20 January 2017

Dear EU and international students and staff,

First of all, welcome and thank you for choosing to work and study in Bristol.

Whether you are from the EU or from elsewhere overseas, you may have concerns that the changing relationship between the UK and the EU might affect your ability to study and work here in the future. You may also be worried about the current political climate in this country.

As the Mayor of Bristol, and as your local Member of Parliament, we want you to know that you are truly valued and appreciated by this city and that we are pleased you are here.

The University is a source of real pride for us – and everyone who works and studies there helps to make Bristol vibrant and prosperous.

Whether you are studying for your undergraduate degree, conducting pioneering research, or part of the teams that make the University run, we are delighted to have you here, and hope that you are enjoying your time here too.

We are your representatives - locally in City Hall and nationally in Parliament, and we are committed to standing up for you and your contribution to Bristol and the UK.

We will both campaign to make sure that you are able to stay in Bristol if you choose to. And we will promote the value of research and do everything we can to protect research funding.

If you want to get in touch to discuss any of this, or to find out when our next EU meetings are, we would be very happy to hear from you. You can find out more information on your rights as EU citizens and about the work of the council on their website: https://www.bristol.gov.uk/mayor/bristol-and-brexit.

Yours faithfully,

Thangam Debbonaire
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