



Dear External Examiner,

I am writing to let you know about some of the changes that we are making to the way we organise our assessments in the light of the coronavirus outbreak.

I am sure you will appreciate that we have needed to take some prompt and, in some instances, radical decisions in order to protect the interest of our students and the academic integrity of their achievements. In so doing we seek to support students to progress in their studies, achieve a qualification of which they can be proud and which will be valued by employers and professional accrediting bodies. We are also extremely conscious of the challenges you will be facing in your own institutions. In recognition of your need to make your students your priority in terms of assessment and teaching & learning, we won't be adding to your burden at this stage by involving you in the detail of our work. Given the pace and the volume of decision making, there have not been the opportunities to consult with you in accordance with our usual arrangements. A revised approach to the operation of exam boards in these challenging circumstances is also under consideration and we shall be in touch with you presently to share our thinking with you.

Departments will be in touch with detailed arrangements presently but, in the meantime, I can confirm that we have taken the decision to suspend physical face-to-face teaching alongside on-campus exams this summer.

- We are standing down all scheduled Year One end of year examinations but will devise a system by which we can evaluate student progress across the year.
- Our term 2 came to an end on 13 March 2020. Support for learning in the form of revision sessions, dissertation supervision, academic support and personal tutoring continues online after Easter. We are encouraging students to keep engaging with online resources in order to complete their studies this year and to ensure that they are prepared for study next year.
- For intermediate and final year students, we have been devising alternative assessments to be offered online to enable them to demonstrate sufficient progression and attainment to facilitate their progression to the next year of student or graduate
- We have been working closely with our academic colleagues in departments to agree suitable alternatives to exams, ensure each decision is reviewed and checked for clarity and quality, ensure the smooth operation of the timetable for the revised exam types and timings and that comprehensive support and guidance on taking assessments online is developed and in place ahead of the assessments

For postgraduate taught students:

- We will be working with departments to ensure that course level intended learning outcomes from the taught component of the course are reviewed in order to ascertain any gaps which can be addressed by alternative means.
- Dissertations and projects will be reviewed by departments so these can be completed, submitted and assessed online.

All students who have a Disability Assistance Plan will continue to be supported, with appropriate adjustments made where necessary and our Library is in the process of migrating as many of its services as possible to its digital platforms.

As I hope you appreciate, we are doing everything we can to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff and to make sure that the support we put in place for learning, progression and the awarding of degrees is sufficiently quality assured .

We will endeavour to keep you informed of any further developments in due course. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact Maureen McLaughlin, Director of Education and Policy at the maureen.mclaughlin@warwick.ac.uk email address if you have any queries or concerns.

With many thanks for your valued and continued support and cooperation and with best wishes for your health and well-being.

Professor David Lamburn

Deputy Pro Vice Chancellor (Education)