

This risk assessment will be supported by specific information to evidence compliance with 'Working safely during coronavirus (COVID-19)' first published by the Government on 11 May 2020.

v.6/17.07.20

Introduction

As part of the Governments '5 steps to working safely' guidance and in line with our existing responsibilities under Health & Safety legislation, we have completed this risk assessment. The risk assessment aims to identify all aspects of a return to campus during the current pandemic and seeks to offer a detailed overview of the controls in place to minimise the risk of Covid-19 to the wider BU community. We have also ensured the content of this risk assessment meets with the requirements of Higher Education: reopening buildings and campuses, last updated on 17 July 2020.

Unlike other health and safety hazards, we cannot create a working environment free from Covid-19, but we can arrange our campus, provide signage, information and training to ensure all who use the facilities do so in a considered and safe way. To enhance this approach, we have increased the cleaning regimes in all BU buildings to ensure we are tackling potential infection at the key transmission points and we will also manage any diagnosed case with the full knowledge and support of Public Health England, ensuring all relevant staff are made aware and supported to comply with NHS Test and Trace requirements.

To support this risk assessment, staff have been asked to confirm whether they (or someone they care for) currently meet with the requirements in terms of clinically vulnerable health conditions or whether there is anything else in relation to their health that we need to consider as part of their return to campus – this is a vital step in the campus return process and ensures we have considered the individual requirements of every staff member – particularly those who may be at increased risk.

Campus return for staff consists of a range of elements and information:

- Individual Health Screening Tool
- Campus Reorientation Module on Brightspace
- Detailed discussion with their line manager to establish <u>next steps</u> and return to work planning
- Access to the overarching BU return to campus risk assessment (this document)
- Frequently Asked Questions and detailed guidelines for staff and line managers about returning to campus
- Management of a Covid-19 outbreak campus or locality (included in FAQs)

As the weeks unfold and changes are made to Government guidance, we will ensure all elements of this risk assessment are reviewed, monitored for successful implementation and amended/updated where required. The approval box below indicates and confirms support from UET and our recognised trade unions – UCU and UNISON.

Approval	Approval										
=	Declaration by Chair of the Covid-19 H&S Committee on behalf of staff and Trade Union representatives I confirm that this is a suitable & sufficient risk assessment for the activities identified and that all residual risks can be reduced to as low as is reasonably practicable.										
Signed	Signed Print name David Reeve Date 23.07.20										
Declaration by COO: I confirm this assessm	Declaration by COO: I confirm this assessment has been completed in liaison with local senior managers and is therefore approved as a basis upon which work can begin to re-open campus, taking account of additional local information, training and information as required.										
Signed	Signed Print name Jim Andrews Date 23.07.20										



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Risk Assessment											
Reason for risk assessment/activity	Insure all practical measures have been taken to provide a campus environment that minimises the risk of Covid-19 through ision of physical distancing and infection control information and equipment. Insure all staff have had an individual assessment of their health and working arrangements in preparation for returning to plus and the required level of development and information to promote safe practice in order to further minimise the risk of did-19 through their behaviours and actions.										
Assessment on behalf of:	BU Major Incident Group and Covid-19 Health & Safety Committee	Assessor	Karen Bu	tters, Head of Health, Safety & Wellbeing							
Brief details/comments	All elements of this assessment have been fully discussed and approved by the O This risk assessment will be kept under regular review to ensure it meets with t	·	·								

FOR ALL STAFF

To ensure we capture all relevant information as part of staff returning to campus, we have implemented a mandatory individual health screening tool - on completion of the screening tool, and taking into account the different types of responses, staff will be sent a further explanatory email, detailing next steps and what to expect. For most staff, the immediate next step will be to complete a 'return to campus' mandatory reorientation module (applicable to all staff), which gives information, quidance and advice about what to expect as they return and what is required by way of their personal responsibility.

Confirmation of those staff that have completed the reorientation module will then be shared with faculties or professional services so that line managers can liaise with staff to plan their return in more detail. As part of this discussion with their line manager, staff should raise issues in relation to working patterns, start and finish times, use of public transport, caring responsibilities and/or childcare and any reasonable adjustments they would need in place whilst on campus.

For those staff who may remain at home as a result of health requirements, line managers will also liaise and ensure they have all they need to continue to work from home for the foreseeable future – this will also include the confirmation of any reasonable adjustments.

The following assessment has been carried out in relation to returning to campus. The risk hierarchy is applicable to determining measures to control all risks. For the purposes of assessing the risks of Covid-19 the measure of Elimination and Reduction is beyond our control. We have therefore only considered isolation, admin processes and personal protection.

