

1 May 2020

Dear All

Thanks for all the responses about extensions after yesterday. Clearly you had many questions and I'm glad I could help.

Our challenge for next week is the first round of the new Assessment Board system. The School Boards will start to convene to consider Level F and Level C progression outcomes. The University Board meets the week afterwards. Everyone has worked hard to get this new system up and running in a very short window of time and it looks really good. We should be in a position to start publishing results in the timeframes I gave you in an earlier email (and you can find in the documents on the Coronavirus webpages).

Several of you who are in Level H and M have contacted me about jobs you are planning to start and offers of places on Masters courses for September. Well done - I am so pleased for you!

This does however lead to a question about Degree Certificates and the timing of graduation. It is a good question - the formal degree certificates are presented at the ceremony, but I know some of you need evidence of your success before that time, for your new employer/course. To help you with this we issue a formal document called a 'Confirmation of Completion Letter' which can be sent to whoever needs it before the ceremony happens. When you get your degree result you will be offered the opportunity to request one of these documents if you need it. I am hoping to see you all at Graduation.

If you still need some help on employment/ further study for September don't forget that the careers team are online and will be happy to help you careers@hope.ac.uk

I hope that you manage to get a little bit of downtime over the weekend. I know that you are all dealing with a lot. Many of you are working or caring for others. Please try to find some time for yourselves. You are all very important.

Look after yourselves

Best wishes
Penny

4 May 20

Dear All

I hope that you had a peaceful weekend. At least the sun has come out this afternoon.

You will have seen on the news this morning that the Government have made some announcements relating to Universities and particularly about what next year might bring. I want to reassure you that we are monitoring these announcements very closely and will ensure that our planning for next year is guided by them. We have a group who meets daily to review the situation and who are starting to model arrangements for next year. I anticipate that this process will take several weeks, but as soon as we have made a decision about arrangements for next year I will let you know. Obviously it is crucial that everything we put in place considers and ensures the safety of all students and staff, so we need to make sure that the plan is as comprehensive as possible.

In the meantime I have had a few queries from Level C and F students about progression decisions. This is how it will work:

Subject/school level meetings will consider level C and Level F progression decisions for all students without extensions this week or early next week. The University Board will meet at the end of next week to validate these decisions and your results should be published the following week. These will be sent to you by email. This will be a simple Progress/Not Progress outcome and the decision will be made according to engagement with your studies as we have discussed before. Your assignments will all be marked over the coming few weeks and the results will be entered on the system as normal so that you have a complete set of assessment outcomes on your record as you go into next year.

There are a couple of subjects where the Level C and F deadlines are later than the norm as described here. Your subject will let you know if this is the case for you - this is generally where later assessment deadlines have had to be set. Your outcomes will simply go to a later University Board for validation and will then be published.

Thanks for all your emails over the weekend. I am happy to receive them.

Please look after yourselves.

Best wishes
Penny

5 May 202

Dear All

Let's be thankful for another sunny day. I think it's helpful in keeping all of our spirits up. I know that this is a difficult time. I am aware of so many of you who are in key worker roles, who are homeschooling or caring or who are volunteering - I am so grateful to all of you. You are all doing essential work. I am also aware of many of you who are separated from friends and family or who are unhappy for a range of reasons. Please try to stay positive. This will end.

Some of you have written to me about the Student Support Fund. Here some quick updates that I think might be helpful:

Due to the financial challenges that some students are facing due to Covid-19, the Student Support fund will remain open during the Summer. The deadline for applications is August 31st 2020. This fund is now open to all current students.

We have also introduced a system to make cash advances available for those students who require help in paying deposits/initial payments to private landlords for next year's accommodation.

Application forms for both the support fund and the cash advances will be available on the web from Monday 11 May 2020. Please make sure you choose the right form for your request and read the guidance carefully. You will find them at:
<https://www.hope.ac.uk/gateway/students/studentfinance/previousyearsfinanceinformation/>

If you have other queries relating to finance, you should contact the team at studentfunds@hope.ac.uk

Thanks for all your emails. You continue to make me smile.

