hand washing facilities and enhanced cleaning rosters in place across campus. Students will have access to swift testing, where appropriate and will be supported to isolate safely if living in University Accommodation.



AUTHENTIC CAMPUS EXPERIENCE

We're adapting our libraries, student spaces, cafes, sports centres and social hubs in line with social distancing guidelines so you can still enjoy all the benefits of campus life.



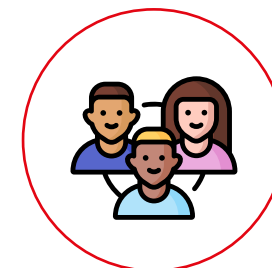
FLEXIBLE LIVE TEACHING

Student-lecturer interaction is a key part of our learning model. We will offer an authentic university experience through Connected Learning, which means that you will receive a blend of face-to-face teaching and virtual learning.



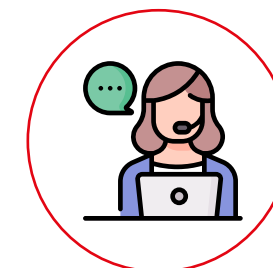
ACCESS TO SAFE ACCOMMODATION

Supportive self-isolation measures if needed, rota systems and capacity restrictions will allow all shared living, study and social spaces within our accommodation to remain open. We would encourage you to move in to your University Accommodation at the start of term so you can benefit from face-to-face teaching and a campus lifestyle.



ACTIVE STUDENT LIFE

Our Students' Union will remain open, along with our 200+ clubs and societies, offering a range of opportunities to make friends and to engage with student life in Belfast in accordance with social distancing guidelines.



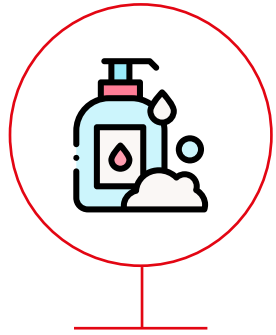
GUIDANCE AT EVERY STEP

Our student support and accommodation teams are on hand to help and support you with life at Queen's.

Given the changing nature of the pandemic, these commitments are subject to the guidelines that may be in place at the time. For example, if restrictions are increased/eased in the future then facilities and services may not be delivered as described.

STAYING SAFE

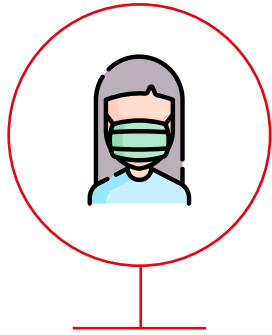
The health and safety of students is our first priority. We have put in place a range of measures on campus to minimise the risks presented by the virus and protect you.



HYGIENE

We are committed to keeping your campus a safe campus and we will ensure all guidelines issued by the Public Health Agency of Northern Ireland are adhered to. An increased cleaning regime will ensure all spaces are hygienically clean at all times.

Hand sanitiser and hand-washing facilities will be provided across campus, particularly in high-traffic areas.



CAMPUS SAFETY

The University will provide all staff and students with face coverings where needed. Staff and students will be asked to wear face coverings where necessary in accordance with health guidelines.

On campus, one-way systems and screens will be used where appropriate to ensure social distancing. Signage across campus will remind people of the need to keep their distance and wash their hands regularly.

Any students who show symptoms will be supported to self-isolate and have swift access to testing. Positive cases will be referred to the Northern Ireland contact tracing system and supported to recover.



YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Queen's Accommodation has over 3,400 places in managed accommodation and offers some of the most affordable, safe, and high-quality student accommodation in Belfast. Applications are open now for September.

YOUR BEDROOM



Safe and comfortable



Stationery packs



200Mb WIFI and personal 250Mb cable connection



Hygienically cleaned



Memory stick with essential information

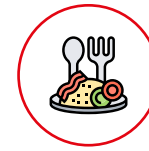


Access to Residential Team online

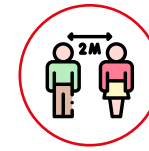
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The Kitchen is your social space.

We have made provisions to make it safe and ready for social distancing.



Three meals a day* can be provided during quarantine/ self-isolation if necessary*



Social-distancing ready spaces



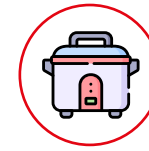
Drinking water from cold tap



Large Screen Television



Fresh supplies of soap, sanitiser, bathroom cleaner and wipes



Full complement of Kitchen amenities, including a rice cooker

* food will be charged

YOUR KITCHEN



Hygienically cleaned



All touch-points and surfaces sanitised



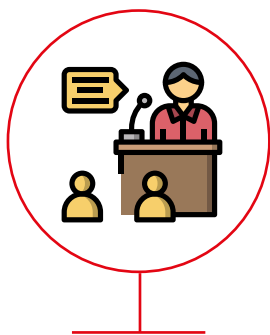
Fresh supplies of soap, sanitiser, bathroom cleaner and wipes

YOUR BATHROOM



YOUR LEARNING EXPERIENCE

We will commence teaching in September for most courses, applying the relevant social distancing and hygiene measures to assure the safety of students. We will deliver a connected learning approach with face-to-face teaching being complemented by online delivery as necessary. Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Professor Richard English explains more.



FACE-TO-FACE

A crucial part of the Queen's experience

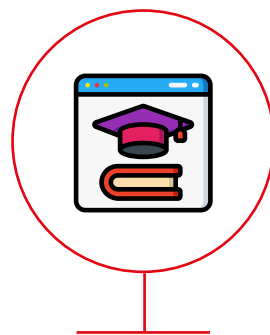
We will still deliver face-to-face teaching in accordance with social distancing when we can and it remains the optimum method of teaching.

