

Dear All,

You may have seen stories in the media this morning about Cambridge's planning for teaching and learning in the next academic year; we are sorry that partial reporting of only one aspect of our plans may have compounded current concerns and that you did not hear about them directly from us. Here we would like to offer some clarification; your College may also be in touch.

The University and the Colleges will welcome as many students as possible to Cambridge for the start of the next academic year, guided always by advice from Public Health England. We are committed to continuing to deliver high quality education to all our students and to delivering a rich student experience, while ensuring that we respond effectively to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Small group teaching - supervisions, seminars or individual tuition - is at the heart of our educational provision and will continue in person as much as possible. Given the likely need for continued social distancing, we have decided to suspend mass lectures in person for the next academic year. Lectures will be available online; this system is already in place in some University Departments. Lectures are only one part of the rich education that Cambridge offers and freeing up space in lecture halls will allow us to concentrate on delivering small group teaching, language classes, lab work and practicals.

Colleges are planning to offer a wide range of activities, and will work hard to build up community life, even in the midst of social distancing.

There remains a great deal of uncertainty about the likely course of the pandemic and its impact on universities. We will keep our plans under regular review and will keep you updated as they develop. Our objective is to restore the full teaching

programme as soon as possible. If we can do this sooner than currently anticipated, we will.

We will also be updating the Frequently Asked Questions on our <u>website</u> and we strongly encourage you to regularly refer to this page.

We wish you, your peers, your schools and your families the very best during this difficult period.

Best wishes,

Dr Sam Lucy

Director of Admissions for the Cambridge Colleges