

Dear [XXXXXXXXXXXXXX],

As the Vice-Chancellor, I and everyone at Bournemouth University are looking forward to welcoming you to BU in September.

I am excited about the new academic year and I am sure that you are looking forward to it too. We are as committed as ever to providing you with an enjoyable and safe BU student experience – and we can't wait to get started.

We have spent the last few months working hard to make sure you will be able to enjoy your course, your accommodation and your life as a student when you join us in September. We are determined to offer you the best campus experience possible while keeping you safe at all times.

We are working on the detail of our plans, which will change as government guidance changes. That means we need to be flexible and adapt quickly to changing circumstances. We want to share as much with you as we can now and we will keep you updated as plans change.

Although you have already accepted your offer from BU, once more information is available you can still change your mind and explore other options.

We are looking forward to showing you that while your BU experience may be different to begin with, you will be part of our BU community. Firstly, and perhaps most importantly, our campuses will be open to welcome you from September.

Your course

Where possible, specialist facilities on campus will be accessible in a safe and co-ordinated way from September.

Learning will be supported online as a key part of all courses at the start of the academic year. This will include virtual classrooms where you'll be able to interact further with your lecturers and get to know your classmates. We will be here to support you with learning in this new environment, and we'll contact you again as soon as possible with more detail about the way your course will be delivered. We'll also give you more information about sources of support with your learning and your options.

We hope to have a full programme of face-to-face sessions on campus for all courses by the start of the second semester, if government guidelines permit.

Your student experience

We are working hard to ensure our fantastic libraries, student support and some SportBU facilities will be up and running during your first semester. We are following government advice to make sure we create a safe campus by implementing physical distancing measures for all students and staff.

As well as our staff across BU, the Students' Union at Bournemouth University (SUBU) are planning a wide range of activities and virtual events to help you join clubs and societies, find people who share the same interests as you, and settle into your new community.

You can find out more about all the events and opportunities available when you join us in your 'Welcome to BU' guide. This will be sent to you in August and you will have plenty of time to decide what clubs and societies you'd like to join and what activities you'd like to take up.

Your accommodation

If you haven't already booked, you can visit www.bournemouth.ac.uk/accommodation to see information about types of accommodation available, the booking process and terms and conditions for each option.

Your new home in Bournemouth will be ready for you in September and we are working closely with our accommodation partners to ensure accommodation adheres to government guidance. We will contact you nearer the time with information about this.

I look forward to meeting you in September, in person or virtually, and to seeing you on campus as soon as possible.

Best wishes



Professor John Vinney