

**Email to students from Jan Royall**  
**29/09/20**

Dear Students,

The beginning of term is fast approaching and I imagine that you are feeling a mixture of excitement and trepidation about your impending return to Oxford, particularly given the reports of lockdowns at other universities and rising cases across the UK. I wanted to take this opportunity to reassure you that we are monitoring the situation very closely, listening to all your concerns and ensuring we have plans in place to deal with every possible contingency.

In line with government advice, we are still encouraging you to come back and live in Oxford if you can. We want this to happen not merely so you can access the full range of online and in-person teaching that we are offering, but also so you can experience the real Oxford as much as possible.

We know that arriving for the start of term may not be possible for some of you, and that others have health and welfare concerns. If you are worried about returning, do please speak to your college or department – and if you are unable to return then there are ways we can help. You can, for example, speak to us about obtaining a residency exemption.

I would also like to draw your attention to the [COVID-19 Hub](#) on our website. This is the first and most important destination for you to visit this year for all the latest updates and guidance from college. Today, for example, we have just added a new page of FAQs laying out precisely what you should do – and what we will do to support you – in the event that you have to self-isolate.

Finally, I know how proud but also anxious your own parents or guardians must be feeling at this time. Sending a son or daughter off to university is always a tough moment, but it's even tougher this year. For that reason, I've written the attached message because I want your parent or guardian to know exactly what we're doing to look after your health and wellbeing this year.

I will contact you later in the week with further information but, in the meantime, I would be very grateful if you could pass on my note and the attached guidance about self-isolating (which is extrapolated from the online FAQs).

We are all looking forward to seeing you soon.

Warm regards,

Jan