

SENATE December 2020

FROM: Registrar

Term Dates 2021/22
Purpose and Recommendation(s)

This paper outlines updates to the term dates for 2021/22. Senate is asked to APPROVE these updated term dates for 2021/22.

Paper history

At its meeting of March 2020, Senate considered the draft term dates for 2021/22 ([SEN/7192 refers](#)). This is the first consideration of these new updated term dates.

Background and summary

The University requires term dates to be published in advance of each academic year to inform applicants and current students as well as staff. Since the publication of the term dates in March 2020 the Government has confirmed that the publication of the A-Levels results will be delayed in August 2021.

In order to provide sufficient time for recruitment and clearing activities, it is proposed, and outlined here, that the start of term for the majority of new students is delayed. The term dates are provided in the appendix 1 for the academic year and further detail is provided below for clarity.

In addition to the changes made to the start of term, the academic calendar has been updated to reflect the change to the bank holiday dates in June 2022.

Term dates

It is proposed that the formal University term dates for 2021/22 are amended from:

Term	From (inclusive)	To (inclusive)	No. of weeks *
1 Autumn Term:	<i>PGT</i> 13 September 2021	17 December 2021	14 (13 teaching weeks)
	<i>UG</i> 20 September 2021	17 December 2021	13 (12 teaching weeks)
2 Spring Term:	<i>All</i> 10 January 2022	1 April 2022	12
3 Summer Term:	<i>All</i> 25 April 2022	1 July 2022	10
4	<i>All</i> 4 July 2022	16 September 2022	11

* excluding vacations

And should be replaced with the following:

Student group	From (inclusive)	To (inclusive)	No. of weeks *
Autumn Term (T1)			
UG L5 & L6	20 September 2021	17 December 2021	13 (12 teaching weeks)
UG L4 Clinical subjects	27 September 2021	17 December 2021	12
Foundation & UG L4	4 October 2021	17 December 2021	11
PGT	4 October 2021	17 December 2021	11
Spring Term (T2)			
All	10 January 2022	1 April 2022	12
Summer Term (T3)			
All	25 April 2022	1 July 2022	10
Summer Term (T4)			
All	4 July 2022	16 September 2022	11

Transition Week

A new initiative for 2021 will be a Transition Week. This will be run both online and on campus so that it has the greatest reach and will consist of content as run during the [GetUReady](#) programme that was run virtually in 2020. The programme will be developed to extend the offering to new students to prepare them for Higher Education studies. The content may not be directly related to their course or subject but will be broad transferable skills. This programme will be led by the Widening Access team within CMSR, with support from various teams throughout the university.

Level 5 & Level 6 students

The term dates for students in L5 & L6 is unchanged. Their teaching will commence in Week 1 as originally proposed. They are not affected by the amendments in this paper.

Level 4 & Foundation students

Level 4 and foundation students will have a delay to the start of their term (in the majority of subject areas). They will be invited to attend the Transition Week which is then followed by the Welcome Week as normal. Welcome Week will therefore be running at the same time as teaching for L5 & L6 therefore due consideration will have to be made to the Welcome Week timetables to ensure that activities can run concurrently. As such, a revised timeline for preparation for Welcome Week will be considered.

Level 4 students in clinical subjects will start their teaching (week 2) one week earlier than the rest of L4 to enable sufficient time to complete their teaching requirements in term 1. Clinical subject areas will be expected to prepare their subject specific welcome activities in the week preceding (week 1).

Due to the later start for L4 & Foundation students this means that teaching is to be condensed and not reduced. Content would need to still meet the published module outlines for each module, and all departments (except clinical subjects) have confirmed that this is achievable. Colleagues are encouraged to start work on the planning of condensed teaching with Timetabling as soon as is practicable.

Postgraduate Taught students

PGT students will fall in line with new L4 and foundation students with their Welcome week activities taking place in Week 2 and teaching starting in Week 3. This will ensure that fewer students miss the first few weeks of teaching, which in some areas is a significant cause for concern.

The PGT course completes on 9 September 2022. This means that for the academic year 2021/22 the PGT course length is 48 weeks and 5 days. International students on this course will be able to apply for a Post Study Work Visa to enable an extended stay in the UK following successful completion of their course.

Non-standard start dates

Courses with a non-standard start date will continue to do so in the normal way.

