

Coronavirus – universities in Edinburgh cancel classes

Universities in Edinburgh have taken advice from the government that we should all exercise social isolation.

Vice-Chancellor of University of Edinburgh, Professor Peter Mathieson, has emailed all staff and students:

“You may have seen that the Prime Minister has just announced some significant changes in the way in which the Government is advising us to respond to the Covid-19 threat. This includes changes in advice around staff working at home and social contact.

“I realise this means that we will have to substantially change our ways of working. I am chairing a meeting of our Senior Leadership Team first thing tomorrow morning where we will discuss the implications of the latest guidance for our University. We will issue updated advice as soon as possible thereafter on how we will manage this transition.”

- From 23 March, the vast majority of teaching will be carried out remotely
- First and second year exams will be cancelled this semester
- Those in third year and beyond will be expected to take their exams online
- Full details are on the [Current students page](#)

[Prospective students update](#): all on-campus offer holder events have now been cancelled. The university is working to develop

an online alternative for offer holders and will be in touch with offer-holders soon with more information.

Heriot-Watt university says it is suspending face to face teaching from 18 March 2020.

The university has three campuses – Edinburgh, Dubai and Malaysia. Face to face teaching in Edinburgh will not take place from tomorrow and alternative arrangements are being made.

In a joint statement issued to UK students and staff, the Principal and Vice Chancellor Prof Richard Williams and President of HWU Student Union Kieran Robson Renner said:

“We are taking this action now to anticipate the likely future developments in this pandemic so that student learning can continue. We are confident we have a plan in place to ensure students can progress to the next stage of their programme and graduate on time.

The wellbeing of our community is our top priority. We currently have no known cases of coronavirus at any of our UK campuses and you will be informed if this situation changes.”

Edinburgh Napier University has cancelled all face-to-face teaching from today.

Students should not attend campus. From Monday 23 March 2020, all the university’s teaching will be delivered online and remotely. Lecturers and tutors are currently making arrangements to ensure that students’ learning is impacted as little as possible by the changes.

Further details on how this will be done will be provided later in the week by email or on myNapier.

All assessment for university exams will be delivered online or in an alternative format.

The university says on its website: “We continue to do all we can to ensure student and staff safety and ask for your patience at this time.”



Old College University of Edinburgh