

Subject line: Important information about forthcoming UCU industrial action

Dear Student,

I am writing with further important information following the email last week from our Vice-Chancellor, Professor Robert Van de Noort, about forthcoming University & College Union (UCU) industrial action.

We understand that you will be very concerned about the possible impact on your studies. While we acknowledge the right of staff to undertake industrial action, I would like to reassure you that we are committed to minimising the impact of any such action for our whole community.

With this in mind, we have published [further advice for students](#) and [frequently asked questions](#) on our website. Please do review this information carefully, as it will help explain what to expect over the coming weeks and any action you may need to take if you are affected. These webpages will be updated as new information becomes available, so please check back regularly to keep up-to-date.

Based on previous experience, we have established our [Impact of Strike Action on Academic Performance](#) (ISoAP) process for students who feel they have been disadvantaged academically in an assessment as a result of industrial action. Further information is published [online](#).

We also are supporting Schools to coordinate their mitigation as they are best placed to understand the impact on individual modules. We have asked all Schools to make arrangements to make up for any missed teaching, which may include rescheduling, combining missed classes with other classes, or providing materials for you to review independently.

It is difficult for us to predict the impact of this action, but based on previous experience it is likely that this will vary across Schools, Departments and Functions. Out of the approximately 700 UCU members eligible to vote, just under 300 voted in favour of this industrial action. To put this into context, around 4,300 people work at the University. We anticipate that our professional Functions including Support Centres, the Library, cafes and other facilities on campus will remain open and available to you as normal.

Please do continue to check your University email address and the [Me@Reading student portal](#) regularly. If you have any specific queries about the impact on you and your studies, please contact your Academic Tutor, Support Centre, Henley Helpdesk or ISLI Teaching Office.

Kind regards,

Professor Gavin Brooks  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching & Learning)