Welcome Week

Welcome and Registration week will be 27 September 2021 to 1 October 2021.

Week numbers

Week numbers would remain as outlined in the appendix. Thorough communications would be needed with new students so that they understand that they are not 'missing' teaching by starting in week 3.

Terms 2, 3 and 4

There are no changes to the dates for the remainder of the academic year. Therefore the dates provided for terms 2, 3 and 4 remain unchanged. However it should be noted that the exam period has been extended by one week allowing for Level 4 & Foundation students to have more time for revision. Additionally, as noted above, there is a change to the bank holidays listed in June 2022.

University closures

	From (inclusive)	To (inclusive)
Christmas break:	Monday 27 December 2021	Monday 3 January 2022
Easter break:	Wednesday 13 April 2022	Tuesday 19 April 2022

Dates to be notified to external bodies

The dates to be notified to the Student Loans Company for the 30 week study and assessment period for which student maintenance and fee loans are provided to eligible students (September start), and following current SLC guidelines are:

	Student group	From (inclusive)	To (inclusive)
Term 1 Autumn Term	UG L5 & L6	20 September 2021	17 December 2021
	UG L4 Clinical subjects	27 September 2021	17 December 2021
	Foundation & UG L4	4 October 2021	17 December 2021
	PGT	4 October 2021	17 December 2021
Term 2 Spring Term	All	10 January 2022	1 April 2022
Term 3 Summer Term	UG	25 April 2022	1 June 2022*
	PG	25 April 2022	31 August 2022

**Post approval note – Date changed to 1 June 2022 as externally notified dates cannot be bank holidays (Jubilee bank holiday).*

Term dates to be notified to the SLC for postgraduate research students are not shown here as they are dependent on the student's start date, where postgraduate research students are recruited throughout an academic year.

The programme length to be notified to the UKVI for full-time taught postgraduate students requiring a Tier 4 visa is as follows:

Start date:	4 October 2021
End date:	9 September 2022

Incoming Student Exchange dates

In an effort to reduce the number of queries from incoming exchange students, and to align processes and provide a single point of reference, the term dates for *incoming exchange students* has been noted. The dates remain unchanged and are as follows (inclusive):

Duration	Start Date	End Date
Full-year	20 September 2021	3 June 2022

Part-year September start
Part-year January start

20 September 2021
10 January 2022

14 January 2022
3 June 2022

Issues and options considered

In addition to the above, the schedule of payment due dates and direct debit collections dates has been considered. Finance had previously confirmed that those dates were not set until the January of the preceding academic year (i.e. January 2021 for 2021/2) and were only an issue if term dates were changed following approval.

Heads of Departments have been provided with the opportunity to confirm if they can accommodate the condensed teaching. Clinical subjects are the only ones that have identified that this would not be possible, and this has been accommodated in the dates provided here.

Linkage to Brunel 2030¹

In support of the goals within the University 2030 vision, in particular:

- Education and student experience
- Our university community
- Our campus and local community

Financial implications

Without consideration of the delay of start of term for new students, the period of time for recruitment and clearing activities is impaired and therefore could lead to a significant impact on recruitment. Delaying the start of term provides a mitigating factor in that regard.

A delay for the start of term directly impacts the start date and contract length of accommodation contracts offered to students for the academic year. This has been given due consideration by the Senior Executive team and the proposals laid out here also mitigate some of that risk.

Risk assessment/management

Publication of the academic calendar mitigates the risk of misinformation to students with consequent recruitment, student satisfaction and contract risks.

Office for Students impact assessment

This paper presents proposed term dates information for students, which is relevant to OfS Condition *F: Information for Students*, and *E: Good Governance*.

Equality Impact assessment

Calendar and term dates apply to all students and staff.

Who has been consulted

Colleges (via Deputy Deans and Head of Departments), Commercial Services, Student and Academic Services, UKVI Compliance, Business Support, CMSR (Admissions), Timetabling and Awarding, Vice Chancellor's team.

