

Work arrangements for next week and important updates for members of HKUST

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Dear Members of HKUST,

To continue efforts to maintain our campus free of the Covid-19 outbreak, the University has decided that special work arrangements for University operations will remain in place for another week.

Extension of work from home arrangement until March 1, 2020

Except for staff providing emergency and essential services on a continuous or rota basis, all other employees of the University are advised to work from home for one more week until March 1, 2020. Staff living across the border should not return to campus and should work from home until the quarantine requirement is lifted. All department heads/directors should already have made arrangements to ensure that University business will be maintained and progressed as far as possible. Teaching continues in live interactive mode as previously announced. Arrangements have been made as per Provost's message to DHs on February 14, so that all front line student services are supported and all faculty are contactable during normal operating hours.

Accessing Canvas and other Online Resources From Mainland China

The webpage (<https://itsc.ust.hk/services/it-infrastructure/proxy>) provides instructions on how to speed up the access from Mainland China to Canvas and other online resources at HKUST. Zoom has servers inside Mainland China and will automatically route users in Mainland China to servers there, even when students join the Zoom classes from within the Canvas course site.

Self-Quarantine

Most of the staff and students currently residing on campus and requiring self-quarantine have either completed or are coming to the end of the self-quarantine period. Staff with accommodation on campus still having to undergo self-quarantine can complete the self-quarantine in their apartments but must inform Housing Office before arriving back on campus. Students still having to undergo self-quarantine should not return to campus until the self-quarantine has been completed off-campus, or the quarantine requirement is lifted. The University can no longer support any new cases of student self-quarantine on campus, other than in exceptional circumstances which will be on a chargeable basis.

Students with hostel places not currently living on campus

As previously communicated, all non-local students who are now outside Hong Kong are strongly advised not to return to the City. Students should not return to campus until the University re-opens as normal and check-in arrangements for student hostels remain suspended.

Library to re-open with reduced service

The Library Learning Commons will reopen 9am-7pm Monday to Friday next week, with a request that users minimise seating density as far as possible. A book retrieval service is available 9am-5pm

Monday to Friday. Users should request books via email lbcirc@ust.hk and pick up at G/F. All library users should check their body temperature at the Remote Fever Self-check Station in the Atrium and must wear a surgical mask at all times.

Restricted opening of other campus facilities

The previously announced restrictions on the opening of sports facilities, dental facilities, catering and retail outlets and student/staff transport remain in place. Please check the latest update on catering and retail facilities from CSO via the following link: https://cso.ust.hk/cat_shp/spec_open

University on-line support

- A. The web page <https://hseo.ust.hk/ncov> is the official source of information about the status of Covid-19 on campus and health advice.
- B. The web page <https://www.ust.hk/news/announcements/covid-19-university-measuresarrangements> includes all the announcements the University has made relating to Covid-19 and FAQs on academic arrangements.

We are grateful for the support and dedication of all colleagues who are helping to ensure that our campus remains free from any outbreak of the Covid-19 virus. These are difficult and frustrating times and we appeal for everyone's continued understanding and cooperation.

Thank you.

Lionel Ni, Provost

Mark Hodgson, Vice-President for Administration and Business