

**Newcastle University**

**Overview of Proposed External Social Distancing Campus Routes**

**DRAFT**

# Social Distancing Campus Plan

This document is a first look at implementing social distancing across Newcastle University. This work focuses on the central camps and does not include the Helix or other external sites which are lower density and/or have sufficient external space to make movement across the site more easily facilitated. However these sites can be considered at a later date. At this stage this work looks at how users move across campus and does not take into consideration external social spaces.

The social distancing campus plan proposes to impement a 'Keep Left' policy along main routes across campus where people flow is at its highest and the policy can be passivley enforced. Smaller secondary routes are not proposed to be signed at this stage (can be reviewed) and it is expected that peoples behaviour will follow the policy from use of main routes.

In coordination with ongoing work for internal building layouts; 'Entry Only' and 'Exit Only' routes for buildings are also being proposed, with most entry points off main routes (King's Road, King's Walk and Old Quad) and exit points being more external to the campus. However this work is on-going and subject to change. Some routes are suggested on the overal campus plan.

Further consideration may have to be given to cyclists and travel infrastructure on campus following advice from the Covid-19 Commuting Working Group. The first meeting of this group raised the possibility of cycle segregation, which may effect external signage proposals.

The review of the campus as a whole has highlighted 8 areas of special attention, such as; the implimentation of one-way systems, additional signage notifications.

1. Medical School Frontage
2. Lovers Lane
3. Old Quad North Entrances - Percy Quad
4. Student Forum - King's Road
5. Herschel Walk
6. INTO Steps
7. Assembly Lane
8. Hadrian Bridge - Philip Robinson Library

These 8 sites are represented in more detail over the following pages.

This document is not exhaustive and is on-going. The current proposals only include for the application of external floor graphics, which may need to be developed further.