(1) Risk identification			(2) Risk assessment					(3) Risk management				
Hazard Potential Consequences		Inheren	it		Control measures (use the risk hierarchy)	Residual			Further controls (use the risk hierarchy)			
		Likelihood	Impact	Score		Likelihood	Impact	Score				
Employees working in same area	Spread of Covid-19	5	3	15	 Implement social distancing: Remind staff to continue to work from home wherever possible and to only return to workplace where either cannot WFH and/or critical to the business. Note even in the latter case unlikely to be on campus 5 	2	3	6	Employees on campus may need to be supervised to ensure they adhere to the controls in place – information, training and local advice will be available to support a safe return.			



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			days/week – needs to be assessed on a day by day basis. Stagger time for arriving at work to help minimise contact. Also stagger breaks. Reduce occupancy in room to allow for appropriate physical distancing around each workspace. A full audit of revised room occupancy levels has been undertaken and will be made available to staff and line managers as part of the return to campus process. Ensure each employee has a workspace (need to allocate & provide necessary cleaning materials – min wipe down area before and at end of day. Wash hands on a frequent basis) Suggestion of signing in/log sheet so can record who was using the area so can trace others if need to do so (see 10) Identify a separate entrance and exit to the space if possible or identify a suitable system to avoid close contact Remind employees to stay home if symptomatic and/or comply with any NHS Test and Trace requirments. Employees on campus may need to be supervised to ensure they adhere to the controls in place Remind employees not to share equipment, food, peripherals Discourage social interaction which cannot be carried out safely Encourage employees to take suitable breaks alone or whilst practising physical distancing Activities should be scheduled so that time spent by staff in proximity is minimised Reduce access through measures such as staggered shifts and different working times Where possible the number of people each person has contact with should be reduced by using "fixed teams or partnering" (so each person works with only a few others).		Completion of the reorientation module and subsequent declaration makes clear the requirements of each staff member in terms of their personal responsibility. Guidance on working from home may change with updates to Government guidance.
2.Use of communal spaces	Spread of Covid-19 among team	5 3	 Implement social distancing: Identify a separate entrance and exit to communal spaces if possible Consider clear pathways and potentially one-way routes around communal areas - demarcate using signage and barriers Provide simple induction to remind employees of personal hygiene measures before and after every visit to the toilet, access to fresh water, printer area (recommend minimise printing to reduce risk of infection. If used will need to wipe down screen after use) or other communal areas Increase frequency of cleaning in communal areas e.g. corridors, doors, toilets Remind employees to stay home if symptomatic or have come in contact with someone who has been symptomatic within the past few days - 2-week isolation should be observed in case of the latter. Supervise employees in communal areas to ensure social distancing is observed 	6	Consider the provision of separate facilities for employees at higher risk. Consider keeping doors open (where fire safety requirements permit) to reduce need to touch doors after washing hands. Consider alternating the use of facilities to enable increased cleaning. Remind employees that they cannot use communal kitchen areas without cleaning the space after use.



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					Remind employees to bring in their own food as food preparation in kitchens will not be permitted.
3.Employees with severe chronic or underlying health condition / over the age of 70	Severe illness if infected. Long term sickness absence. Risk of non-compliance with government guidance.	5	5	25	 Eliminate the risk by allowing employees to continue to work from home in accordance with government guidance Completion of the Individual Health Screening Tool for all staff to identify those who need to remain at home To sideration should also be given to staff from the BAME community who, depending on role and task, may be at increased risk. Specific line manager guidance has been developed on this topic. Guidance on working from home may change with updates to Government guidance.
4.Expectant mothers, those with underlying conditions and those over the age of 70	Unknown impact to the unborn baby. Severe illness to the mother if immune compromised due to pregnancy or other associated health condition. Likelihood of more severe illness for those in the older category. Data identifies this to significantly increase over the age of 70.	5	4	20	 Eliminate the risk by allowing them to continue to work from home if possible, in accordance with government guidance. As above If not possible: Isolate the employee by providing separated workspace away from others Minimise the time spent in the workplace Enable employee to work at different times/shifts to others Consider timetabling breaks to avoid contact with others Specific advice on 'Age' has been produced as part of the revised staff and line manager resource
5.Employees with visual, hearing or mobility impairments	Employee may be less adept at moving quickly; may not see or hear clearly; to help them avoid other people. May need assistance to evacuate a building which breaches social distancing. May need assistance to carry out certain tasks which breaches social distancing. May struggle with communication if face coverings are worn – lip reading for hearing impaired.	4	3	12	 Existing or new requirements for a Personal Emergency Evacuation Procedure (PEEP) is included in the Individual Health Screening Tool for all staff. Review any existing PEEP or ensure a new one is completed where required Eliminate the risk by enabling continued work from home if possible Reduce the risk by ensuring special needs are considered in all areas the employee may need to use Ensure suitable access and egress Ensure pathways, one-way systems etc are wide enough to allow for wheelchairs Ensure sidabled toilets available nearby and regularly cleaned Ensure safe emergency evacuation without the need for a buddy in close proximity Clear signage re the continuing use of lifts for those staff/students who need to as part of the management of an underlying health condition – even if one way flows and specific use of stairs and lifts has been implemented. If safe evacuation cannot be provided, then employee must continue to work from home.