Look after yourselves.

Best wishes
Penny

6 May 2020

Dear All

I hope that you are all OK. I am thinking of you.

A quick note today to tell you about some new information on the website that might be helpful. Many of you have written to me about anxiety and how the challenge of dealing with the lockdown is impacting on your mental health. We have therefore put together a collection of resources which might be useful to you. They focus on a range of issues: How to manage your mental health; Managing stress; Keeping motivated during lockdown and Emerging from isolation. There are also details of how to access SilverCloud online well-being support courses (with a code to enable you to get these free), covering issues including stress, anxiety, resilience and sleep. You can access all of this information at <https://www.hope.ac.uk/gateway/students/studentdevelopmentandwell-being/coronavirusresources/> Please have a look - I think there is some really useful material for you.

If you would like to talk to someone, you also still have access to the counselling and mental health support services in SDW. The student services staff are operating online and will be happy to make an appointment for you sdw@hope.ac.uk

Please look after yourselves. Let me know if I can do anything to help.

Best wishes
Penny

I have forgiven Arty for yesterday (even though it took a full hour to catch the frog!). He has spent the morning gainfully employed outside testing out the various available positions for sunbathing. I have just noticed that he has now found a spot in the shade (exhausting work clearly!).

7 May 20

Dear All

There are no big announcements to be made today. I just wanted to catch up with you before the weekend to say look after yourselves, stay strong, stay safe and try to enjoy the sunshine.

Keep asking those questions if you need to. I will do my best to help.

Hopefully the Prime Minister's speech on Sunday will allow us to begin to look forward a little more and to start to firm up plans for the months ahead, both for all of you in your personal lives and also for the University.

My thoughts are with you all. You continue to be an inspiration.

Thanks for all your emails. They make me smile every day.

Best wishes
Penny

It is a really bad cat-day on my desk!

11 May 2020

Dear All

I hope that you had a good bank holiday weekend and I hope that you managed to get a little time for yourself, despite the demands of work and caring. I'm sure you'll agree that the sunshine was wonderful.

Obviously, we all heard what the Prime Minister said last night. Maybe there is a little light at the end of the tunnel in terms of the lockdown, but it is a good way off. Mr Johnson certainly hasn't changed our thinking in the short term, so the staff will continue to work at home and you can continue to contact them all as you need to through the online channels. We will continue to plan for September. I am hopeful that we might be back on campus in some format, but I think it's too early to say how.

I have corresponded with a few of you over the weekend (including some great pet pictures!). I hope I have answered all of your queries or passed them on to those who are better qualified.

Some of the questions might be of interest to all of you so I have listed some them below with my answers:

When will the student support fund reopen?

The new forms will be available by the end of today.

If you have other queries relating to finance, you should contact the team at studentfunds@hope.ac.uk

Are there careers appointments available?

Yes just email the team at careers@hope.ac.uk

Will we still be taught completely online next academic year?

I hope not but as I said above, it is simply too early to be certain.

Can I still have an extension? Do I have to provide evidence? I've already had one extension, will this prevent me from having another?

Yes you can still have an extension - as long as your submission date has not passed. Just fill in the form and send it to extensions@hope.ac.uk You do not have to provide any evidence, the extension will simply be granted on receipt of the form. It doesn't matter if you have had a previous extension the new one will still be agreed.

If I have an extension will my marks be affected?

No - you will have access to the full range of marks (unless this is a re-submission/retake from a previous submission - in which case check with your tutor).

Do I have to wait until the date of my extension to hand my assignment in?

No - please hand it in as soon as you are ready.

Is graduation still scheduled for December?

Yes, the cathedral is booked and arrangements are in hand. However, we are still watching Government guidance on social distancing and changes may be necessary nearer the time.

11 May 2020

Will I get my degree certificate before graduation?

No - you will receive it in the Cathedral but you will be able to get a certificate of completion if you need it for employers/ PG Courses.

I hope this is helpful. Let me know of anything else which would be useful.
Look after yourselves

Best wishes
Penny

The cats enjoyed the sunshine over the weekend. Arty however absolutely hates it when it's windy so he is now upstairs hiding under the bed. Trillion is sitting with me on the windowsill so I am having a relatively peaceful day!