Building ENTRY ONLY

Building EXIT ONLY

One-Way Route

Main Route  
KEEP LEFT  
SIGNED

Areas 1-7  
Congestion/  
Concern

DRAWING  
COVID19 Campus  
Planning

BUILDING  
Campus

JM 10/06/20

NO SCALE

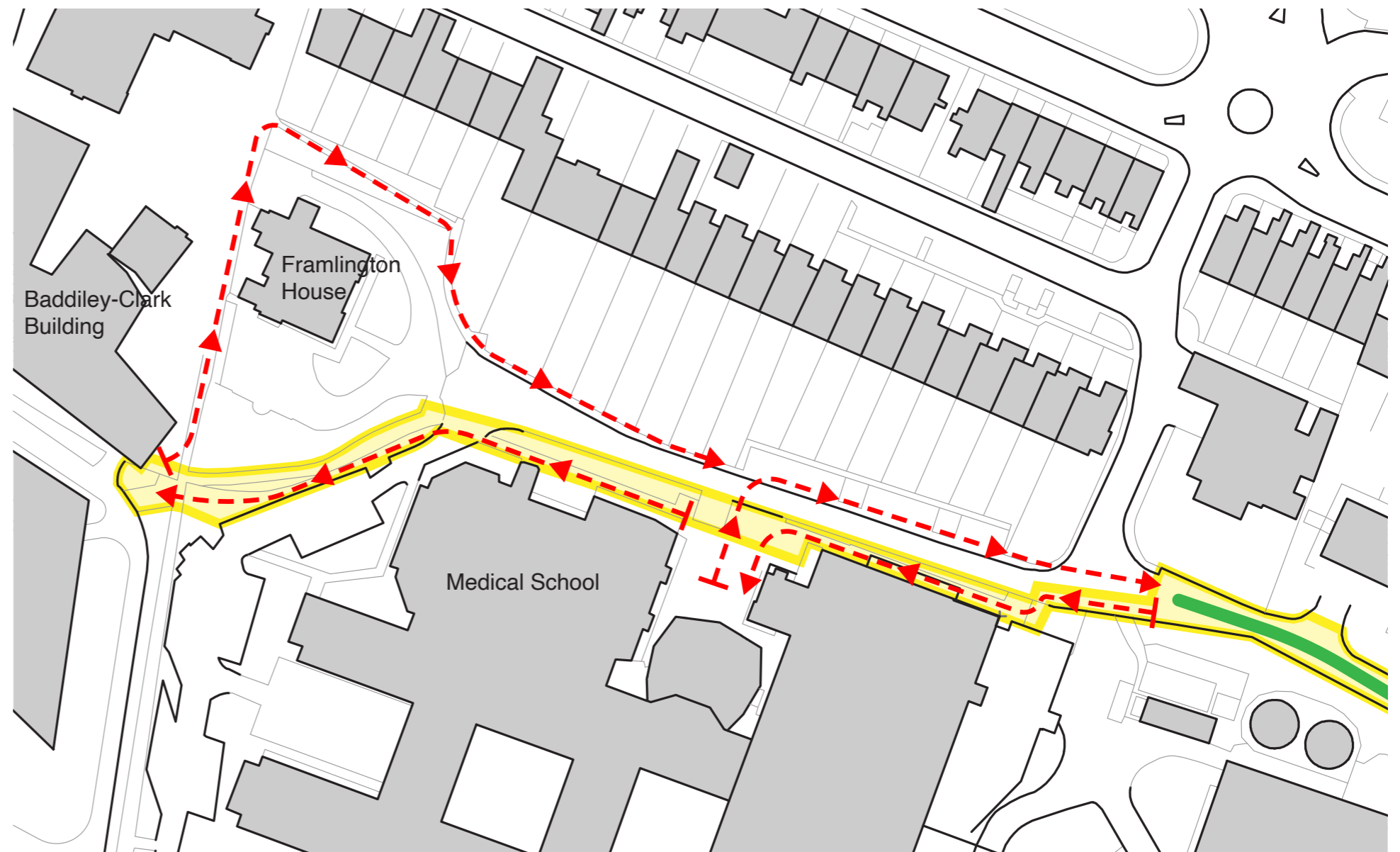
# 1. Medical School Frontage

The Medical School Frontage proposes a particular challenge for social distancing when considering it being used by greater numbers. The main pedestrian footpath is 1.6m wide at its narrowest point and not much wider along the remaining length. The route is also not flexible due to the road and railings.

Therefore it is proposed that a one-way system be installed for the purposes of maintaining social distance and sufficient people flow.

The route would follow the 'keep left' principle and send staff, students and other users along the existing footpath along the side of the Medical School. People wishing to return towards the main campus will be encouraged to follow the route and turn left and go along the route towards the Baddiley-Clark Building, along the public footpath and return around the back of Framlington House using the footpath on the opposite side of Claremont Place back towards Lovers Lane.

The one-way system will be enforced along the route using relevant floor graphics. See below.



## 2. Lovers Lane

Due to the enclosed nature of Lovers Lane and its high footfall from staff, students and other users, it is recommended that 'Keep Left' enforcement is put in place along the length of the lane.

Blind spots and interactions with cyclists are already a concern along the lane and this may need further consideration for COVID19 planning.

The two-way system will be enforced along the route using relevant floor graphics. See below.

