



December 2020

Dear Students,

The following email is to remind all of our EU, EEA and Swiss students of what they need to do in light of the UK leaving the European Union. The Department for Education and the Home Office has asked us to pass on the following information to you, regarding some of the upcoming changes the UK Government is making with regards to student visas and immigration

- EU, EEA and Swiss students who have already started their course / are starting their course this year, and who will be in the UK by 31 December 2020 should apply to the EU Settlement Scheme by 30 June 2021 to continue living in the UK. More information on the EU Settlement Scheme can be found [here](#) and applications can be made [here](#)
- If you were studying in the UK and have returned home during the pandemic and are continuing with your course online in your home country (when you would otherwise be studying in the UK), you are able to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme from outside the UK, so long as you are able to prove that you are still continuously resident in the UK. This means that you must not have been absent from the UK for more than six months in any 12-month period, except for a single absence of no more than 12 months for an important reason, for example due to studying outside the UK because of COVID-19. You will still be continuously resident in the UK for the purposes of the scheme.
- If you have commenced your course online in your home country due to COVID-19, and you would otherwise be studying in the UK, you will be eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme as long as you arrive in the UK by 31 December 2020. If you are unable to arrive in the UK by 31 December 2020, you will be required to apply to the Student route under the points-based immigration system, to commence studying in the UK.

More information on the UK's new points-based immigration system can be found [here](#).

The Home Office has said that the EU Settlement Scheme is free of charge and that the process to apply is relatively quick and simple but please don't leave it until the last minute. You can either download the app or apply online now. Be aware that if you don't apply to the EU settlement scheme by June 30th 2021, it could have negative impact on your ability to continue your future studies at the College as you will have to apply for a student visa in order to continue. There are financial implications as it can cost between £300 and £500.

If you need any particular help in completing your application EU Settlement Scheme the College will of course do what we can to help you but please be aware that we have a large number of EU, EEA and Swiss Students to look after.

With every blessing

Linda Campbell
Director of Admissions