Attachments

Amended term dates for 2021/22

¹ *Relevant statements within any of the five goals*

References/further information

N/A

Person to contact for further information or to discuss the matter before the meeting

Lesley O'Keefe, Registrar

DRAFT Week Numbers 2021/22

	Week No	Monday	to	Friday	M	T	W	Th	F	
TERM 1 (Autumn)	0	13/09/2021	to	17/09/2021					T4 ends (20/21)	
	1	20/09/2021	to	24/09/2021	T1 begins (21/22) L5/L6 teaching begins SE FY and Sept PY begins	Transition Week				
	2	27/09/2021	to	01/10/2021	L4 Clinical teaching begins	Welcome Week (registration)				
	3	04/10/2021	to	08/10/2021	Foundation, L4 UG teaching & PGT begins					
	4	11/10/2021	to	15/10/2021						
	5	18/10/2021	to	22/10/2021						
	6	25/10/2021	to	29/10/2021						
	7	01/11/2021	to	05/11/2021	SITS and eVision unavailable			PGT Boards		
	8	08/11/2021	to	12/11/2021	PGT Boards					
	9	15/11/2021	to	19/11/2021						
	10	22/11/2021	to	26/11/2021						
	11	29/11/2021	to	03/12/2021						
	VAC	12	06/12/2021	to	10/12/2021					
13		13/12/2021	to	17/12/2021	Winter Examinations		Winter Graduation (tbc)		T1 ends	
14		20/12/2021	to	24/12/2021						
TERM 2 (Spring)	15	27/12/2021	to	31/12/2021	C	C	C	C	C	
	16	03/01/2022	to	07/01/2022	C	January Welcome & enrolment				
	17	10/01/2022	to	14/01/2022	T2 begins SE Jan PY begins	Winter Examinations			SE Sept PY ends	
	18	17/01/2022	to	21/01/2022						
	19	24/01/2022	to	28/01/2022						
	20	31/01/2022	to	04/02/2022						
	21	07/02/2022	to	11/02/2022						
	22	14/02/2022	to	18/02/2022						
	23	21/02/2022	to	25/02/2022						
	24	28/02/2022	to	04/03/2022						
	25	07/03/2022	to	11/03/2022	SITS and eVision unavailable					
	26	14/03/2022	to	18/03/2022						
	27	21/03/2022	to	25/03/2022						
	28	28/03/2022	to	01/04/2022					T2 ends	
	VAC	29	04/04/2022	to	08/04/2022					
		30	11/04/2022	to	15/04/2022			C	C	C
31		18/04/2022	to	22/04/2022	C	C				
TERM 3 (Summer)	32	25/04/2022	to	29/04/2022	T3 begins	Revision Week				
	33	02/05/2022	to	06/05/2022	C	Summer examinations				
	34	09/05/2022	to	13/05/2022	Summer examinations					
	35	16/05/2022	to	20/05/2022	Summer examinations					
	36	23/05/2022	to	27/05/2022	Summer examinations (L4/foundation only)					
	37	30/05/2022	to	03/06/2022			E (UG)	C	C SE FY and Jan PY ends	
	38	06/06/2022	to	10/06/2022	Award Boards					
	39	13/06/2022	to	17/06/2022	Award Boards					
	40	20/06/2022	to	24/06/2022	Progression Boards					
	41	27/06/2022	to	01/07/2022	Progression Boards				T3 ends	
	42	04/07/2022	to	08/07/2022	T4 begins					
TERM 4	43	11/07/2022	to	15/07/2022	Summer Graduation				**	
	44	18/07/2022	to	22/07/2022						
	45	25/07/2022	to	29/07/2022						
	46	01/08/2022	to	05/08/2022						
	47	08/08/2022	to	12/08/2022						
	48	15/08/2022	to	19/08/2022	Re-sit Examinations		Confirmation and Clearing (tbc)			
	49	22/08/2022	to	26/08/2022						
	50	29/08/2022	to	02/09/2022	C	Re-sit Boards	E (PGT)			
	51	05/09/2022	to	09/09/2022	Re-sit Boards	PGT hand-in			T4 ends (21/22)	
	0	12/09/2022	to	16/09/2022	T1 PGT begins		Enrolment week			

	Vacations
C	University Closed
	Examination period
	Boards of Examiners
	Enrolment
	Graduation
	Confirmation & Clearing
	PGT dissertation hand-in date
E	End of Assessment and Examination Period
FY / PY	Full-year and Part-year (Student Exchange only)
PGT	Postgraduate Taught
SE	Student Exchange (Incoming)
T	First/last day of term
UG	Undergraduate