

An important message for all students

We are very grateful to everyone in our community whose actions have helped keep cases relatively low at the University.

Despite this effort, the government's recent decision to postpone Step 4 of restrictions lifting until at least 19 July means we need to be a little more patient before things can open up further.

While the current circumstances are difficult for us all, it is disappointing that we continue to receive reports from members of our local community about large gatherings in student houses and elsewhere in the local area. We have been investigating these reports and are taking disciplinary action, such as issuing fines, if appropriate.

Not only do these gatherings disrupt and upset our local community, but the virus can still be transmitted even if you have been vaccinated. It is vital that we all adhere to the restrictions on social contact and continue to follow social distancing advice to minimise the risk.

We know it has an enormously challenging year and you haven't been able to do many of things you anticipated. It has also been difficult our wider community, many of whom are your neighbours and are still working from home.

We ask you to please treat your neighbours, fellow students and the wider community with respect. Together, we can help ensure the government can lift restrictions safely in the coming weeks.

RUSU has published [a summary of ideas](#) on our student blog for helping you to continue to socialise safely within the current restrictions.

We would also like to take this opportunity to wish you well if you are moving out of your rented property this year and to highlight some [tips on making your move as smooth as possible](#).

Take responsibility, be kind, and respect each other.

Thank you.

Rachel Osborne (RUSU President) & Professor Robert Van de Noort (Vice-Chancellor)