

How your learning experience may change due to COVID-19

As we get closer to the beginning of the 2020/21 academic year, we are looking forward to welcoming both new and returning students to our learning community.

Studying at UCNL is going to be different this academic year because of the coronavirus pandemic and naturally you will want to know what to expect. The information below provides details about what we are committing to deliver in the current climate, how we will achieve this, and further changes we might need to make in response to changing Government and Public Health guidelines.

Your safety is, and always will be our number one priority, so we have introduced further sanitising stations and increased cleaning across the campus. We have also changed our timetables, reduced class sizes and staggered start and end times. Additionally, we have introduced one-way systems to support social distancing. Campus lifts are now limited to one person only and can now only be used by people unable to use the stairs.

Historically, we would hold sessions with up to 60 students in the Chambers Lecture Theatre, but to keep everyone safe there will be no large lectures this year. Instead, where possible and whenever it is safe to do so, you will learn with small groups of students in workshops, seminars, face to face, laboratory and fieldwork sessions.

We will be delivering our courses using a blended style that mixes face to face teaching with online learning experiences. This means students enjoy the best of both worlds, so whatever the situation is going forward we can keep you safe, provide you with a quality education and adapt to the latest government advice.

We recognise it is going to be a unique and challenging start to the new academic year, but we are here for you. Staff are available online through a variety of platforms and as guidance changes, we will keep you informed every step of the way.

Delivery in the event of a further lockdown

We have worked hard to ensure our programmes can be delivered flexibly, meaning that should there be a further national or local lockdown during the academic year, effective and quality assured delivery of your programme will continue.

What to do if you are required to self-isolate

If you are required to self-isolate or shield, you should let your programme leader or academic advocate know as soon as possible. They will be able to provide support and the options available regarding the continued delivery of your programme.

Other options available

We will make all reasonable efforts to fulfil our contract with you by continuing to deliver our programmes, either online or as blended learning. We understand that not all students may be comfortable with the changes we have had to make. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss your options, which may include deferring your studies for a year, transferring to another programme, transferring to another institution or withdrawing from your programme.

Offer holders/Current students

We hope this information helps you make an informed decision about your future study and whether you; want to start your programme of study and accept these adjustments, would prefer to defer until we can deliver the course as originally advertised or would like to choose a different course or provider.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in contact with your programme leader to discuss the options available to you.

COVID 19 Mitigation Overview

Programme Name(s):	FdA Children Learning and Development- Early Childhood, Learning Support and SEND pathways BA (Hons) Children Learning and Development – Early Childhood and Education pathways
Programme Content	<p>The content of the programme remains unchanged. Programme and learning outcomes remain the same.</p> <p>North Lincolnshire Council have issued guidance to Schools identifying that students should not be allowed in placement at the commencement of the academic year 2020/2021 due to social bubbles and the COVID pandemic. We have proposed the following to mitigate this:</p> <p>Level 4 - 30 Hours currently assigned to PPD1 are removed from this module and students will have to produce evidence of 100 hours placement to be allowed to continue to level 5.</p> <p>Level 5 - Currently level 5 students have a requirement to evidence 470 hours of work-based placement. It is proposed that for the academic year 20/21 this is reduced to 300 hours over the course of their FdA.</p> <p>Level 6 - Students at present have to complete 250 hours of placement. It is proposed that for the academic year 20/21 this is reduced to 180 hours.</p> <p><i>*Subject to Awarding Institution approval</i></p>
Programme Structure	There has been no reduction or change to available modules.
Programme Delivery	<p>We will be delivering our courses using a blended style that mixes face to face teaching with online learning experiences. This means students enjoy the best of both worlds, so whatever the situation is going forward we can keep you safe, provide you with a quality education and adapt to the latest government advice.</p> <p>Blended learning is a method of learning which has always been part of our inclusive teaching strategies at UCNL, but with COVID-19, this has been further developed to create an engaging and supportive learning approach for all of our students.</p>

