

Provider's name:

The University has always been given a clean external audit opinion.

The University has business continuity plans to deal with a range of contingencies. The University has consistently delivered high quality education, fully satisfying the quality requirements of the Office for Students.

The risk that the University closes a programme prior to completion by the last cohort of students is very low. The University has a consistent track record of ensuring continuation of study for its students. The University normally 'teaches out' its programmes (i.e. continues to deliver the programme until the last cohort has completed), and, in the few cases where it has not been possible to do so, the University ensured continuation of studies in other ways.

The risk that a Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body withdraws its accreditation is low given the University's track record in meeting the requirements of such bodies and its actions to address any recommendations or conditions.

The University offers a number of programmes out of the United Kingdom, whether on the University's own campuses or in collaboration with partners. These programmes are subject to the continuing approval of the relevant national jurisdiction and to the continuation of the arrangement with the relevant partner. Due to these factors, there is naturally a higher risk to continuation of study. Students on such programmes may be unable to transfer to other locations and there may not be an equivalent programme available within their region or country. The University has, however, an established record of enabling students to complete their programme, either through 'teaching out' the programme in collaboration with the partner or, in the case of blended learning programmes, by supporting students directly from the UK. The risk that we are no longer able to deliver core components within our programmes is low because the University takes the necessary steps to ensure that such core components can be taught.

In relation to doctoral students, the University ensures continuity of study by appointing two supervisors for each student, and, in the event that necessary expertise central to the research is no longer available within the University, the University appoints an external supervisor to complement the internal supervision.

If a programme on an overseas campus or delivered in collaboration with an international partner were no longer able to operate, we would seek to ensure the continuation of study by teaching out a programme, subject to the availability of appropriate staff and the feasibility of maintaining a high-quality student experience, or by facilitating the transfer of students to other providers in-country. If such arrangements were not feasible, we would support students to transfer to an alternative in-country provider, if possible, or arrange the transfer of the student to the equivalent programme in the UK. In doing so, we would ensure equitable provision across our diverse student body and would have particular regard to students with protected characteristics.

Sabbatical officers of Reading Students' Union will participate in the consideration and eventual approval of each update to the Student Protection Plan through the committee approval process. Sabbatical officers are members of the University Board for Teaching Learning and Student Experience and the Council, and both sabbatical officers and students are members of the Senate. Input will be sought from the President of Reading Students' Union as part of each review.

We will inform students if there are to be material changes to their course by writing to them and subsequently by discussing any issues and supporting them in making any decisions which they may need to make.

We will give students a minimum 120 days' notice if we need to make changes to their programme that affect the continuity of their study on the programme. We will give students as much notice as possible of changes to their programmes that involve the withdrawal of compulsory modules in the programme. Optional modules for which teaching has not yet begun may be withdrawn without notice.

If we need to implement the measures in this student protection plan, we will support students collectively and individually by ensuring that they are fully informed of the situation, appropriately engaging them in discussion of the relevant issues (including academic and personal dimensions) and providing academic and professional advice and guidance to inform their consideration and decision-making.

If we need to implement the measures in this student protection plan, we will ensure that our students have access to independent advice through Reading Students' Union and/or the relevant student association at branch campuses.

1.0	Student Experience and Education directorate	Every 3 years	UBTLSE	2021
1.1	Student Experience and Education directorate	Every 3 years	UBTLSE	20/01/2025