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**Subject:** Covid-19 - Chad's Update #4  
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[image003.png](#)

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Dear Chadsians,

As promised, here's today's update. Things are moving fast. Many of you are safely home – or on your way there. The headlines in Durham are that the Bill Bryson Library will close from today and **the University is strongly encouraging students to return home now if possible** (in this context, "home" means the place that you want to be for the next few weeks).

I know that some Chad's students are planning to head home later in the week. The media graphs suggest that the infection will gather pace quite fast now and although you, our students, are fortunate enough to be in a very resilient demographic, I don't want you to be stuck far from the place you need to be. If for any reason you have to self-isolate before you hope to travel, you would not be able to use public transport and would need to self-isolate in Durham. Please ensure that you have enough supplies to get you through such an eventuality.

Colleges have been advised that as from this evening, the use of public spaces in colleges should be kept to a minimum. Please avoid using the Chad's libraries until further notice, and consider practicing social distancing in the dining room. Although we usually discourage it, feel free for the rest of this week to eat your meal in your room or in the more open space of the Quad (**but bring your crockery and cutlery back afterwards – or else!**)

#### Usual reminders:

- Please use the hand-gel provided around college, especially in the servery.
- If you are leaving College, **leave your key**. If you have taken it with you, please send it back asap!
- If you haven't already, please check your term time address and other contact details on DUO and update these if necessary so that College can access your current mobile number, emergency contact information and term time address.
- Please let [chads.support@durham.ac.uk](mailto:chads.support@durham.ac.uk) know immediately if you are doing the following (even if you have already left Durham):
  - self-isolating (not tested);
  - self-isolating (tested awaiting results);
  - Confirmed case of Covid-19.

#### **To reiterate the headlines from Durham University's e-mail today:**

#### **The following changes will take effect from tomorrow morning, Wednesday 18 March:**

- *Student support services will continue to operate but where possible we are moving to online forms of delivery. Counselling, Disability Support and the Careers and Enterprise Centre will switch to online or telephone delivery only. All cafes will close except in the Palatine and Mill Hill Lane where we will operate a take away service. The Sports and Wellbeing Park is to close, along with all music practice spaces and faith spaces. We are also closing our visitor attractions until further notice.*
- **Our library sites, including the Bill Bryson Library, will close from their advertised closing time today until further notice.** A pick-up service for loaned printable materials will be available, by appointment, from the Bill Bryson Library. Items can still be returned via the book return slot. A virtual library service will provide various means of support for working remotely. Details will be published on the [Library web pages](#).
- **Latest health advice and information**  
*This includes the latest information and links to guidance from Public Health England [dedicated web page](#), the NHS and the Government.*
- *As you know, there are some simple steps you can take to help prevent the spread of*

**COVID-19, including washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.**

- If you do feel unwell with a new continuous cough or a fever, you should stay at home for seven days and visit [111.nhs.uk](https://111.nhs.uk). Do not go to your GP or pharmacist.
- From tomorrow (Wednesday 18 March), the University will provide daily updates via email and its website. Please do take the time to read the FAQs on our web page and if you have a question or comment that is not addressed within the FAQs, please email [coronavirus.information@durham.ac.uk](mailto:coronavirus.information@durham.ac.uk)

It's too early to know how this will unfold and what might or might not be possible next term. We will keep you posted. I'll send another e-mail update around tomorrow.

Best wishes to all of you – near and far.

Dr Masson

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