Behavioural procedures to protect against the risk of COVID-19 - FAQ update as at 10 September 2020

This document takes into account the additional requests for clarification received as of 10/09/2020 on the safe resumption of teaching in relation to the aspects of greatest impact in managing the risk of COVID-19, and therefore supplements the FAQs found at the following link:


All the documentation prepared by the University for the resumption of teaching and to prevent the risk of infection can be found at https://www.unive.it/pag/40217/.

Additional documents published and/or issued (in Italian):

- **Protocol for the management of confirmed and suspected cases of COVID-19 in university classrooms and lecture halls.**
  Annex 22 to the Prime Ministerial Decree of 7 September 2020.

  https://www.unive.it/pag/fileadmin/user_upload/ateneo/lavora_con_noi/covid-19/All_22_Protocollo_gestione_casi_confermati_e_sospetti.pdf
1. **Rector’s Decree 772/2020 of 01/09/2020** establishes a “maximum number of persons on the premises: once the maximum attendance number for a premises (campus/building/classroom unit) has been reached, the application will not allow any more reservations for that day”. The question is whether this maximum number of persons on the premises concerns only students or all people (including professors, technical and admin staff, researchers, research fellows, PhD students, guests, etc.) who may need to enter the premises.

The restriction concerns only students and is managed through the MyUnive app. Staff shall enter according to the provisions already in force overseen by the Department Directors/Department Secretariats. There is no specific restriction, except compliance with the social distancing rules within the individual studios/spaces (1 metre; use of face masks if more than 1 person is present).

2. **Rector’s Decree 772/2020 of 01/09/2020** indicates that “The teacher or language assistant shall not be responsible for verifying entry requirements, which shall be supervised by specially assigned staff... Teachers shall, however, be able to suspend lessons in the event of overcrowding or students not wearing face masks.” What information will be given to teachers about the expected number of students in the classroom? How will the information be given to the teacher (only the number of reservations or also the names of the students who have booked)?

The teacher can see the number of reservations by registering with the App as a student. The students in the classroom will be arranged in a chessboard pattern and can only occupy the seats that are not marked with a prohibition sign; this makes control very simple.

3. **The document Procedure comportamentali per la protezione del rischio da COVID-19 – FAQ (Behavioural procedures to protect against the risk of COVID-19 - FAQs)** indicates that “The protocols in force shall be applied in common areas ... The presence of security guards is not foreseen (other than the staff in control of the buildings and access to campuses): no one may take any initiatives outside the classroom. Where necessary, the police should be called.” The question is: in such cases, who calls the police?

Whoever identifies any behaviour that does not comply with the protocol.

Among other things, it should be noted that the Departments in the San Giobbe building are not responsible for managing safety in the common areas and classrooms of San Giobbe, nor can they control what happens in the classrooms and other common areas (obviously, the teachers are responsible in the classrooms ONLY when they are teaching there). This also concerns use of the numerous tables and chairs in the corridors of San Giobbe, which currently display no signage on if/how they can be used by students.

Signs prohibiting gatherings outside the classrooms in S. Giobbe will be displayed by 14.09.
4. Rectors’ Decree 772/2020 of 01/09/2020 indicates that in the classrooms: “Air exchange shall therefore be ensured by opening the windows at each lesson change, where possible, and by the introduction of fresh air from the ventilation circuit at least twice a day.” What does the expression “where possible” mean? Are classrooms that have no window or in which the windows can’t be opened less safe than classrooms where windows can be opened? Among other things and in particular, is twice a day enough to ventilate with fresh air classrooms in which the windows can’t be opened?

“Where possible” refers to the weather conditions. In classrooms with blocked windows (there are no classrooms that do not have windows) or that overlook internal spaces, the aeraulic conditions envisaged by the various Protocols are in any case guaranteed (with forced ventilation).

5. With reference to the monitoring procedures for staff belonging in various capacities to the Departments (teachers, technical and admin staff, researchers, fellows, PhD students etc.) and authorized by the Directors to access the various buildings, the question is whether there will be an entry record procedure in force at the reception, for the purpose of contact tracing.

The procedure is in place and will be maintained.

6. **What do teachers have to do if they are placed under quarantine and/or in isolation?**

Teachers who are placed under quarantine and/or in isolation by order of the health authority must:
- not come to work;
- inform the teaching staff office (the order issued by the health authority will automatically be sent to the University by INPS. However, teachers are also asked to to forward the order in advance to the teaching staff office), the director of their department and ADiSS – Timetabling Unit didattica.calendari@unive.it

By virtue of the clarifications provided in Annex 22 to Prime Ministerial Decree of 7 September 2020 mentioned in the introduction, without prejudice to different communications and provisions issued by the Competent Health Authority, teachers in isolation shall continue lessons online until the end of the period of isolation. If the same teacher tests positive after a swab test, the lessons must be suspended and the teacher placed on sick leave.

7. **How are cases managed for teachers who are parents of children placed in precautionary isolation from school because they are suspected to be infected with SARS-COV-2?**

Art. 5 of Decree-Law 111 of 8 September 2020 establishes that “Employees with children can undertake agile working for all or part of the quarantine period of a cohabiting child, under the age of fourteen, ordered by the Prevention Department of a local health authority following infection that occurred at school.” Therefore, in this situation, teachers can teach online.