

**Please note:** This is a copy of the newsletter sent to students. The formatting is a little different to the email version, due to the content being converted into a PDF. Dynamic content (content specific to Faculty/campus/level etc.) features at the end of this document but for students it's integrated into the body of the newsletter.

Free coronavirus tests, travel discounts, changes to regulations

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**This is yourUWE Bristol.**

## Preparing for Christmas

We hope you're doing ok in this everchanging landscape of coronavirus, lockdown and tiers, with Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset going into Tier 3 on Wednesday 2 December. You can [find out more about tiers](#) on the government's website.

As you'll know, the Government has allocated a 'student travel window' to enable the UK's 1.2 million students to travel home for the Christmas period. To help reduce the transmission of the virus and to protect your loved ones, we're providing [free asymptomatic tests](#) to help you make an informed choice about travelling.

The testing facility is available from today, Monday 30 November, until Sunday 6 December. You can book your test(s) online.

[Book your test >](#)

## 'I'm driving home for Christmas, I can't wait to see those faces'

Chris Rhea said it first and thousands have sung it since! This year, travel companies are offering a range of student-specific discounts - so check out what's available before you book:

- [SNAP: Covid-safe transport direct from your University](#) (keep checking for updates)
- [National Express 10% off](#)
- [Megabus](#) are offering their usual student discount - you just need an NUS TOTUM card
- If you've booked an Advance ticket with GWR (Great Western Railway) on or before 11 November to travel on or after 10 December you're able to change your journey fee-free (for services during the student travel window of 3 - 9 December).

The logo for UWE Bristol, consisting of the text 'UWE Bristol' in white on a red rectangular background.A small illustration of holly leaves and red berries in the bottom right corner of the banner.

**feel good** festive countdown.

Self-care and finding ways to connect are more important than ever. That's why we've put together some [virtual events](#) and [wellbeing advice](#) to help you connect with others and look after your own wellbeing in the lead-up to Christmas!

### Have you registered with the University Health Centre?

Did you know we have our very own doctors' surgery right in the heart of Frenchay Campus? It's open to all UWE Bristol students, no matter which campus you're studying at and you can stay registered with us for your whole time at university.

[Register online >](#)

## What's hiding in your cupboards?

Donate new, unopened food, toiletries and other items to support Bristol Outreach Services for the Homeless (BOSH).

Donation points can be found at the [Information Points](#) on Frenchay, Bower Ashton and Glenside campuses and the Accommodation Reception on Frenchay campus.

We're taking collections until Friday 18 December.

[Find out what's needed >](#)

### Mental Wealth strategy

We want to check your understanding of the Mental Wealth Strategy before we launch our Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2030.

The survey will take around ten minutes to complete and you'll be in with a chance of winning one of ten £50 Amazon vouchers.

[Mental Wealth strategy survey >](#)

### UWE Zine project

The Students' Union and the Library at UWE Bristol are working together to create a platform for students to share their experiences and thoughts related to the topics of decolonisation and diversity called a 'Zine'.

They welcome a range of different forms (e.g. photos, poems, stories, illustrations, podcasts, etc.).

[Find out more about the Zine >](#)

### Module feedback surveys

These are your chance to feed back on how your modules are going – what's working well and what could be better.

Your comments will help staff understand your experience so they can make improvements – you may even see changes in time for Teaching Block 2 in February!

**Look out for the surveys on Blackboard.**

### Pedagogic projects

We want to encourage the development of innovative and collaborative learning and teaching practices and tools to enhance your learning - so we're offering you the chance to float your research ideas, and if successful, have them funded so they can run as a staff-student project.

The next information session is on **Thursday 10 December.**

[Find out more online >](#)

## Study spaces

As you may be aware, to ensure that you can study safely on campus, the libraries now have a traffic-light system to manage building occupancy. When entering our libraries, you'll see signage with our current status, with staff on hand to direct you to the closest available study spaces.

If the library is red (at capacity), there are a [range of other study spaces](#) available.

## Supporting you with our academic regulations and procedures

We understand that these are uncertain times, but please be assured that we have a number of measures which can help you either if there has been a specific disadvantage to you as an individual or as part of a group.

### **Capping has been removed from the regulations for resits and retakes**

The University is no longer capping overall module marks for resits and retakes, unless a module mark is already capped.

### **You can still submit coursework late up to 24 hours after the deadline**

But please note that the mark penalty for using the 24 hour window remains. Marks for late coursework submitted in the 24 hour window are reduced to the pass mark (40% in the case of levels 0-3 and 50% for level M).

### **Assessment support**

If you're struggling with any upcoming assessment deadlines check the [assessment support options](#) to find out what help is available to you.

### **Want some time out?**

If you wish to [temporarily suspend your studies](#), book an appointment with a [Student Support Adviser](#) via an [Information Point](#). They can talk you through your options and explain what happens next.

### **Cohort adverse circumstances**

We have a process called [cohort adverse circumstances](#) for when a group of students has been particularly affected during an assessment.

### **Summary of the changes**

If you would like to see how this year's regulations are different to last year's please take a look at the table towards the bottom of our [alternative academic regulations webpage](#).

### **For students whose modules were affected during 2019/2020**

We're calculating a pre-pandemic average for last year. We've summarised details on the [alternative academic regulations webpage](#). Keep checking back as this will continue to be updated throughout the year.

## Assessment offences

It is considered an assessment offence for you to attempt to achieve a higher grade or mark through unfair means such as cheating or plagiarism etc.