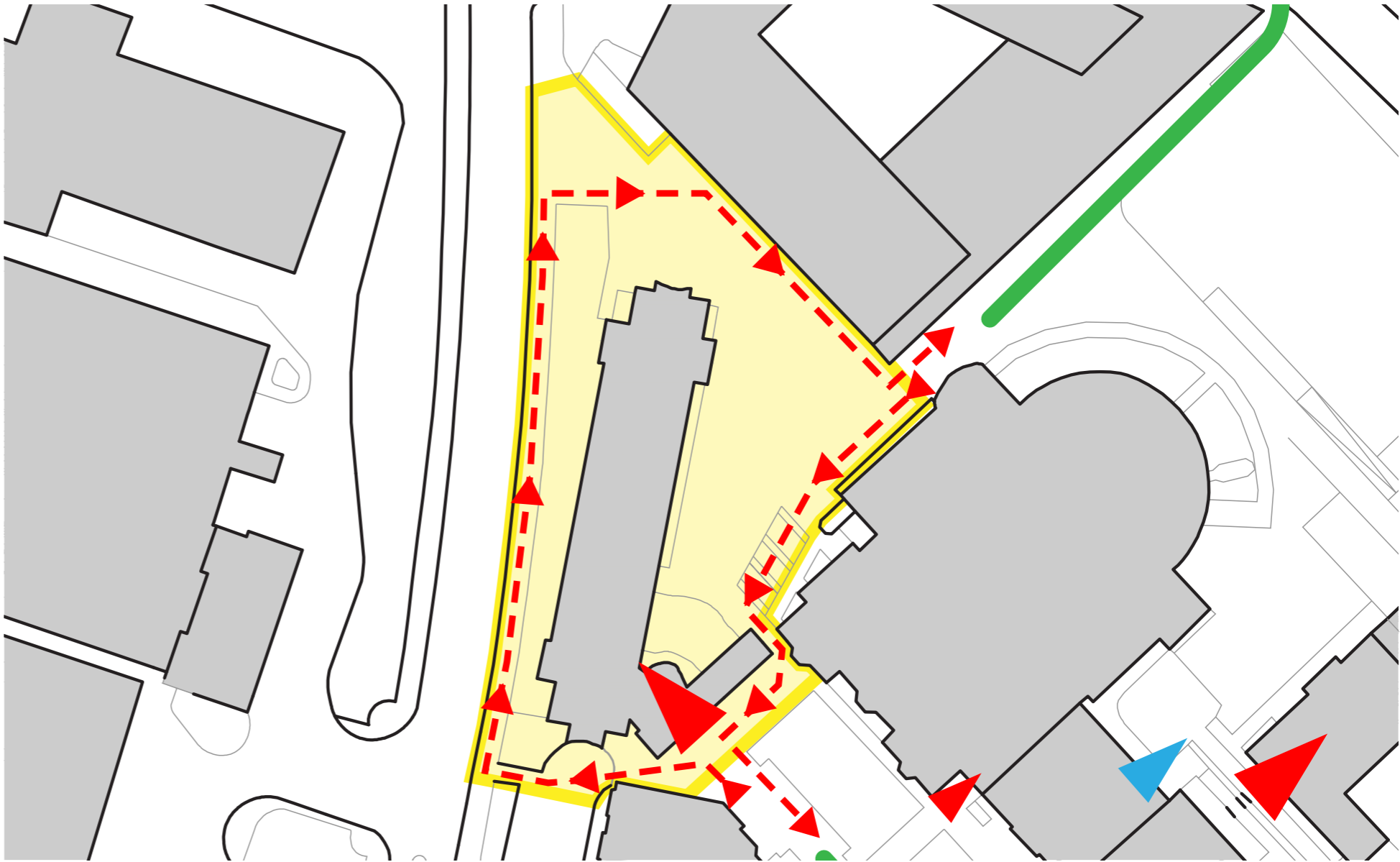


### 3. Old Quad North Entrances - Percy Quad

Due to the enclosed nature of the Old Quad and its high footfall from staff, students and other users, it is recommended that 'Keep Left' enforcement is put in place along the length of the Quad and a one-way system put in place at the North end where the entrances and exits are restricted.

The route will follow the 'keep left' principle and send staff, students and other users left through the Percy Arch out onto the Queen Victoria Road footpath and back onto campus through the Percy Quad. Access back into the Old Quad will be between the Percy Long Gallery and Old Library Building. This proposal does not have any accessibility implications.

The one-way system will be enforced along the route using relevant floor graphics. See below.