	<p>As part of the blended learning approach all students will be expected to join weekly small group live seminars via Microsoft Teams, these will be recorded to enable convenient access of the content delivered.</p> <p>You will be invited into UCNL during 2 weeks of each trimester to engage in small group programme specific activities. These weeks you will also have access to module specific pre-recorded seminars to view at their convenience.</p> <p>One to one tutorials will also be available during specific weeks to provide formative feedback. As always throughout the course, module tutors will be available to support you with any specific questions you may have.</p> <p>As things change so will your learning. You will start with more online study supported by innovative teaching practices, but we hope that we will be able to move to a more interactive face to face learning experience in small student groups as quickly as possible, whilst following government guidelines.</p> <p>You will learn through online content and lectures via Microsoft Teams and our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), Moodle.</p> <p>Online and on campus you will stay in regular contact with your lecturers. In addition, we have an academic support team who offer support with for example study skills and DSA applications. Again, these will be online initially, moving to a more blended approach to suit you as we can introduce more face to face meetings.</p> <p>You will have timetabled activity and directed learning clearly communicated to you via Moodle.</p> <p>All teaching that would usually have taken place on campus, can be delivered effectively online.</p> <p>The overall balance between teaching and independent study remains broadly the same as when the programme was validated.</p>
Programme duration	We do not anticipate any material change to the length of time it will take students to complete their programme.
Assessment Strategy	<p>Assessment(s) will be modified for the following modules:</p> <p>Level 4: Personal and Professional Development 1 Change to placement hours and replace 50% Discussion with 50% Presentation.</p>

	<p>Level 4: Maths and Science Move to trimester 3. Change 50% Science based activity to 60% Maths and Science based activity to be carried out at the UCNL Science Fair in May 2021. If social distancing guidelines do not allow this to take place, students will be assessed via the creation of an instructional video for children. 50% reflection replaced with 40% Plan and rationale for the Maths and science activity.</p> <p>Level 4: Assessing children with SEND (SEND pathway only) Replace 50% Case Study with 50% Essay.</p> <p>Level 5: Children Families and Communities Replace 50% Group Poster presentation with 50% Group presentation and replace 50% Case Study with 50% Essay</p> <p>Level 5: SEND and Inclusion. Replace 50% Case Study with 50% Essay</p> <p>Level 5: Language and Literacy (Learning support pathway only) Replace 60% Essay with 40% Essay and replace 40% Case study with 60% Group Video.</p> <p>Level 5: Personal and Professional Development 2. Replace 40% Reflective Account with 100% Reflective account and remove 60% Poster presentation.</p> <p>Level 6: Leadership and Management. 50% Discussion will now take place online via Microsoft Teams and replace 50% Case Study with 50% Essay.</p> <p>Level 6: Contemporary Issues and International Comparisons. Replace 50% Individual Presentation with 50% Individual On-line presentation</p> <p>Level 6: Safeguarding. Replace 50% Group Presentation with 50% Group on-line presentation and replace 50% Case Study with 50% Essay.</p> <p>Level 6: Dissertation. Replace 20% Poster Presentation with 20% Online Poster Presentation.</p> <p>*Subject to Awarding Institution approval</p>
Programme Title or Award	There is no change to the programme title or the award that students will receive upon successful completion.
Professional Accreditation	<i>n/a</i>
Location of delivery	Delivery will be subject to national and local restrictions and we will carefully follow relevant Government and public health guidance.

	You will learn through a blend of online and on campus small group teaching, while receiving support from Programme Teams and the Student Support Team.
Additional Costs	<p>Your programme will be delivered through a blended learning approach and will include online teaching and learning. If you do not have IT equipment (Laptop with webcam), we recommend you include this as part of your study budget</p> <p>Your tuition fees will cover most costs associated with your programme (registration, tuition, assessment and examination). Any other extra costs should be considered including printing and ownership of text books (Copies of key reading materials are available to borrow from the UCNL library.)</p>
Entry Requirements	There will be no changes to the published entry requirements for 2020/21