12 May 2020

Dear All

I hope that you are all OK and are keeping your spirits up.

From your emails I have learned so much about what you are all doing and how this situation is affecting your lives. I am really grateful for these insights. I am also greatly heartened by the good so many of you are doing both in your local communities and beyond. I salute all of you who are working in key jobs across a range of sectors from the NHS to care homes to supermarkets to agriculture and many more. I also salute every one of you who is caring for others at home or who is homeschooling - what an incredible challenge you have. I would also extend this as a message of thanks to all of you for the considerable support that you are giving each other in your student groups - so many of you tell me that you wouldn't be coping if it wasn't for your fellow students. You are all great ambassadors of Hope.

I was hoping that the documents produced by the Government last night might give some more clarity about how we can move forward. Unfortunately I don't think the information was particularly helpful in terms of Universities, but we continue to plan for the coming academic year. As I have told you in previous emails, we are intending to be teaching in September, although the format of that teaching is as yet unclear. Obviously we would rather be back on campus, but we can only do this if it is completely safe for everyone and if there are alternatives available for those who need them. We are going to need to find some very creative approaches as to how we use the campus and how we schedule teaching in the Autumn term. We are learning from other institutions and from other sectors and we will come to the best plan that we can for Hope. I would however be really interested if any of you have ideas about creative ways that we might open in September. Any suggestions welcome - the more unusual the better - we need to make sure that we have considered every idea before we settle on a final model. Just drop me an email. I would be glad to hear your suggestions.

Once again thanks for all your emails. Last night I received my first picture of a pet lizard and heard about a new batch of kittens that had been born!

Look after yourselves.

Best wishes
Penny

13 May 2020

Dear All

No big messages today, just a note to remind you that I am thinking of you all. Also a few clarifications that might be useful.

Collecting belongings:

I am very aware that many of you left halls in a hurry and have left belongings in your rooms. Firstly, please don't worry, the halls of residence are secure and the Senior Resident Tutors and the Campus Operative teams are still on duty as normal, so they are keeping a close eye on the halls and their security. Secondly, the issue of students needing to return to halls to collect items is a national one. It is currently being considered by the Government in the light of the lockdown. We are waiting for a statement on this matter from the Universities Minister, which is expected in the next couple of days. Once we have enough information to ensure that you will all be as safe as possible, we will release the details of arrangements we have put in place to give you access to collect your belongings. This information will be in one of my emails as soon as we have it. I know that many of you have a significant distance away and there will be no hurry for you to do this. **In any case, please don't come to the campus before you hear the details from me, as the team will not be able to let you in.**

Degree outcomes:

I have had several questions about calculation of degree results so I thought a brief reminder might be helpful. We will take your best 90credits (including your dissertation) at Level H and we will use these in a calculation based on two patterns. (There are also a few nuances for PSRB related subjects which you can check with your subject.)

Pattern One: 10% Level C, 30% Level I, 60% Level H Pattern Two: 25% Level I, 75% Level H.

You will then be recommended to the Board for the higher of the two outcomes. Remember that we are operating a no detriment policy so the Board will also check your previous trajectory to ensure that your degree outcome has not been negatively affected by the current crisis.

Level C and F progression decisions:

The University Board meets tomorrow to have an oversight of all the currently agreed progression data. This means that those of you who are not in subjects with ongoing assessments will receive progression decisions early next week. Good Luck!

Look after yourselves!

Best wishes
Penny

14 May 2020

Dear All

It is a quiet day at the University, but it is important that we stay in touch. I hope each and everyone of you has looked outside at the sunshine today and smiled. Life is tough at the moment for all of you and a little sunshine on all of our faces is important at such times. Please try to stay positive.

