

Dear Student,

The Easter break is finally here! It has been a busy term, so I hope you all can get a bit of a break this Easter. Easter is another religious festival celebrated by most UK families. You can expect to see chocolate Easter eggs in the shops, hear mention of the Easter bunny and traditionally families eat spring lamb or fish as they celebrate the long bank holiday weekend (this also means you may see some large shops shut on Easter Sunday (31 March).

For those who are coming to the end of their studies and leaving us, it's been an absolute pleasure to be part of your Exeter experience. We hope you take some treasured memories with you and good luck for the next chapter ahead.

Sue O'Hara, Sophie Meadows, and Jimena Rubio Transition and Integration

On campus over Easter break?

If you are travelling over the Easter break we hope you have a great time. If you are on campus at all we have a great range of drop in activities for you to join in including day trips, crafts, sports and, of course, Intercultural Cafe.

All university services will be open (some with reduced hours) apart from the bank holiday weekends.

For full details on activities and services click here.



Preparing for on campus exams

If you have an exam scheduled, please read the **Student Handbook for Examinations** to be prepared.

Some of you might not have taken an in-person exam for a few years or this might be your first in-person exam at Exeter. We've put this short film together to help you understand what you need to bring and do.



And it's key to know in advance where your exams are! They may be in a building you are unfamiliar with and it's worth taking the time to be absolutely sure you know where you are going. Please read your exam timetable carefully. Here is a handy list of university <u>building postcodes</u>.

Finally, good luck! You have worked so hard all term, now is the time to show it to us.

Assessments: Get it right, get the marks!

We are aware that students are currently working on their upcoming submissions and will be trying to reach the highest standard possible. If at any point you are unsure of academic conventions or expectations, remember there are links for assessment specific support at the **Good Academic Practice webpages**. Alternatively, if you need academic support, contact your personal tutor or module lead for advice.

Become a Community Engagement Officer

Supporting our local communities and staying safe has never been a greater priority. Do you want to be part of an innovative team, supporting students and working in the local community? Are you interested in a flexible, part time job that provides experience in working with community organisations?



We are currently seeking to recruit Community Engagement Officers to work with our Community Liaison Team throughout 2024/25.

Find out more about how to become a Community Engagement Officer on <u>Handshake</u> or <u>email</u> <u>us</u>. Deadline for applications: 6 May 2024.

Celebrate Sakura on campus

The coming of Spring is celebrated in many cultures. If you are a 'sakura' follower and looking for some Hanami (viewing of cherry blossom) opportunities we recommend heading to the gardens in front of Washington Singer Building, Streatham campus where there are several beautiful cherries and hawthorns in full blossom.



Intercultural Café: Changes to our timetable

We've had over 4,000 visits to Intercultural Cafe since September and we've been so pleased to meet all of you who attended! And the good news is that we'll be continuing during April every Friday 10:30-11:30 in La Touche, in Building:One.

In term 3 (from the 29 April) we'll go back to having 3 sessions a week, but the times of Wednesday Cafes will change:

- Streatham: ISCA Eats, Wednesday 10.30-11.30
- St Luke's: Cross Keys, Wednesday 13.30-14.30
- Streatham: ISCA Eats, Friday 10.30-11.30

Click here for more information.

WELCOME TO INTERCULTURAL



Does your BRP card expire on 31/Dec/2024?

This is not an error. The BRP card system is ending in December 2024 as UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) move to an online system in 2025. UKVI plan to email individuals throughout 2024 with instructions on what to do - see Gov.uk eVisa webpage. If you receive an email and would like us to help you interpret it, email International Student Support with a copy and we'll advise you further.

Volunteering opportunities available in April

For those interested in volunteering there are loads of options both on campus and in the city that you can join (for free!). Do something helpful for the planet before Earth Day and connect with Polsloe community with a litter pick at Priory Road Park 7 April (available every first Sunday of the month at 2pm).



Or why not get involved with the gardens on campus? This monthly volunteering event is open to University students and staff who would like to be involved in the care and maintenance of the beautiful and diverse grounds at Streatham Campus. You will be working with members of the University Grounds Team, tools and training will be provided. No previous experience required, just enthusiasm and a willingness to get stuck in! Click here for more information.

For more information, other pop-up volunteering opportunities or community events, visit communityengagement@exeter.ac.uk or contact the Community Engagement Team.

Ikea Easter Offer

Ikea have a fantastic £5 discount offer on from 1-30 April just for students. All you need to do is <u>click here to register</u> with them as a student to receive the coupon. We recommend you do this before you head to the store. Enjoy!



International alumni

After graduating at the University of Exeter, our alumni spread around the world creating an international network for all of you to fit into once you graduate yourselves. This website lists our alumni volunteers, known as Country Contacts, around the world who aim to be a point of support for current students. It also includes social media networks by country listed at the end of the page that you are more than welcome to join.

Visa holder students

In a few weeks, <u>check-in will move to the My Day timetable</u> <u>feature within the MyExeter app</u>. Each session on your timetable in My Day will have a green check-in button at the top right. Click this button and follow the steps to successfully check-in.

Changes will start from 27 March until 29 April. When students return in summer term and if they have teaching then they should check-in from My Day. Any questions chat with the Digital Hub



Student Wellbeing Survey

The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines mental health as 'a state of wellbeing in which the individual realises his or her abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community'.

The University is committed to a community approach to mental health and supporting mental distress, recognising that we can all make a difference to the wellbeing of others. We are now looking to support our student population to have knowledge and confidence to support each other and signpost appropriately.



We are now developing training for students and would really value your views on what would be most helpful. We really welcome your help - thank you!

If you're happy to be involved in a more in-depth survey, please contact us on wellbeingtrainingteam@exeter.ac.uk. We will reimburse you £10 for 15-20mins of your time.

Watch out for fake phone calls!

We've been notified that a few students have received mysterious phone calls from someone claiming to be from UKVI (UK Visas & Immigration). Hang up immediately and do not provide any information. UKVI will never call you and definitely will never ask you for personal details or money. You can report these phone calls to **Action Fraud** for the police to follow up.

Looking for an Exeter momento for graduation?

Are you graduating this summer and looking for an Exeter momento? It's even easier now to order your Exeter merchanise at our <u>online</u> store!



Day trip - The English Riviera: Torquay

The bay where Torquay, Paignton and Brixham are located is also known as the English Riviera for its award-winning beaches and holiday atmosphere (when the weather allows it). It's a nice place to escape to if you are looking for a day break from studying. You can get there in 40 minutes for under £8 in the train with a 16-25 railcard.



You will arrive near the beach, which is the ideal place for a refreshing walk by the shore (even better if the tide is low) and for some pretty pictures. Further along the coast towards the East you will find the harbour by the gardens where the English Riviera wheel stands, from which you can get great views of the city.

If the weather is good, having some take-away fish and chips in the gardens is a great lunch option. Otherwise, while exploring the shops and restaurants in the city centre, you'll find comfortable alternatives like Amici.

Overall, Torquay is a beautiful and affordable destination for a day trip!