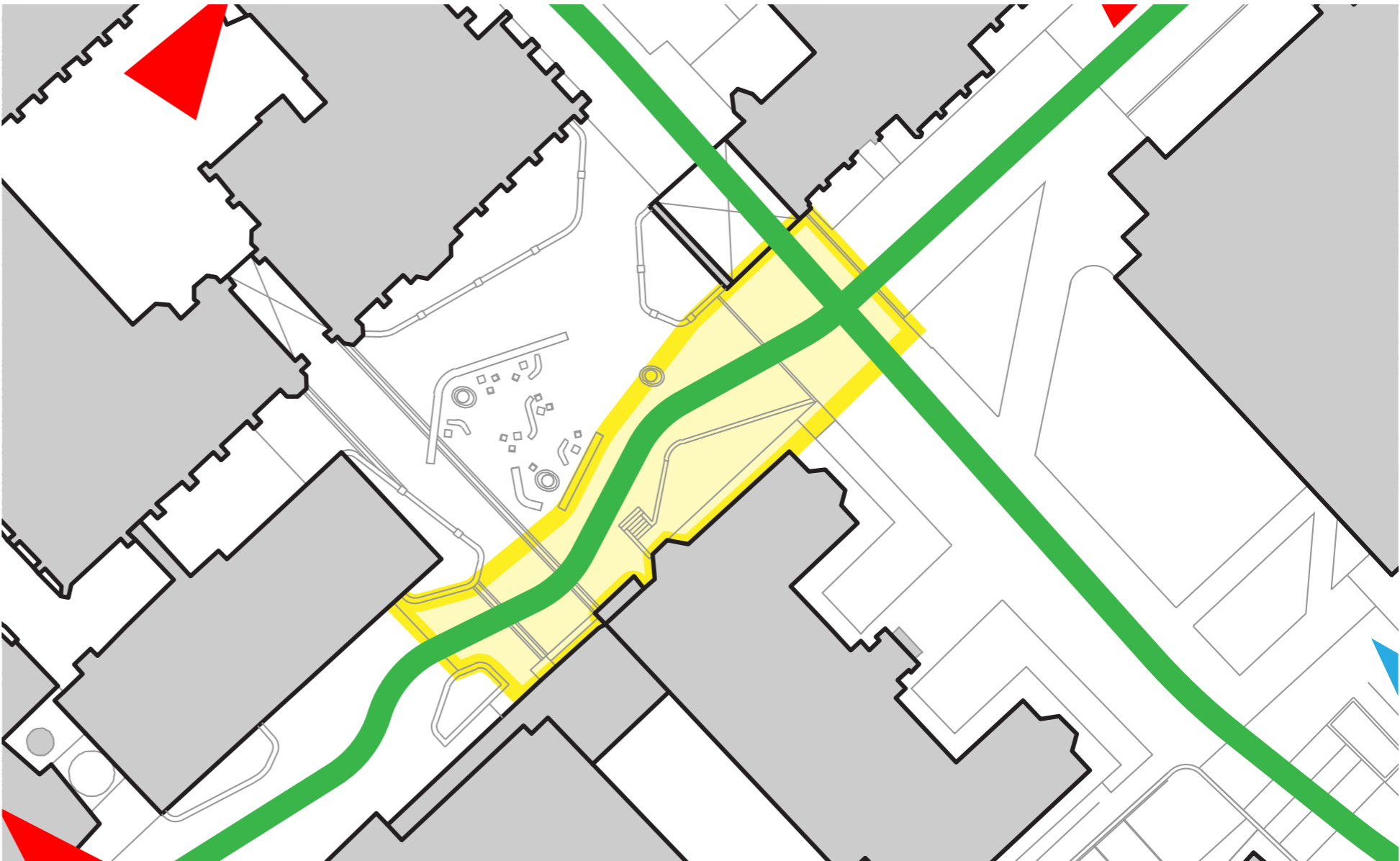
# 4. Student Forum - King's Road

The central section of King's Road and the Student Forum represents a potential bottleneck which may require additional signage.

The route will follow the 'keep left' principle for those staff, students and other users not wishing to go through the Forum. This signage will be consistent along King's Road but may require additional notification signage.

This area is also routinely obstructed by NUSU activity and Co-Op promotional material, which should be removed or severely reduced during this time.