For those of you who might be needing a little more support please don't forget about the resources that Student Development and Wellbeing have collected online for you: <https://www.hope.ac.uk/gateway/students/studentdevelopmentandwell-being/coronavirusresources/>

The student advice centre pages also contain lots of useful links - click on the A-Z tabs along the top. Obviously the face to face opportunities are not available at the moment, but all services are there for you online alongside the many external links: <https://www.hope.ac.uk/lifeathope/studentsupport/studentadvice/service/>

If you are returning to the University in September at levels C, I or H, you need to start thinking about your student finance for 2020/21. If you have not already done so please apply as soon as possible to ensure that your finances are in place for the new academic year. You need to reapply before **19th June 2020**. You can do this through the Government website at <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

If you are thinking about Postgraduate study in 2020/21, you may be able to apply for a Masters loan. You can find the information about these loans on the Government website <https://www.gov.uk/masters-loan/apply> The application process for these loans opens at the end of June.

Look after yourselves. I am thinking of you.

Best wishes
Penny

15 May 20

Dear All

I hope that you are all OK. There are a few issues for clarification today. These have all come from student questions I have received, so hopefully they will be of help to more of you.

Level F and C progression decisions.

I chaired the University Board this morning. If you remember, this was to have an overall validation and moderation role having received recommendations from the Schools and Departments. I am pleased to say that this went very smoothly. The outcomes will now need to be put onto the student record system and the appropriate messages generated. You will receive a progression outcome, by email, by next Wednesday at the latest. Some of you have extensions or other outstanding work to submit - in this case you will simply get a message to this effect and your progression will be considered at a later Board.

Level H transcripts/degree certificates.

The transcripts for Level H will show your achievement in the assessments that constituted the best 90 credits completed. This will include the dissertation or research projects. These assessments will be included because they have been used to calculate the outcome for Level H and this has then been used in the final degree calculation. The transcript will also include the final degree classification and your achievements in previous years. The degree certificate itself will simply show your degree outcome and the award you are registered for.

Statements of completion.

If you need evidence of your degree result prior to Graduation we will be able to provide you with a statement of completion which you can share with employers. You will be able to request these when we publish the results in July.

Extensions.

If you have a piece of assessment which you have not yet submitted and for which the submission date has not passed, you are still able to ask for an extension. Please send the completed form to extensions@hope.ac.uk.

I hope that these are helpful. Please keep asking questions - if I don't know the answer I probably know someone who does!

Please try to find some time for yourself over the weekend. This situation is difficult for everyone and a little time out is important. Of course your jobs and those you are caring for are important - but so are you.

Look after yourselves.

15 May 20

Best wishes
Penny

18 May 20

Dear All

I hope that you managed to have some rest over the weekend. The weather was not as good as we hoped but I understand it's going to warm up this week so hopefully the Summer is coming!

We had a senior executive meeting this morning. We discussed our plans moving forward and particularly for the Autumn term. Obviously, whatever arrangements we make have to include, as a priority, keeping you all safe as well as ensuring that the Hope staff are also safe. I think in reality this means that we will probably have a mixture of delivery types in the Autumn, but until the time gets closer we won't be certain about the details. We need to put arrangements in place that are flexible, so that as the national situation changes we can update them. I am aware that many of you are waiting for this so please be patient. I will make sure you get the information as soon as we have it.

One of the issues that we had over the past few weeks is getting in contact with some of you. Please would you take a moment to update your information on the SRM system, this is particularly in respect of phone numbers, a lot of which appear to be out of date.

A reminder to anyone who has outstanding assessments, to request an extension if you need it extensions@hope.ac.uk This makes it easier for you but also easier for us to know your situation when your results are discussed at the Board meetings.

The next couple of weeks are critical for Level I students. Most of your work, which is going to the first Board, will have already been submitted. Your tutors are marking it now. The University Board is in my diary for Friday 5 June 2020 and your results will be released soon after that (usually the following Wednesday). Just to remind you, you will get a progression outcome and a grade for the outcomes of 90 credits (75%) of assessment (or 120 credits if appropriate to PSRB). Good Luck!

I hope that you all have a good week. Look after yourselves

Best wishes
Penny

19 May 2020

Dear All

I hope that you are all OK. I am enjoying the fact that it is much warmer today. Try to get outside if you can - the fresh air and sunshine is really helpful.

