

16/03/2020

# COVID-19 (Coronavirus) – update for Students and Learners

Building on previous communications, we are now able to provide further information about BPP's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These are unprecedented times. Unprecedented amounts of news containing a whole host of views are being expressed across the world. Our approach has, and will continue to be, to follow the instructions and advice of the UK Government when this is absolutely clear. When it becomes less clear we will adopt a highly cautious approach putting safety first. We have to take into account the rules of the various organisations that set the parameters within which we work including the OfS and all of our professional bodies.

By adopting this approach, we know it is highly likely that further restrictions will be placed on the population in the coming weeks and, as per our communications on Friday 13 March, we are setting in motion our plan to move to online teaching delivery.

## **Transition to teaching online**

Further guidelines were confirmed this evening and the transition to online delivery of teaching will begin on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March, with the aim of having it all delivered online by **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**. This phased transition to online delivery will ensure that our students continue to have the highest quality learning experience possible. We are intending that teaching will continue to be delivered online until at least **Monday 27 April**.

Please check your own VLE for further detailed instructions - all VLE pages will be updated with online delivery plans by close of business on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March. We are currently updating our FAQs that are published on the VLE.

## **Building closures**

Notwithstanding our move to online teaching, it is not our intention to close buildings although we may need to respond to demand or to Public Health England. We will continue to ensure that all our learners are supported in their education and as such all learners will be welcome to use BPP buildings, subject to government policy on self-isolation.

As you will know many of our programmes lead to professional qualifications. This means that the regulators of the professions have specific requirements as to the format of assessments. We will continue to work with regulators during the current crisis and it is important that you regularly review your VLE pages for further information about future assessments.

## **Additional information for Tier 4 (sponsored) students**

We understand that if you are a sponsored student from overseas you will have questions about your sponsorship and attendance requirements. We are working with the regulator and will provide additional advice for you by close of business on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March.

Please keep in contact with your tutor or allocated member of BPP staff.

BPP is mindful that some students will be adversely affected by these events. Our thoughts go out to anyone impacted by the recent outbreak. If students or learners require any (non-medical) support or advice, please contact, [SafeGuarding@bpp.com](mailto:SafeGuarding@bpp.com) or [LearningSupport@bpp.com](mailto:LearningSupport@bpp.com). Our BPP counselling service is available at: [www.totalwellness.info](http://www.totalwellness.info).