The two-way system will be enforced along the route using relevant floor graphics. See below.

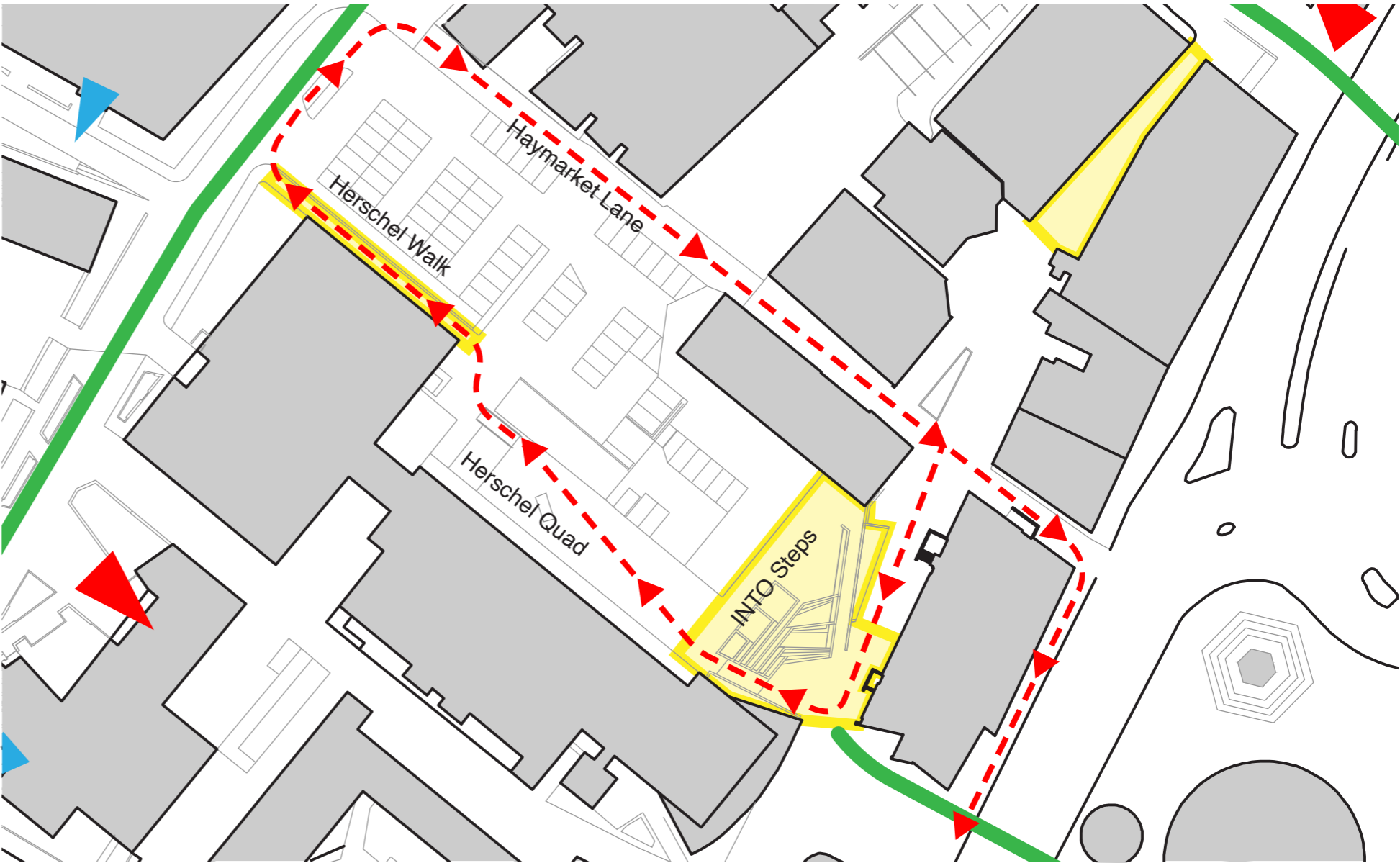


# 5. Herschel Walk

Herschel Walk is adjacent to the Herschel Annex and is heavily used by people entering and leaving campus. The existing width is 2.2m, however it is restricted by the buildings hard edge and wall/hedge.