I have had a little flurry of queries about library books and how you can return them. All library loans have been automatically extended into the next academic year. All fines have been waived. You do not therefore need to return items that are currently on loan on your record until it is safe for you to do so. Obviously we will need the books back eventually. If you come to Liverpool before the campus/library reopens we will ensure that there is a facility for you to use to drop the books off.

Also on library matters you will see from the student bulletin that there are some new ebooks available. You can access them through oneseach.

For those of you at Level I who have completed your assessments, please make sure that you take the time to prepare yourselves for Level H. Ask your tutor for some preparatory reading if you don't already have it and if you are doing a dissertation next year make sure that you know how this is going to be structured and what you need to do in preparation. For those of you with outstanding assessments - give yourself a chance to get these finished first.

For those of you who are on full time postgraduate taught awards, I thought you would like to know that we have agreed the University Board date as 23 July 2020. This meeting will consider all recommendations from academic schools for student outcomes for Semester 1 and Semester 2 modules. Your module outcomes will be published the following week. A further Board will cover dissertations and final award outcomes in the Autumn. For those of you studying these awards part time we will consider whatever results you have available to date at the July meeting with further consideration in the Autumn as appropriate. The exception to this is for students on the Masters in Social Work - you have a different calendar, which is based around your placements.

Please don't forget that the University Counselling and Mental Health Support services continue to be available to you. You can request a meeting through sdw@hope.ac.uk. It is OK to need some help. Please don't hesitate to ask.

Look after yourselves.

Best wishes
Penny

20 May 20

Dear All

What a beautiful sunny day! I hope this sunshine is making you smile or at least is warming your heart.

Many of you who are in level F and C should have received Progression outcomes earlier today:

If you have progressed to Level C or Level I - well done!

If you have further assessments to complete, don't worry - just keep going - there is plenty of time if you need it. Your progression status will be considered at the next available Board after your work is received.

We are currently working on plans for next academic year. It is our intention to start the formal teaching year in the Autumn as planned:

One of the most important aspects of learning at Hope is our small group teaching, which contributes to our mission for personalised learning. We will endeavour to make this face to face wherever possible.

We will obviously try to minimise the amount of time you spend in large groups and so we will have in place a safe and effective way for you to study when the new year begins.

Learning will be supplemented by the University's Virtual Learning Environment and online teaching where necessary.

Please be reassured that your safety whilst on campus is our highest priority.

It is important that you appreciate that, if the situation changes and the Government prevents us from going ahead in this way, we will need to put alternative arrangements in place as appropriate.

As yet our start date is not finalised and may vary slightly between subjects/campuses. In the first instance you should plan to be ready to return to University in mid-late September. We will confirm the exact date as soon as we are able.

I am thinking of you all. Please let me know if there is anything I, or the University, can do to support you.

Best wishes
Penny

Arty is enjoying the sunshine. This is a picture of him sunbathing on the table outside - just before he fell off!

21 May 20

Dear All

I have just read the news report that there have now been more than 5million cases of coronavirus worldwide. The sheer extent of this situation across the world is sobering in the extreme.

The virus has touched our Hope community in many ways. Some of you have been ill yourselves, others have nursed friends and relations through illness and others have lost loved ones. Your social lives have been put on hold, your freedoms curtailed and your studies moved online. Some of you have returned to work, are homeschooling your children or have had to move back in with your parents. This is just the tip of the iceberg of the stories you have told me. And yet, in amongst this incredible wave of upheaval and suffering, you continue to send me positive messages and stories of hope (both with and without the capital H!). I can not thank you enough for this, it is a remarkable reflection of you all as students of Hope.

A few very different messages today:

I wrote to you yesterday about our thoughts on the coming year, as they currently stand. Just to reiterate, any classes run on campus will only take place when we are certain that the relevant safety constraints are in place. All classrooms used will be configured according to the current social distancing guidelines. As I said yesterday, there is a long way to go before the start of term and there is potential for much change. We also need to comply with whatever guidelines the Government issues to us nearer the time. Please be reassured that I will keep talking to you about what plans are being put in place as soon as I am able.

