

The campaign for trade union recognition continues. Thank you to all of those who have been in touch. Please contact Jon Bryan (jbryan@ucu.org.uk) if you want more details or would like to help with the campaign.



What does it mean when a trade union is recognised?

It means that when the big decisions are being taken – decisions that affect the staff – you get the chance to be properly consulted. Working conditions (e.g. pay, hours and holidays) become a matter of negotiation, rather than an imposition.

Get involved with the campaign!



Meeting for all staff working at INTO

Wednesday 15th September: 12.00pm

ONLINE

If you know someone who wants to [join UCU](http://www.join.ucu.org.uk):

www.join.ucu.org.uk

“

Lurching from complacency to compulsion is typical of a government that has flip flopped its way through this pandemic.



Students should be prioritised for vaccinations, to ensure as many as possible have the opportunity to be vaccinated by September, but making vaccinations compulsory as a condition to access their education is wrong and would be hugely discriminatory against those who are unable to be vaccinated, and international students.

Sadly, this looks and smells like a prime minister trying to pin the blame on students for not yet taking up a vaccine they haven't been prioritised to receive.

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Jo Grady, UCU general secretary

Working at home: guidelines for members

Please check out the UCU guidance by clicking [here](#)

From Health & Safety Executive website:
www.hse.gov.uk/contact/faqs/vdubreaks.htm

- breaks or changes of activity should be included in working time;
- short, frequent breaks are more satisfactory than occasional, longer breaks: e.g., a 5-10 minute break after 50-60 minutes continuous screen and/or keyboard work is likely to be better than a 15 minute break every 2 hours;
- if possible, breaks should be taken away from the screen;



“We have spoken with University Occupational Health who have advised that we can pause (turn off) scanning when in our building.”

“We are therefore advising that as of now, to turn off scanning when you are in the building and this will prevent unnecessary ‘Track and Trace’ pings when you are in the Centre.”

(Email sent 12/07/21)

We received a number of queries about the message from the Centre Director on this issue.

Our sister representatives at Newcastle University UCU asked the Head of Occupational Health and Safety Services at Newcastle University and they responded:

“I can confirm that Occupational Health are not advising people to turn their applications off. If asked they have made people aware of the issues and stated it is recommended they use the app but this is personal choice. I can also confirm this is not the University position we have not agreed at any forum to ask colleagues to turn their app off.”

We have written to INTO, Newcastle University and asked questions about this. Updates to follow.



You can find the Regional Office of UCU via the following:

ucunorthern.org.uk



UCU MEMBERS

**Please check
and update
your personal
information at**

<https://my.ucu.org.uk/>