It is recommended that the route through the Herschel Quad as a whole from King’s Road down to George Place (via INTO Steps, see area 6) be designated as a one-way system, which goes up through the Quad and returns down Haymarket Lane.

The one-way system will be enforced along the route using relevent floor graphics. See below.

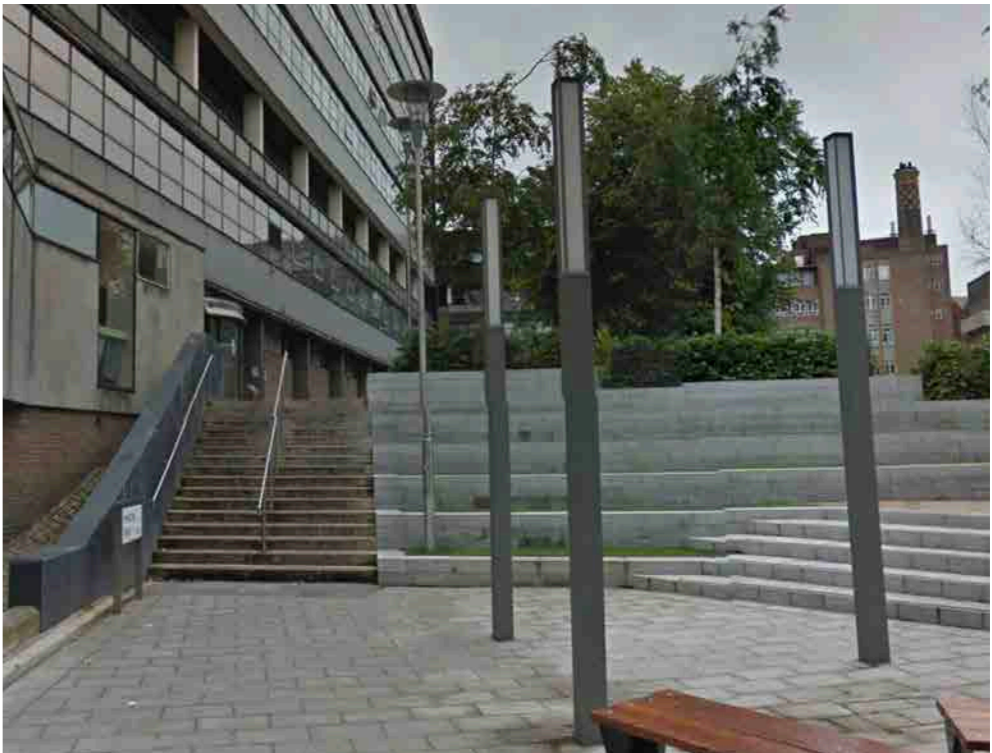
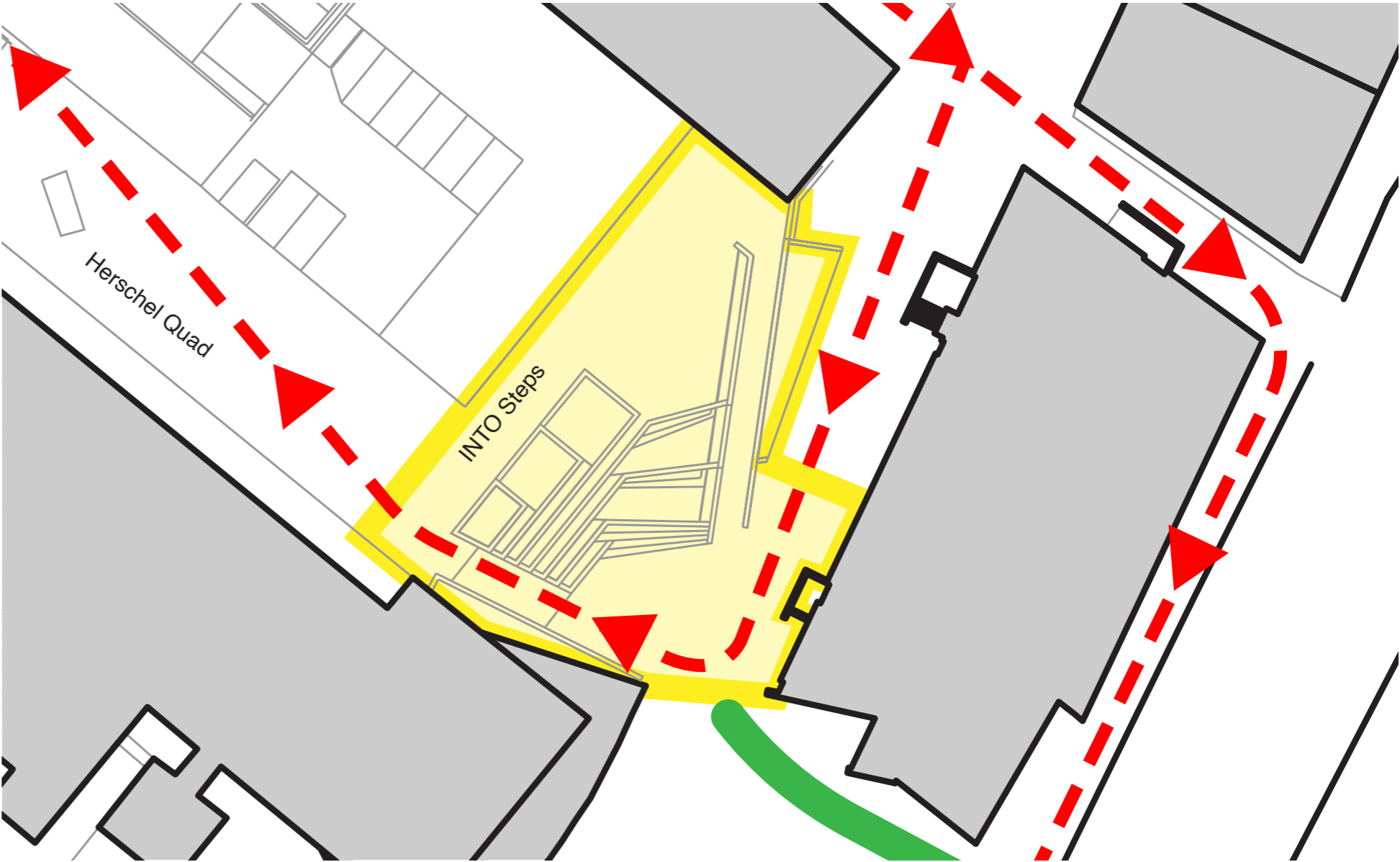