A quick reminder that you need to apply for next year's student finance as soon as possible and definitely before 19 June 2020. If you have any friends or family members starting University in September the deadline is much sooner (Friday 22 May 2020) so you might want to check that they have made their application.

You will remember that I wrote to you in April about our volunteering project of the month which was to support NHS nurses with hand cream. During May, we are supporting the domestic violence charity [Signa Awareness](#). Signa works with both victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. Unfortunately, the current Coronavirus pandemic has led to a rise in reported domestic violence cases. If this has affected you in any way and you need their support or advice you should email signaawareness@gmail.com

For our project we are raising money to provide much needed toiletries and sanitary products to those fleeing from Domestic Violence to victims when they leave with nothing. [To donate please visit the Online Store](#)

I have written to you all several times about the Hope Careers Team who are still operating online and who can support all in many ways including updating your CV, looking for employment and learning key skills. To access their services you can simply email careers@hope.ac.uk. For those in Level H or on Masters awards, remember the careers team and access to 'My Careers Centre' will still be available to you after you graduate. For those of you looking for jobs, I thought you might like to see the article in the Echo this week that features our Senior Careers Advisor Chris Biggs. It is about virtual interviews. <https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/special-features/virtual-job-interview-top-tips-18233075>

Look after yourselves

Best wishes

21 May 20

Penny

22 May 20

Dear All

I had some lovely messages from you yesterday - Thankyou!

This is a bank holiday weekend. I know that some of you are finishing dissertations and other assignments and many of you have other commitments, but I hope that you can find at least a little time for yourselves.

There isn't any news today but here are a couple of reminders based on queries I have had since I wrote to you last.

Graduation is scheduled for 1 - 3 December. You will have been transferred to the ceremony on the same day as you were originally allocated. This was sent to you in an email by the Graduation Team on 20 February. If you can't find it or don't remember you can email graduation@hope.ac.uk and the staff there will help you. Obviously, we are all set to go ahead on those days, but the world is an ever changing place at the moment and if we need to make any adjustments nearer the time I will let you know.

We have finally, today, received guidance from the Government about access to retrieve belongings from halls. We will be introducing a rota to allow you to do this in the next couple of weeks. I will let you know when this will be. Please do not come to campus over the bank holiday weekend as the measures are not yet in place to keep you and your family safe.

Some of you have short extensions on outstanding work and have asked if you can make these for a longer period. This is OK. You should send your new request through extensions@hope.ac.uk and it will get directed to the right School/Dept who will simply make the change on your record.

I have been thinking really hard about the new students who are due to join us in September. This is going to be a very different transition to University than they were expecting. Do you have any suggestions about what we might do to help them become part of the Hope community? I'd be really grateful for your ideas - drop me a line.

Anyway - enough for today. I'll write again on Tuesday. Have a good weekend.

Look after yourselves.

Best wishes
Penny

26 May 2020

Dear All

I hope you are well and had a good bank holiday weekend. Hopefully you managed to have a rest. I really enjoyed the sunshine.

Several updates today - all from queries you have sent me.

Collecting your belongings from halls:

You will be able to connect your belongings from Monday 1st June. To ensure the safety of all staff, students and visitors we have developed a clear set of guidelines for the retrieval of goods. This includes pre-booking a time and date to come to campus. The Accommodation Team will email all relevant students shortly with instructions on how to do this.

I have also been made aware this morning that some of you have belongings in the Art Centre at Creative Campus. I will find out what the arrangements will be for you collecting these and let you know later in the week.

Course change for next academic year:

Several students have asked me about changing to a different academic course next year. If you are thinking of doing this you must first discuss this with your personal tutor.

If you are in Level F you may be able to change subject for next academic year depending on what you want to change to. Please consult your tutor.

If you are currently in Level C you may change your course from Combined Honours to Single Honours, where this is available. This will be dependent upon the Single Honours subject accepting you, some subjects may not be able to accept students into Single Honours at Level I if they have not completed both single honours study blocks at Level C.

