

Helen Clark

From: Medical Director of Teaching
Sent: 24 April 2020 15:32
Subject: Weekly Education update from the Proctor

Dear all staff involved with teaching,

The Proctor's Weekly update on education issues can be found here: <https://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/assets/university/remote-teaching-and-learning/documents/weekly-education-update-24-apr.pdf>

Additionally, I have provided detail from an email received this afternoon from the Proctor addressing how Semester 1 teaching may be impacted. It hopefully keeps all staff informed of the likely landscape at the start of next academic year: Programme Directors, Module/Year Leads will be working with all teaching staff to consider plans for next AY in due course.

If you are interested in joining the central University's Academic Advisory Dual Mode Delivery group (see info below in email) then email me at medicaldot@st-andrews.ac.uk with a brief 2-3 sentences why so I can forward your offer to the Proctor for her to consideration.

Best wishes and stay safe,
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How will students engage with study at St Andrews in Semester 1?

This is a very difficult question to answer. The scenarios for Semester 1, and possibly Semester 2, of next academic year 2020/21 include rolling lockdowns, closed borders, restrictions on travel, restrictions on large gatherings, social distancing, a second peak to COVID 19 resulting in a second period of lock down, vulnerable staff and students (or those with vulnerable family members) required to self-isolate at home, all resulting in an increased likelihood that students or staff will be engaging either online or, if they are able to engage face to face, are subject to limiting constraints such as required social distancing in lectures and practical laboratories.

Measures needed

We need to provide an educational experience that is **resilient** to all of these scenarios; is of the **quality** expected and provides **parity** of experience for online and on-site students. Dual mode delivery for all of the modules offered in Semester 1 is the only mechanism by which the University can become resilient to all these scenarios within the time frame available. This means that the teaching is delivered both face-to-face and on-line to the same module cohort; such that students and staff can engage where they may be located and such that students can join and leave face-to-face teaching as needed.

Dual mode delivery is defined as teaching in which students engage through both face-to-face and remote learning formats which are delivered at the same time in the semester. Both groups have an equitable learning experience in terms of provision of course material, access to the course learning management system, and to recordings of live classes and additional explanations. Both groups of students experience the same assessment processes. The only difference between the two groups is that the some but not all

students may have the ability to attend live face-to-face classes. It may also be necessary to consider the modes in which the two groups access additional support for example open office hours may need to be replaced or mirrored by on line interactive surgeries and the opportunistic peer-to-peer learning experienced by students in face-to-face settings may need to be mirrored by on line discussion forums.