City, University of London

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – statement regarding starting your studies at City in September 2020

We are extremely pleased that so many of you remain committed to joining City in September, despite the current difficult circumstances and ongoing uncertainties about travel restrictions and social distancing measures. In return, our commitment to you is that we will do all that we can to enable you to commence your studies with us later this year as planned. Whether you are a student in the UK or overseas, we are confident that we will be able to welcome you to City. This may involve temporarily starting your programme online until such time that you can join us in London or starting at City in person as originally planned, or some combination of the two, for example if there are restrictions which limit our ability to deliver large lectures. It may also involve a slightly later start date. The structure of your first few weeks at City will depend on any conditions imposed by the authorities on universities to enable them to resume normal operations and any other restrictions in place in September. These are not yet known.

The special arrangements we will put in place to enable you to start your programme this year will be temporary, to provide a bridge until such time that City is operating normally, and any restrictions have been lifted. However, despite some changes to the mode of delivery for some part of the programme, if required, the programme will be taught in full. We will also provide you with any support you need to familiarise yourself with City, meet other students and find your way around. These services will also be provided initially online, if necessary.

Because of the diverse nature of our programmes and their requirements, the temporary arrangements we will put in place will vary by programme. The School of study at City to which you have applied will be in direct contact with you to confirm the exact nature of these arrangements and to discuss the options available to you. This will be by 30th June 2020 at the latest.

Finally, I want to assure you that the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is always our highest priority. We will rigorously follow all public health guidelines to protect you when you are on our campus, including any physical measures to facilitate social distancing and enhanced cleaning and facilities to promote good hygiene practices.

On accommodation

We recognise that planning where you might live when you join City is a significant personal and financial decision. Applicants are currently advised to apply for accommodation with us in the usual way. Undergraduate applicants applying for the Accommodation Guarantee Scheme should still do so by 30th June 2020. There is no penalty if you are required to withdraw from the Accommodation Guarantee Scheme or subsequently choose to withdraw your housing application at this stage if you have applied online through the Accommodation team.

We are considering what options we can offer for students who may need to commence their studies with us later than usual. Further information will be made available on the accommodation webpages as soon as possible.