

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers in response to the new Engagement policy

- 1. The policy states that one of the ways online learning is monitored is via the download of the lecture slides but I just open them on my browser. Will this still register?**

Yes. Moodle logs when materials posted there have been accessed by clicking the relevant link.

- 2. For Phase 2 it says students must participate in the extracurricular activities - does this include attending senior phase live lectures?**

Students must complete activities that are compulsory (not labelled optional), this may include course material provided by external providers e.g. ELFH.

Junior Rotation students must attend Junior Rotation events and Senior Rotation students, Senior Rotation events, not a combination.

- 3. I am in a different time zone and do the lectures and work when I am able. This means I am not doing the work at the same time as the UK students – will I be penalised?**

The standard expectation is that all live sessions should be attended 'live' unless you have notified the student support team that this will not be possible.

For students in different time zones: The same expectation exists wherever the timing of a session would be considered reasonable e.g. falling within daylight hours (i.e. during the week it is likely that some sessions would be considered reasonable timing and others not). Where the timing would not be considered reasonable you are expected to set aside time each day to listen to recordings of lectures and live sessions and to complete/submit each session's work as requested. This would normally be expected to be done within 24 hours of the scheduled time and, at the very latest, before the following Sunday evening (midnight UK time). This will ensure that each week's work is complete before the beginning of the following week which is what we would expect in normal circumstances when teaching takes place on site.

- 4. I am unable to do some of the work when it is scheduled due to personal responsibilities so I catch up later in the week. Can you see this?**

We have the facility to track the materials that you have engaged with at any time point if necessary. As stated in the previous answer, the standard expectation is that all live sessions should be attended 'live' unless you have notified the student support team that this will not be possible. Where it is not possible to attend a session live, you are expected to set aside time each day to listen to recordings of lectures and live sessions and to complete/submit each session's work as requested. This would normally be expected to be done within 24 hours of the scheduled time and, at the very latest, before the following Sunday evening (midnight UK time). This will ensure that each week's work is complete before the beginning of the following week which is what we would expect in normal circumstances when teaching takes place on site.

5. **Will we be given any individualised engagement/attendance information weekly so we know how we're doing? Is there a way of checking or accessing attendance records for each term? Can this be accessed on Moodle? Should we be engaging with everything provided?**

If you have engaged with all of the lecture/group work materials and completed all of the tasks set each week, you should be confident that you are meeting the engagement requirements. Requirements for each session are as stated in the workbooks, on Moodle and/or on Teams for each unit or block. Unit/Block leads and individual lecturers will of course be happy to clarify requirements if necessary. If you have not engaged with all required elements, you should already know which have been missed, therefore we have no plans to create weekly attendance logs for each student and you cannot access records on Moodle. If you are concerned about your engagement, we suggest you keep your own log of work completed so we can discuss any differences. The Student Support team will be happy to discuss the records associated with any concerns that are raised related for insufficient engagement.

6. **It has taken some time to adapt to learning via this new system and as a result I have a backlog of work so am completing work behind schedule. I find live lectures difficult to learn from and benefit from watching the recorded lectures, so I can stop the video and make notes as needed. Will I be penalised for this?**

We recognise that this is a new way of learning and staff are very familiar with the difficulties this brings, indeed we are facing the very same issues ourselves. The amount of work you are expected to do has not increased since the remote learning period began and wherever possible, we have actually reduced the number of activities within live sessions to allow you to focus on the key concepts. It is therefore very important that all requested activities are completed each week to avoid falling behind. All materials, including recordings, will be available to you on Moodle indefinitely so you can re-watch these at your leisure throughout the course and this is something we would encourage you to do. This is the same principle that we follow when teaching takes place on site i.e. that you must attend and keep up with each session as scheduled but materials are available for you to look at again later as many times as you need to. As always, anyone having difficulties keeping up with their studies should contact their Personal Tutor or the Student Support team at the earliest opportunity.

7. **I am repeating the year and am concerned that my engagement record will be lower than it should be because I am working from last year's materials which I have already downloaded.**

The opportunity to repeat the year is given on the understanding that you engage with the year in full. Some lectures or sessions may be virtually identical to those experienced previously, however others will be delivered in different ways, by different people and/or will include up to date material where relevant. The exam questions will be based on expected knowledge from the current year's teaching rather than an earlier version of the lecture or unit. It is therefore essential that you engage with this year's materials in full as if you were completing the year for the first time. Where individual lectures or tasks are identical to those completed previously, you are welcome to work from last year's notes but you will still need to engage with this year's content in order to know that they are indeed identical. You also need to bear in mind that what you achieved last year did not meet the required standard overall so last year's notes will likely need to be improved.

Please contact med-studentsupport@buckingham.ac.uk if you have individual circumstances that you have not yet told us about that may impact upon any of the above.