Teaching in small groups, seminars and tutorials are a crucial part of this. However, traditional lectures in large groups are likely to be delivered online, at least at the beginning of term.

Lecturers will be available for one-to-one meetings as long as social distancing is applied.

Lab-based learning that can be conducted in-person with social distancing applied will go ahead as normal.

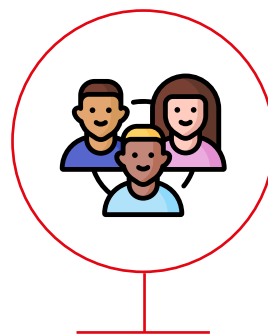
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INTERACTIVE LEARNING

Cutting-edge technologies to enable Connected Learning

Where it is not possible or optimal to deliver face-to-face teaching, our state-of-the-art digital technologies (such as 'Canvas') will provide a full, interactive learning platform. In some cases, we believe that this form of learning will actually be preferable to large traditional lectures as it provides greater flexibility to meet your needs and encourages greater interaction. Face-to-face teaching will also be recorded and live-streamed as much as possible.



DUAL DELIVERY AND BALANCED LEARNING

Campus life will be different for a while

All teaching will be available remotely to students who are not able to travel to Belfast for the start of the academic year.

The balance of face-to-face, interactive online and pre-recorded teaching that each student receives will be determined by the availability of space to facilitate social distancing restrictions and the aims of each module as determined by the academic.



CANVAS VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



"Canvas is adaptable, reliable, customisable, easy to use, mobile and time-saving. It is designed to let you do your thing. Every last feature, every last interface is crafted to save you time and effort and to make teaching and learning easier."

OTHER ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Work Placements

If providers are happy, all work placements that can be conducted within the context of social distancing will go ahead.

Stay in-touch support groups

Queen's PEC keep active Sports Channel Students' Union (SU) quizzes, debates and updates on clubs and societies

Meet employers, guest speakers and experts through webinars, live sessions and audio podcasts

Support/ Skills Development

To ensure students can still maximise their potential, our professional support teams will deliver sessions such as:

- Academic writing
- Study support
- Library skills for HE study
- Disability service
- Health and Wellbeing
- Careers and employability

The training will take the form of videos, live sessions, discussions and 1-2-1 support.



WATCH: Tamanna Khurana, MA Arts Management on her online learning experience at Queen's

"Our lecturers in a way are available now more than ever. If I need to get in touch with one of my lecturers now, their schedules are a lot more flexible, we can make an appointment for half an hour, have a cup of coffee and a video chat."



WATCH: Pharmacy Student Aoife Healy on what remote teaching and learning is really like during lockdown.

"Within a really short space of time we had to adapt to a completely new way of learning and studying. The support system in Queen's, and in particular the School of Pharmacy has been really good. We've had access to our lecturers and tutors at all times, if and when we need them, with regular Canvas calls."

LIFE ON CAMPUS

We're proud of our world-class campus and all our facilities and thanks to Northern Ireland's unique circumstances and response to the pandemic, we will be open for students from 21 September. To facilitate campus life as close to normal as possible, we're applying all relevant social distancing and hygiene measures to assure the safety of our students following the latest public health advice.



READ: Suvekshya Dhungana, MSc Business Analytics on why she's thankful for the support of the staff in Elms Village

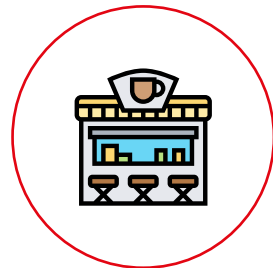
"I am glad that I was staying at Elms during the lockdown. As the days passed by, I was thankful for the neighbours and the helpful staff and their support throughout the lockdown journey"



ACCOMMODATION

Queen's accommodation is one of the best in the UK and your all-important safe space to live and enjoy student life to the full. Our adherence to strict hygiene guidelines means it will be safe and comfortable for you at all times. This includes a Residential Life programme, events and pastoral care, 24/7 safety and security and well-being support.

Any students living in accommodation who show symptoms and need to self-isolate will be fully supported and have food and medical supplies brought to them.



CAMPUS FACILITIES

All facilities will be open for students from 21 September including coffee shops, restaurants and study areas, with the relevant social distancing measures applied. One-way traffic systems will be employed where appropriate in buildings to enable effective social distancing. The only exceptions will be facilities where it is not possible to operate according to the current social distancing measures or Public Health Agency guidelines.

At Queen's you will receive an authentic campus experience.



LIBRARY AND STUDY SPACES

The Award-winning [McClay Library](#), [Graduate School](#) and other shared study spaces will re-open to students from 3 August (with a reduced capacity). You will be able to borrow material and use University computers/internet access from the library as normal.



SPORTS FACILITIES

We intend that all of our [excellent sports facilities](#) will be open for students from the beginning of term on the assumption that it is safe to do so according to the guidelines in place at the time. Fitness equipment will be relocated to ensure students can get access to classes and courses in a safe and enjoyable manner. Different activity areas (gym, outdoor sport, climbing wall, swimming pool, etc) will be opened with a phased approach predicated on sporting governing body guidelines.



"It's so exciting when our Students arrive – we're here to make them feel at home. Students can come to us for any advice at any time, or just to say hello and have a cup of coffee!"

Stephen Montgomery, Residential Life Co-ordinator, Queen's Accommodation

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Discover more at
qub.ac.uk