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6.Employee attending the workplace using public transport	Increased risk of virus spread to work colleagues. Increased risk of sickness absence.	4	3	12	If face coverings are worn on campus, consideration should be given to the exemption for some staff and students or the provision of some clear coverings, to support staff/students with hearing impairment • Eliminate the problem by allowing them to continue to work from home if possible in accordance with government guidance • Employee must check what precautions are in place with public transport provider – physical distancing, face covering, contactless payment, use of hand sanitiser etc. • Employees must wash hands on arrival at work • Isolate the employee by providing separated workspace away from others • Enable employee to work at different times to others to avoid busy commuter periods	3	6	Consider change of role temporarily to enable home working where possible. Consider other options with the employee such as longer days on campus and whole days working from home. Guidance on the use of public transport may change with updates to Government guidance.
7.Fire/emergency evacuation	Increased likelihood and spread of fire because reduced numbers of trained personnel to address it. Increased risk that not everyone will evacuate safely because of a lack of fire wardens.	2	5	10	Assumption is that the University has carried out checks on your building in the following areas:	5	5	Current guidelines re the provision of physical 1 st aid skills has been shared with all BU 1 st Aiders. The limited availability of BU 1 st Aiders until campus fully reopens in September and/or a proportion of BU staff continuing to work from home beyond September will require a review of the current call out system and the potential for recruitment of additional 1 st Aiders as required.
8.Employee wellbeing	Adverse ill-health. Sickness absence. Poor concentration leading to mistakes. Mental health issues	3	3	9	 Regular communication is in place (individual and group) to ensure staff are not ill-informed about returning to work safely. These comms will be led by MIG with input from Health, Safety & Wellbeing. New workplace/controls put in place to reduce risk of exposure to COVID 19 are documented in procedures and process and disseminated 	3	6	



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					to employees through reorientation learning module and local line managers. Line managers are aware of how changes to working arrangements may cause additional work-related stress and affect their employees' mental health and wellbeing. Stress, longer working hours, disruptive sleep, and work patterns can impact employees' immunity making them more susceptible to Covid-19 and should be subject to line manager support and risk assessed where required. Managers hold regular informal discussions with their team and look at ways to reduce potential causes of stress. (see above) Concerns on workload issues or support needs are escalated to line manager. Managers recognise signs and symptoms that a person is working beyond their capacity to cope and deal sensitively with employees experiencing problems outside of work. Staff who are in vulnerable groups themselves or caring for others are encouraged to contact their line manager to discuss their support needs Employees are made aware of supportive mechanisms available to them (Employees Assistance Programme, Health, Safety & Wellbeing Team etc) through line managers.
9.Virus transmission in the workplace	III-health. Sickness absence. Spread of infection to others. Productivity loss.	3	4	12	 Staff continue to work from home where possible and for the foreseeable future. Specific individual worker screening/assessment undertaken for those who have a self-declared health condition which could increase their risk profile. A 'campus return' checklist has been undertaken with local line managers prior to a return to campus in order to identify the control measures in place and any additional support for individuals. Line managers keep track of employees self-isolating with Covid-19 symptoms so that they can support a return to work after the symptom free period. A reorientation learning module on Brightspace has been developed to ensure staff and line managers have been trained before returning to work or carrying out new procedures in relation to Covid-19. Work has been arranged so that staff are able to maintain the government guidelines for physical distancing. Staff face to face contact has been limited with each other to in terms of time and additional measures in place where 2m cannot be achieved. (Imetre +) A one-way flow system is considered and implemented if possible and visual aids, such as floor strips, signage are used for maintaining physical distancing. Employees are educated on preventative care and infection control.



