

Dear students,

I am writing with an update further to previous communications about the outbreak of coronavirus originating in Wuhan City, Hubei Province in China. Public Health England advice remains that **the risk in the UK is low**, but we wanted to share with you the latest information in case you have any concerns.

China travel advice

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office is [advising against all travel to Hubei Province](#), China, and recommending that anyone currently travelling in this area leave if they are able to do so.

The FCO also **advise against all but essential travel to the rest of mainland China** (not including Hong Kong and Macao).

If you have returned from Wuhan in the last 14 days, [Public Health England advises](#) that you should take simple, common-sense steps to avoid close contact with others, like you would with other flu viruses:

- stay indoors for 14 days after arriving from Wuhan
- contact [NHS by telephoning '111'](#) to inform them of your recent travel to the city – they can provide you with advice on the right care for your needs.

Where possible, you should avoid going out and having visitors to your home, but its ok for friends, family or delivery drivers to drop off necessary things like food and medicines.

This advice to stay indoors also means not coming to classes and or other academic sessions, or using shared University services and facilities like the Library or SportsPark. Remember that you can access teaching materials on [Blackboard](#).

You should also contact your relevant Support Centre using the links on this [webpage](#) so that the University can provide you with the right support, as well as emailing relevant members of staff if you will be missing teaching or other academic sessions.

If you've travelled to Wuhan, please follow this advice even if you do not have symptoms of the virus. If you develop a fever, difficulty breathing or a cough, you should contact NHS 111 for advice and stay at home until you've been told otherwise by a medical professional.

Travel for University activity

Given the [Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice](#), travel to the affected area for University activity is not permitted.

If you are travelling elsewhere, but not to an affected area, it is really important that you complete the University insurance form and book with our travel management

company so that the University has up-to-date information about your travel. You can find travel information and the risk assessment and risk management forms that you need to complete on the [travel pages](#).

You should also download the [travel advisory app](#) so we can keep you updated with any new or urgent information.

If you need further help or information

If you are worried about anything arising from this advice, please contact the NHS helpline on 111 or your doctor.

For our international students, access to medical care is normally through your local doctor. If you haven't registered with a doctor already, [please see our website with further information](#) about how to do this.

If you are currently overseas, whether in China or elsewhere, make sure you follow all local public health and travel advice.

We understand many of our community may be worried for family and friends in the region. Please remember our Student Welfare Team are here to offer support, including by phone and email. Find out more at www.reading.ac.uk/welfare-team.

If there are any further developments we will keep you updated on the [Me@Reading student portal](#) so please check here for the latest advice.

Kind regards,

Patricia Woodman

Director of Student Services