## 6. INTO Steps

The INTO Steps are adjacent to the Herschel Building and are heavily used by people entering and leaving campus. The existing stair width is 2.9m, however it is restricted by the central handrail and frequent use.

It is recommended that the route through the Herschel Quad as a whole from King's Road down to George Place be designated as a one-way system, which goes up through the Quad and returns down Haymarket Lane.

The one-way system will be enforced along the route using relevent floor graphics. See below.

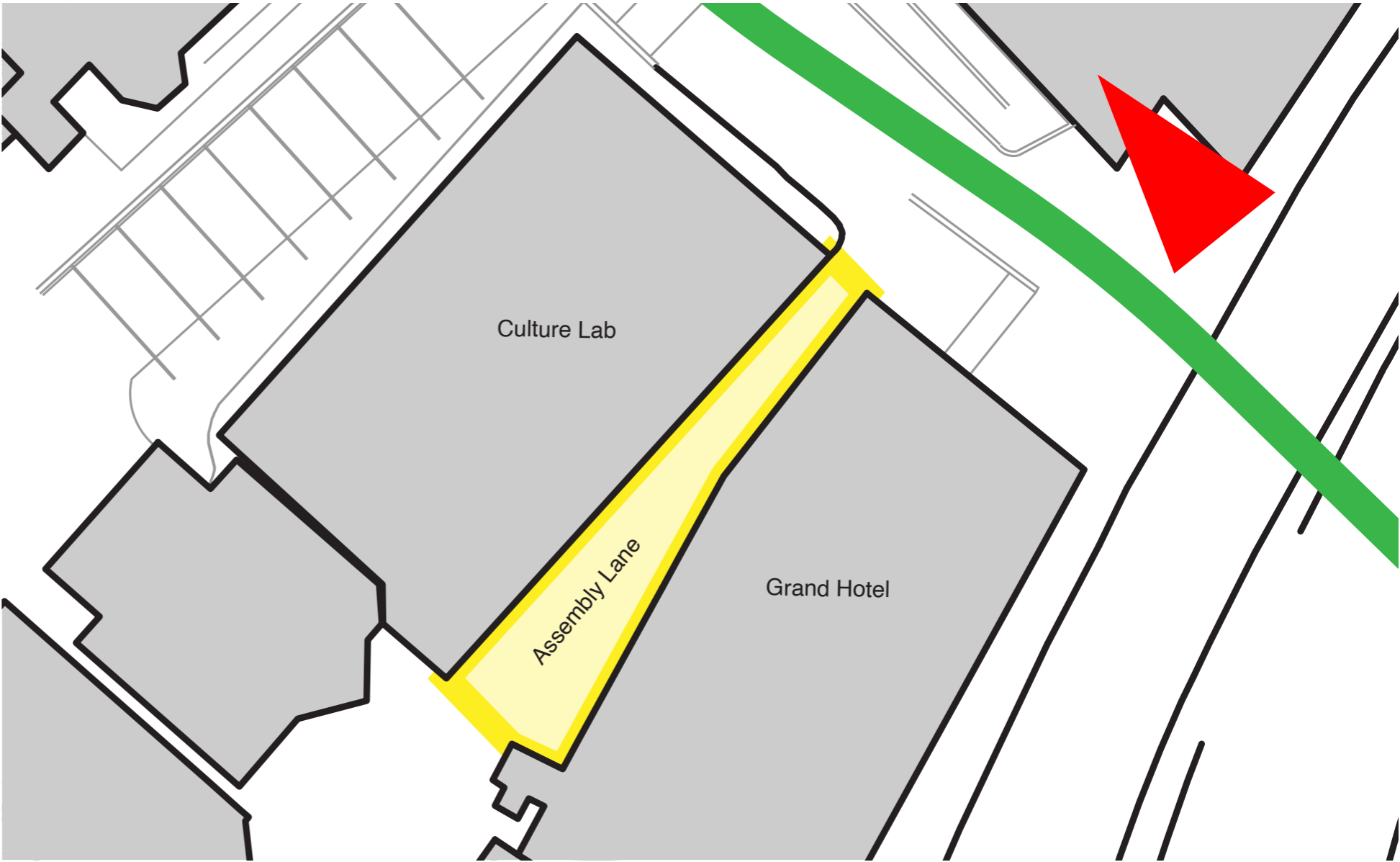


# 7. Assembly Lane

Assembly Lane along the back of Grand Hotel is frequently used by pedestrians but is restricted at the opening.

It is recommended that additional signage is installed to make users aware of social distancing requirements and to keep their distance.

The two-way system will be enforced along the route using relevent floor graphics. See below.



# 8. Hadrian Bridge - Philip Robinson Library

The area in front of the Philip Robinson Library entrance and Hadrian Bridge is often congested with pedestrians and cycle users.

Blind spots and interactions with cyclists are already a concern in this area and may need further consideration for COVID19 planning.

It is recommended that additional signage is installed to make users aware of social distancing requirements and to keep their distance.

Additional signage will be installed in the area using relevant floor graphics. See below.