If you are currently at Level I students you may change to a major/minor route in which you study all of your credits in one of your subjects at Level H if this is available for the subject you wish to major in. A complete change from Combined to Single Honours in Level H may be possible under some circumstances but this is much less likely.

In all cases you will need to complete a short form, this can be obtained from tomorrow onwards on the 'Understanding your degree' webpages <https://www.hope.ac.uk/gateway/students/studentadministration/understandingyourdegree/>.

Undergraduate degree results:

The Level H Board is scheduled for Monday 20 July so at the moment I would anticipate a release of degree classifications on Thursday 23 July.

Look after yourselves
Best wishes
Penny

27 May 20

Dear All

Not much news today but I thought I'd drop you a note to check that you are all OK. What a beautiful day it is outside. I think that the sunshine makes everything feel a little bit better. I hope that you are looking after yourselves. There are many people depending on all of you, so you need to be sure that you are being sensible about your own health and well-being.

Don't forget that the counselling and mental health teams are available to you if you need them sdw@hope.ac.uk There are also a range of online resources that I have mentioned before

at <https://www.hope.ac.uk/gateway/students/studentdevelopmentandwell-being/coronavirusresources/> Many of you seem to be finding these really useful.

Library Books:

If you have library books that you need to return these can be dropped off from 1st June onwards in the book return bins in the following locations:

- Hope Park: at the front of The Sheppard-Worlock Library
- Aigburth: outside the Trinity room by the vending machines
- Creative Campus: in the Student Success Zone

Please return your items to the location which is most convenient for you and once you are able to move around more freely. When library staff return to working on campus the library system will be updated and the returned books will be removed from your record. Please be assured that no fines will be applied if your book was due back during the lockdown period when you were unable to return it. The loans period has been extended until September but it is important that we have books returned so they will be available for students who will need them next academic year.

Look after yourselves, enjoy the sunshine if you can

Best wishes
Penny

28 May 20

Dear All

It is a very quiet day at the University. There are no pieces of new information for today but a couple of updates:

The School/Department Level I assessment meetings are starting to take place prior to the University Board next week. The University Board is on Friday 5 June so I think realistically the first tranche of Level I results should be sent out on Wednesday 10 June. Good luck to those of you who are waiting!

If you are a resident student you should have received an email from accommodation with the arrangements for picking up your belongings. If you haven't received this please let me know and I will get it resent to you.

From some of your emails I get the impression that you are starting to find this situation increasingly challenging. I wish there was something I could do to get you all back to normal and to take the loads off your shoulders. Unfortunately I can't do that but I would urge you to stay strong and to ask for help if you need it.

I am thinking of you all.

Best wishes
Penny

29 May 20

Dear All

The end of another week. Hopefully we are a week closer to being able to get back to some sort of normality. I hope that you are all ok and that you plan to spend at least some of the weekend out in the sunshine.

Just a couple of messages for today.

Students on postgraduate research awards:

The University is aware that researching from home can be really difficult and we'd like to assure you that this will be carefully considered on an individual basis as part of the AMR process. In the meantime you should continue meeting with your supervisory teams on Zoom or other similar media. If you need help or advice your point of contact is your supervisory team in the first instance, alternatively, you can contact the University via aandhresearch@hope.ac.uk or your PGR student rep Katherine Jewell via 17010888@hope.ac.uk

Student collection of belongings from halls:

I have been made aware of a group of students who have very long journeys to make to campus who have concerns about travel. Please don't feel that you have to collect your belongings straight away. We will keep them for you until you are ready to collect them.

I want to assure you that in planning the opening of the campus the University is very much aware of the requirements and needs of students on all awards: undergraduate, postgraduate and research students. We are expecting some external guidance next week which I hope will give us a clearer view of the coming academic year. I will update you on our plans as soon as arrangements are made, although you must keep in mind that we have to put your safety and that of the staff at the top of our priorities and so there is potential for change as the national picture continues to move onwards.

I continue to think of you all. Look after yourselves. Let me know if you need any help.

Enjoy the sunshine

Best wishes
Penny