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	Hygiene guidance is given such as avoiding touching eyes, nose, mouth
	and unwashed hands, cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, and
	throw it away in a bin and wash your hands.
	Posters are displayed that encourage staying home when sick, & cough
	and sneeze etiquette.
	Alcohol hand gel has been placed at high use areas to the workplace and
	in other areas where they will be seen & used. Staff removing this
	provision without authorisation will be disciplined as this is a key safety
	feature on campus for all.
	Staff have been instructed to clean their hands frequently, to wash their
	hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or use alcohol-
	based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60-95% alcohol.
	Soap and water and alcohol-based hand rubs are provided in the
	workplace and adequate supplies are maintained.
	Physical distancing while at work is maintained by continuing to limit
	social interactions by staggering start/finish times and lunchtime.
	Staff bring their own provisions in for lunch until safe provision of
	catering outlets can be available.
	Social gathering amongst employees have been discouraged whilst at
	work.
	Staff requested to keep in touch through remote technology such as
	phone, internet and social media.
	Where possible, staff have been separated into teams to reduce contact
	between employees and increase activity resilience.
	Workspaces are arranged to maintain physical distancing, with
	employees facing in opposite directions where possible.
	PPE is considered for work processes where close contact is required.
	Adequate training has been made on what PPE is required
	The government's e.g. Public Health England response page is
	monitored regularly on behalf of MIG and BU for latest details on
	guidance and advice.
	Advice is shared with staff members and staff have been fully briefed
	and kept up to date with current advice on staying protected through
	the company lines of communications (i,e line managers, intranet) and
	shared with staff.
	Business related travel is stopped or greatly reduced in accordance with University and lines.
	University policy All magnings have been absorbed to digital consultations unless on
	All meetings have been changed to digital consultations unless can instifut force to force meetings when follows government physical.
	justify face to face meetings when follow government physical
	distancing guidelines.
	Staff told not to handshake and engage in general close personal greetings
	greetings • Employees are made aware of the impact of Covid-19 on their
	job/change of working environment.
	Request that companies who regularly attend University premises e.g.
	contractors to provide their health and safety policy/arrangements/or
	RAMS (risk assessment and method statement) regarding Covid-19.
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					 Staff are made aware of Covid-19 symptoms via communications, visual aids such as posters in key locations, digital screens Anybody visiting site will be informed that they are not to enter if they're experiencing Covid-19 symptoms and will be advised to self-isolate in line with government recommendations Staff will be informed to self-isolate if they have a person living in the same household or if they've been in contact with someone displaying Covid-19 symptoms - 2-week isolation should be observed. Staff will be supported to abide by any NHS Test & Trace involvement which requires them to self-isolate
10.Residue virus on surfaces	Ill-health due to viral spread. Sickness absence. Spread of infection to others. Productivity loss.	3	4	12	 Full cleaning of the building has been carried out before returning Daily cleaning procedures for all areas is undertaken, depending on risk of transmission The ongoing cleaning frequency is sufficient enough such that cleaning can be undertaken when building is occupied. All hand contact points cleaned on a frequent basis throughout the day including, door handles, light switches, furniture, handralis, shared desks, phones, flush plates, taps, dispensers, toilets Blinds to be kept opened and locked if they cannot be removed. Rugs and mats are removed where safe to do so to make cleaning and disinfection of floors easier. Appropriate cleaning products are used during daily preventative clean regime. Staff avoid using and touching common pieces of equipment such as printers/scanners/faxes and use only dedicated work equipment on the workstations. Any use of common work equipment is restricted and managed, Individuals responsible for wiping down any equipment after use with products provided on campus. Persons undertaking the cleaning have been instructed with clear safe usage instructions. The relevant Safety Data Sheet and COSHH assessment is provided for the substances in use Correct PPE is provided for the use of cleaning materials Appropriate cleaning products are provided, so that staff can frequently clean their workspaces during the day. Waste bins will be lined with a plastic bag so that they can be emptied without contacting the contents. Any emptying of bins and wastepaper baskets not carried out by cleaning staff should always be followed by hand washing and/or use of hand sanitiser
11.Travelling to work	Risk of viral infection if using public transport or there is increased contact with others.	3	4	12	 Working from home should be considered and prioritised where possible Parking restrictions to maintain social distancing measures in place. Workers will be instructed to use their own transport for work activities.