[Find out more >](#)

## Disability History Month

Disability History Month aims to raise awareness of disability equality and foster inclusion in all aspects of society. It gives us all an opportunity to review the past and look to the future of equal rights for the disabled community in the UK.

Last week the University and The Students' Union at UWE hosted a panel discussion on the impact that Covid-19 has had on invisible disabilities, and over the next two weeks we have these events lined up:

- Dr. Nigel Newbutt will host a [talk on his research on autism](#)
- Social Science in the City are hosting a [\(virtual\) tour of Bristol Robotics Lab focusing on disability rights](#)
- The Centre for Music are releasing their [YouTube video "In conversation with British Paraorchestra"](#).

[Events >](#)

## Inspire:Me lectures online

Missed out on some of the Inspire:Me Lecture series? They're now available online. Take a look to view recordings of lecture videos and podcasts.

[Catch up >](#)

## Black History Month videos

Rewatch or enjoy for the first time the series of events we hosted to mark Black History Month. Tune in and listen to the voices of our Black community.

[Watch online >](#)

## BAME men talk health: an online workshop

A free, online workshop designed for BAME men to explore emotional wellbeing and distress, how stereotypes and recent current events may have had an impact on these, and access strategies to improve your day-to-day mental health.

[Reserve your place >](#)

## 10% off and free deliveries with Uber Eats

Uber Eats are offering all UWE Bristol students 10% off all orders and free delivery on orders above £20 until Friday 31 December. Plus if you're a first time Uber user, you're entitled to £10 free credit.

[Full details >](#)

## Managing your money

It's not too late to sign up to the Financial Capability Module - a series of workshops to provide you with essential money skills for life.

The next workshop will focus on accommodation, TV licensing and household costs.

[Find out more >](#)

## Advance notices

### IT maintenance weekend scheduled for end of term

Twice a year we organise a total shutdown of our IT systems so we can carry out essential maintenance work.

The next due is due from **Friday 18** -

### UWE Bristol Futures Award closing in 2022

Yes, you read that right, 2022 - we're drawing the Futures Award to a close and wanted to give you plenty of notice!

**Monday 21 December.** All systems will be unavailable during this time.

[Find out more >](#)

If you've been taking part you'll need to complete your award submissions by **Friday 31 December 2021** (not 2020!).

[Find out more >](#)



[News](#)

[What's on](#)

## ACCOMMODATION FAIR: TOMORROW!

When it comes to accommodation, you can never start looking too early.

Our Virtual Accommodation Fair is taking place between 12:00-15:00 tomorrow, Tuesday 1 December, and allows you to have your housing queries answered by a range of accommodation experts.

It's obviously going to be different this year, but there will still be all of the information that a physical fair would have, and you'll be able to get some discount codes from Domino's and National Express.

The virtual stalls include The Students' Union Advice Centre, Bristol City Council, TV Licencing, Unite, UWE Bristol's Student Money survey and more.

All you need to do tomorrow is go onto our website, visit each booth, have a chat with the providers if the option is there and get all the information that you need to secure your accommodation for next year. Happy house hunting!

[More details](#)

## NUS DRUGS SURVEY

We have a survey with NUS to find out more about your views and experiences relating to drug use.

You don't need to use drugs to take part, and the survey is confidential.

It should take around 10-15 minutes to complete, and everyone who does it will be put into a draw to win a top prize of £100 or one of ten £25 runners up prizes.

The deadline to do this is Monday 14 December, so complete the survey and have your say.

[Find out more](#)

## Quick links

[myUWE](#)

[Academic advice](#)

[Study support](#)

[Term dates](#)

## Get in touch

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[More contact options](#)



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As a student you'll receive emails from the Student Communications Team. We promise not to overwhelm you and we'll only send you things that are relevant. You'll get a regular newsletter and some targeted communications. If you unsubscribe you'll miss important emails. [Contact us](#) if you have any questions.



## Are you an international student travelling home for Christmas?

We're sure you've got questions about travelling home for Christmas, so we've updated the [coronavirus FAQs](#) with the latest guidance and advice (scroll down to 'Information for current international students').

Please check the [Foreign and Commonwealth Office guidance](#) before travelling and ensure your return ticket enables you to be back in Bristol in time for [Teaching Block One](#).

## Advice for navigating the global jobs market

GradLink has created a series of six webinars to help you find the job you want.

Guest speakers include Coca-Cola Europe and successful international graduates.

During the webinars, you'll be guided through the essential knowledge and skills needed to succeed in the rapidly-evolving global jobs market.

[Find out more >](#)

## Non-native English speaker? Try the 'Say It' app

One of our lectures, Dr David Western, is conducting a research project on new ways to support Non-Native English Speaking students. He's studying the potential effects of a pronunciation guide app called [Say It](#) on academic achievement and wellbeing.

If you get involved, you'll receive free access to the app's paid features for at least six months, worth over £25.

[Join the study >](#)

## Communication skills

Our Communication Skills for International Students workshops are designed for any international student, or any student who uses English as an additional language, to help develop confidence in communicating effectively in English at a UK university.

[Book online >](#)

## Global Café: Gifts and giving

Did you know each country has its own way, time and idea of gifting? Join us to explore gifting and giving traditions from around the world! This is an opportunity to share your culture's traditions and tips. Join our interactive session at **14:30 on Thursday 3 December**.

[Join us >](#)