

## NCAD Response to Level 3 Restrictive Measures

In the context of moving to Level 3 COVID-19 Restrictions in Dublin, the Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science has asked the Dublin universities to reduce student numbers on campus for the coming weeks as part of a wider plan to reduce the number of Covid-19 cases in the capital.

### Schools of Fine Art and Design

The government guidelines advise that teaching that is practical or requires physical presence or is required for professional accreditation can continue under these guidelines. NCAD is therefore continuing with the delivery of studio based teaching and learning as previously indicated in our communication to you in the summer.

To maintain appropriate social distancing in the studios, workshops and seminar rooms we will be able to accommodate just under 50% of our student community on the campus at any one time and the outline timetable for these schools will remain as planned:

- Second Year students will be on campus every Monday and Tuesday
- Final Year students will be on campus every Thursday and Friday
- Wednesday will be a day for Second Year / Final Year Joint Course Critical Cultures electives and additional timetabled access for year groups to the studios and workshops on a schedule determined in each School based on the needs of each programme

For those of you who will be returning to the studios and workshops we want to assure you again that NCAD has put in place rigorous protocols to ensure the safety of students and staff in studios and workshops, and the [NCAD Student Return to Campus Guide](#) will give you an indication of some of the measures in place.

### Schools of Visual Culture and Education

The government guidelines advise that teaching that can be delivered effectively online should not take place on campus in order to reduce the numbers of students on campus. We have therefore taken the difficult decision to move the majority of teaching in the Schools of Visual Culture and Education online for a short period. When Dublin returns to Level 2 this teaching that was planned to take place on campus in these schools can resume at an appropriate time in the teaching schedule for each School.

Visual Culture BA students will be granted access to the Campus for the collection and return of library books during this period of online study.

Education students should note that their studio time will be in line with the plans for the Schools of Design and Fine Art outlined above.

The Education Professional Practice days for the BA Joint Hons in Education Design and Fine Art are as follows:

- Year 1 - Friday
- Year 2 - Thursday
- Year 3 - Monday
- Year 4 - Tuesday

4th year Education students will have some onsite professional practice in the School of Education in Week three of their programme.

### **Scheduled Arrival and Departure**

Whilst teaching and learning can continue in the studios and workshops it is very important that additional measures are put in place to limit congregation on campus. We will therefore be assigning specific studio hours to different departments to ensure staggered arrival and departure times across the campus.

### **Safety Briefings Week of October 5**

It is very important that all returning students receive a full briefing on the COVID-19 protocols in place across the College and the specific arrangements in place in each Department to ensure safe working practices in the studios and workshops. The first week of the Trimester will therefore be dedicated to scheduled Departmental briefings. This briefing will represent your assigned time on Campus so it is very important that you only attend at the time confirmed with you by your Department.

### **Your Head of Department will be in touch via email to confirm:**

- Your scheduled time for your Departmental Safety briefing
- The start and end time for your studio days under Level 3
- Your weekly timetable of on campus and online learning

We appreciate that it is disappointing to be starting the year with these higher levels of restrictions - it is not where any of us want to be. We do however want to stress to you the importance of us all modifying our actions and behaviours over these coming weeks as this will help us all return to a more familiar and consistent period of work and study.

We look forward to seeing you all in person or virtually soon, In the meantime, please do stay safe and well.

**Sarah Glennie, Director of NCAD**

**24/09/2020**