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	Increased potential for viral spread in the workplace				 Workers told to avoid public transport where applicable and using alternatives e.g. cycling, walking to work etc If public transport cannot be avoided, consider alternative work on a temporary basis to enable work from home Follow government advice on car sharing Follow advice if using taxi to get to work Will issue guidance if cycling to work and using secure cycle cages and other facilities (lockers/showers) f public transport is used Employee must check what precautions are in place with public transport provider – physical distancing, face covering, contactless payment, use of hand sanitiser etc. Employees must wash hands on arrival at work Isolate the employee by providing separated workspace away from others Enable employee to work at different times to others to avoid busy commuter periods 			
12.Entry and exit to and from buildings	High risk contact spots can spread the infection quickly to anyone who touches them.	3	3		 Entry and exits to the building/site are limited to the minimum number of points required. Access and exit from a building should be enabled without the need for physical touching where possible. Where necessary staff to wash hands after entering the building. Doors to be wiped down on a frequent basis 	3	3	
13.Gasses	Gas leaks, ruptures. Fire and explosion risk. Carbon monoxide poisoning.	3	5	15	 Update all RA/MS for Covid-19 Gas installations e.g. boilers been inspected, tested and maintained at required frequencies. Adequate ventilation available next to gas installations. Carbon monoxide detection available next to gas installations and in operation. Gas isolation control switches available and clearly identified. Supplier's emergency contact number clearly displayed, un-obscured and legible. Gas cylinders being used safely (if used). 	4	4	
14.Water	Poor water management can lead to legionella – severe illness. Can	3	5		 Update all RA/MS for Covid-19 Tanks, taps and shower outlets inspected and maintained. 	4	4	



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	make the employee much more susceptible to other illnesses and viruses such as Covid-19			 Suitable controls in place to reduce the risk of legionnaires disease. Showers been run at maximum temperature for 5mins to eliminate standing water and eradicate legionella bacteria. Drinking water facilities safe for use i.e. bottled water for personal use 			
15.Plant and equipment	Poorly maintained equipment can lead to mechanical failure — accidents causing harm and damage. Non-compliance of statutory inspections. Enforcement action by the HSE. Equipment taken out of action for long periods. Release of harmful materials. Safety protection ineffective.	5	15	 Responsible person has carried out checks on your building in the following areas: Update all RA/MS for Covid-19 Thorough examination, inspection, test and maintenance certificate and logs available and up-to-date for the premises, plant and equipment e.g Local Exhaust Ventilation, Lifting Equipment and Pressure Systems. The thorough examination, inspection, testing and maintenance records for equipment is in date. There is a planned preventative maintenance schedule and inventory available for key items of plant and equipment and are up-to-date All fixed guards on machinery in place, secure and well maintained. The safety devices and controls e.g. emergency stops, light guards etch been checked to ensure safe operation. Defective equipment been taken out of service awaiting repair. Enough space is available for personnel to undertake their tasks safely and comfortably. Personnel have the appropriate competences and/or trained to use machines/work equipment 	4	4	
16. Management of a confirmed case or outbreak of Covid-19	Increased risk of Covid-19 to BU community in the event of an outbreak	5	25	 Nominated single point of contact who will liaise with relevant colleagues/partners and Public Health England (PHE) as required Guidance from PHE where there is more than one case Confidential records of symptomatic staff/students Advice locally in terms of deep cleaning areas of campus as required Timely communications to staff/students Assistance with the NHS Test and Trace service by keeping a temporary record of staff and visitors in a way that is manageable Support staff/students to comply with any Test and Trace requirements to ensure they do not suffer detriment as a result of helping to contain clusters or outbreaks Provide assurance and information to the BU community about how we are preventing outbreaks, working with all parties on any actions that may be required Working in partnership with local authorities BCP and Dorset Council as required 	4	12	



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Risk Assessment Guidance

1. Eliminate	Remove the hazard wherever possible which negates the	If this is not possible then explain why		
	need for further controls		1	
2. Substitute	Replace the hazard with one less hazardous	If not possible then explain why		
			2	
3. Physical controls	Examples: enclosure, fume cupboard, glove box	Likely to still require admin controls as well	3	
4. Admin controls	Examples: training, supervision, signage		4	
5. Personal protection	Examples: respirators, safety specs, gloves	Last resort as it only protects the individual	5	



Lik	elihood			
1	Rare			
2	Unlikely			
3	Possible			
4	Likely			
5	Very Likely			

lm	pact	Health & Safety		
1	Trivial - insignificant	Very minor injuries e.g. slight bruising		
2	Minor	Injuries or illness e.g. small cut or abrasion which require basic first aid treatment even in selfadministered.		
3	Moderate	Injuries or illness e.g. strain or sprain requiring first aid or medical support.		
4	Major	Injuries or illness e.g. broken bone requiring medical support >24 hours and time off work >4 weeks.		
5	Severe – extremely significant	Fatality or multiple serious injuries or illness requiring hospital admission or significant time off work.		