Computing preparedness for Semester 1 2021/2022

- Lab usage
  - Distancing
    - proxy to capacity
      - must set capacity based on 1m
      - not moving lab computing desktops
      - Joy’s group will set maximum capacity per room
      - Noted that students using laptops, or indeed otherwise studying in the labs, will count towards capacity
- Taught lab sessions
  - gaps between bookings
    - currently just normal 10 minutes gap
    - concern regarding queuing outside labs
    - no guidance yet from University
- Guidance re personal equipment (eg laptops)
  - Continue recommending students bringing laptop...
    - Does our wording need updated?
      - Explain that desktops are available...
      - Tim will check / update wording
  - University laptop scheme?
    - Alastair to check whether still running...
- Remote provision
  - Remote desktop (UUN.remote.inf.ed.ac.uk)
    - Continue
  - Lab desktop (UUN.lab.inf.ed.ac.uk)
    - Keep for those desktops out-of-service due to capacity limits
      - Might need some capacity for students who are self-isolating or students who can’t be local to Edinburgh
- Tutorials
  - no capability for hybrid in Semester 1
    - issue with students who may be self-isolating
  - do we want / need for Semester 2
    - waiting for news from University
    - noted long lead time in preparing spaces
- Introduction to DICE lecture
  - Learn course - has been revised
    - feedback suggests this was popular last year (300 students enrolled)
      - Alastair check that learn course is referenced from computing.help

- IT support
  - online / in person with screen (need hours) / on-line chat
    - Alastair fill in times proposed
  - Considering how to improve our comms to students
  - Alastair to check whether IS mobile clinics running...
  - Should we have a piazza mechanism for student support - particularly self help
- peer support re initial setup
  - Alastair check this referenced from computing.help

- **Online services**
  - Gradescope - still in use
  - Piazza - still in use
  - CodeGrade - still in use

- **PGRs**
  - BioMed CDT - bought their own laptops
  - NLP CDT - bought their own laptops
  - Non CDT - we have sufficient laptops in stock (at moment)
  - RAS CDT still haven’t bought their equipment despite frequent prods
  - Five compute servers were purchased
  - Office desktop compute option still being investigated - but probably not urgent