

# Press Release



University  
of Cyprus

Press & Public Relations  
Office, Promotion and  
Development Sector

Telephone: 22894304

Email: [prinfo@ucy.ac.cy](mailto:prinfo@ucy.ac.cy)

Website: [www.ucy.ac.cy/pr](http://www.ucy.ac.cy/pr)



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## “Preventive Suspension of all Classes for 2 weeks 11 March 2020- 25 March 2020”

In his recent message, the Rector of the University of Cyprus, Professor Tasos Christofides, has informed the university community of the **following preventive and reactive measures**, in response to the immediate decision to suspend the operation of the Medical School of the University of Cyprus, after it was found that members of the Faculty have potentially come into close contact with a confirmed case:

1. Suspension of classes at the University of Cyprus for a two-week period, starting from tomorrow March 11, 2020 to March 25, 2020
2. Suspension of operation of the Lito Papachristoforou Kindergarten and University of Cyprus Nursery School for the same period: 11 March 2020 - 25 March 2020
3. Suspension of operation of the Library and the Sports Center for the public and students

The Rector emphasized that the suspension measure is a precautionary measure to protect the university community and minimize the chance of an outbreak by limiting interactions. This, certainly, also requires that all members assume personal responsibility and abide by the recommended hygiene rules and guidelines of the Ministry of Health.

The administrative services of the University of Cyprus will continue to operate normally. It is understood that colleagues who present with cold/flu symptoms are advised to work remotely, from home. In addition, colleagues returning from abroad, from Category 1 and Category 2 countries should remain self-isolated at home for 14 days, a period recommended by the Ministry of Health. The relevant travel instructions are available on: <https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/press.html>

4. Postponement or cancelation of public lectures and events at the University of Cyprus facilities until April 30, 2020, regardless of the organizers.
5. As the international situation of countries concerning the outbreak of the coronavirus is rapidly changing, members of the academic community are urged to postpone/reschedule all their trips until 30 April 2020, especially to countries classified in categories 1 and 2. For already arranged non-emergency trips, community members are strongly encouraged to reschedule them. In case the trip is not canceled or deferred, the members of the community **must be self-isolated** upon their return, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.
6. Staff members who have returned or will return from abroad, from category 1 and 2 countries, should be self-isolated according to the recommendations of the Ministry of Health. Arrangement



for the essential leave of absence, in the case of administrative staff members, will be regulated by the Human Resources Services.

A more detailed announcement will follow with answers to various issues in the coming days.

**End of announcement**

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