

27 July 2021 3.11pm

All staff email from Professor Allan Evans, Acting Vice-Chancellor

Dear Colleagues

Further to my communication last night, where I outlined that University campuses will re-open from 7am Wednesday morning, I want to briefly update you on the University's approach to the recently announced restrictions and how we can support the community in its implementation of the new health guidelines.

While our campuses will be open to staff and students, teaching should continue online wherever possible, at least for the remainder of this week. In some instances campus attendance might be required (eg practicals, workshops and instances where use of university resources are required), most likely from next week onwards. Program directors and course coordinators are asked to communicate with students about any specific local arrangements.

In what is a significant change, in response to the strong encouragement from the State Government, face masks will now be required to be worn on campus in all public and shared indoor spaces, including teaching, learning, research, recreation and shared office spaces. Until further notice, this requirement applies to all staff and students and members of the public who wish to access our campus spaces. There will be some exemptions for the wearing of masks and masks do not need to be worn all of the time (eg when eating/drinking). We will ensure the staff and student FAQ's are updated as soon as possible once we get more clarity on what the rules and exemptions will be.

The University will make a limited number of masks available from Campus Central and Security offices in the event some staff or students do not have their own with them.

As outlined yesterday, while the campus is open from tomorrow, where staff can perform their duties from home, and they have an approved work from home arrangement with their manager, they are encouraged to do so for the remainder of this week. We will provide further advice about future work from home arrangements as the status and duration of the overall State restrictions become clearer. For those who are required to attend campus to fulfil their roles, swipe card access will be required for all university buildings.

For the foreseeable future, swipe card access will also be required for students to access University buildings including our libraries and shared student spaces. This will necessarily limit access to members of the public and enable tracking the movements of individuals should this be necessary.

As our campuses re-open and we return to some face-to-face operations, local area managers will need to liaise with staff to deal with specific matters in relation to student and staff services, and we genuinely appreciate this.

I thank you in advance for your cooperation with these new requirements.

For your information, the email that will be sent to students is provided below.

Regards