

Initial Safe Return to Campus Guidance for Research Students & Supervisors

The health, safety and wellbeing of our staff and students continues to be our highest priority. And of great importance are our research students. We have been working hard to put robust plans in place to ensure your safe and phased return to campus. A structured SRTC framework has been established for staff and this is being extended to include research students.

The University's [High Level Plan for our Safe Return to Campus](#) outlines our phased approach.

Please remember that being on campus for anything but essential purposes is discouraged in the weeks and months ahead as we manage the safe return to campus for priority functions, staff and students. Priority return will be given to those research students who require access to laboratories, equipment and other facilities to advance their research, to undertake COVID-19 and other essential research and those who have been informed they will be delivering some face-to-face teaching.

Thus, at this point in time, the following research students will have priority:

- Those that need access to labs and equipment that can only be found on campus in order to progress their research.
- Those who will be teaching face-to-face.
- Those who need periods of study/research work space on campus due to their home environment and personal circumstances making it very difficult for them to progress their research. (You can [book a study space](#) here. Note: additional spaces in the Library will be available from September 28.)

Most will continue to carry out research largely online from home, at least until the end of the year, unless you are approved to go on campus having the appropriate documentation completed. As we work through the Safe Return to Campus process for PgR students, we will develop and provide further detail.

As a first step, you should speak with your Director of Studies to discuss your research recovery plans and personal circumstances and decide whether you need to make a case for undertaking work on campus.

All requests and permissions will be handled through your School or, for those students located outwith Schools, your Research Centre.

If you think you need access to campus, you and your Director of Studies should raise the discussion with the relevant line manager who is responsible for the Campus Space in which you wish to carry out your research. This could be a Head of Department, Head of laboratory or Research Centre Director.

The request for PgR student access will be put through the following [route](#).

Research students returning to campus, including those who apply to come on campus for a one-off short visit, must complete the Health Questionnaire and a short (10 mins) mandatory SRTC online induction and obtain a certificate of completion.

Your Director of Studies can supply you with a copy of any of the relevant documents from the site, including; the health questionnaire, risk assessments, guidance, templates and resources. You may also access some of the [SRTC resources on the website](#).