Scottish Government Covid-19 restrictions and guidance

To: All students on campus

Dear student,

As you know, the number of people in Scotland with Covid-19 continues to rise, and indeed as of today there are 301 cases amongst our students and staff. In response to this, on Wednesday the First Minister announced new plans to bring in further Covid-19 restrictions.

Full details of the announcement are available on the [Scottish Government website](https://www.gov.scot). I wanted to update you with the main points that might affect you below:

1. The First Minister made it clear that we are **not** going back into lockdown and Universities remain open. Students and staff will still be able to attend campus where necessary, with safety measures in place as set out in the guidance.

2. We will continue to deliver hybrid learning and teaching as we are currently doing.

3. You can continue to use public transport to get to campus, and staff who are already on campus delivering your teaching, research and supporting the estate will continue doing this.

4. If you have been shielding, you are urged to take extra care especially if you live in the Central belt: Ayrshire & Arran; Forth Valley; Greater Glasgow & Clyde; Lanarkshire; Lothian. [Scottish Government guidance on shielding](https://www.gov.scot)

5. In terms of going out: all pubs and restaurants in Edinburgh (and the rest of central Scotland) will close from 6pm today until Sunday 25th October.

I also know that a lot of you are currently self-isolating because you or someone close to you has tested positive for Covid19. Thank you – by sticking to the rules you are helping keep others safe and you are doing your bit to get the current outbreak under control. We recognise that self-isolation can be hard and we have a range of resources to support you:

[Self-isolation support](https://www.gov.scot)

Do please remember, however:

- Sticking to the self-isolation rules is hard but there will be penalties if you are found to have broken the guidance. Please read our community guidelines:

  [Good Citizen Guide](https://www.gov.scot)
If you have tested positive for Covid-19 and have been told to self-isolate then you must inform the University by completing the self-isolation contact form below. This will also help us to ensure your needs are met:

**Self-isolation reporting form**

- If you have any concerns about your health in the meantime, or if you need to book a Covid-19 test because you have developed symptoms (high temperature, a new continuous cough and/or a loss or change in sense of smell or taste) please visit the NHS Inform website or call 111.

**NHS Inform website**

- Please also remember to download the Scottish Government’s Protect Scotland App. The free app will alert you if you have been in close contact with another app user who tests positive for Covid-19. And if you test positive, it can help in determining contacts that you may have otherwise missed while keeping your information private and anonymous.

**Protect Scotland App**

If you have any other concerns or questions that are not covered on our Covid-19 webpages, you can contact our Covid-19 team online or through our hotline at +44 (0)131 370 0494 from 09:00 – 17:00.

**Covid-19 enquiries**

Best wishes,

**Gavin Douglas**

**Deputy Secretary (Student Experience)**