

Some students stay put on campus

University environment more conducive for studying, they say

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PETALING JAYA: While most students across the country rejoiced at the news of them being allowed to return home, not all chose to return to their loved ones.

Khairul Amirin Khairudin will miss out on spending Ramadan with his family for the first time, but the Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) student feels he has a responsibility to not spread Covid-19 to his family.

The third-year agricultural science student said the UPM environment was conducive for his studies as the Internet connection was fast.

"This is helpful, especially amid the movement control order (MCO).

"I'm also part of UPM's student representative council, so I have a responsibility towards my peers to ensure their safety and well-being.

"It is lonely, of course, as my roommate has returned to his hometown," said Khairul, 22.

On Monday, Senior Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob said the Higher Education Ministry had sent home 16,223 students to date.

Sabahan Yillson Yanggun, 23, has also decided to stay back on campus.

Hailing from a low-income family, the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) student said he did not want to burden his family.

"Our online classes have started, so I need more Internet support.

"My father works as a farmer, so going home would have put more pressure on him to provide me with food and other necessities.

"Over here, everything is provided for us," said Yillson, who uses the Internet to study and read journals as the UKM library is closed.

Far from feeling lonely, the third-



Making the most of it: UPM student Luqman prefers his campus environment to do freelance work and enrol in free courses online.



year political science student is happy to enjoy his final year.

Muhamad Luqman Hakim Zukefli, 23, stayed back to continue his internship with a cosmetics company, as the internship is a requirement for his final semester.

The fourth-year biotechnology student from UPM prefers his campus environment to do his freelance work, as well as to upskill himself by enrolling in free courses online.

"I'm more productive when I'm on campus and the loneliness doesn't bother me as I am naturally introverted," the Kelantanese said.

"Many of my friends who are also doing their internship have stayed back on campus too.

"Learning new skills online and doing my freelance job is also easier here because I do not have Internet connection at home," he added.

Muhammad Irfhan Fitri Romzee stayed put at Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia in Nilai as he felt it was still unsafe to return to his home in Kuala Lumpur.

He would have had to ride his motorcycle back home, increasing his risk of contracting Covid-19.

"I miss my family, but we keep in touch thanks to technology.

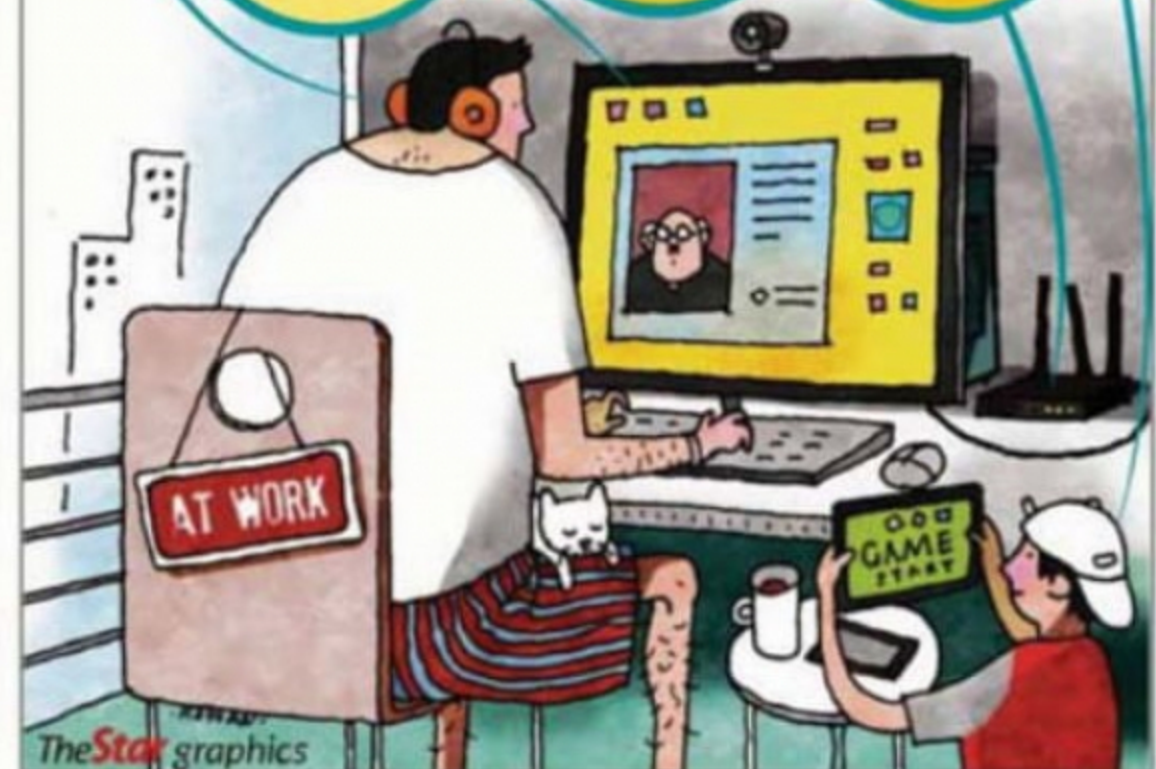
"My university has its own portal where lecturers upload their notes. That has been very helpful," said the third-year Sunnah studies with information management student.



Getting a maximum bandwidth to WFH

Working from home (WFH) can be great in some ways, especially having more time with the family. But there can be many challenges ranging from keeping away domestic distractions to connectivity issues. Here are some tips to get a better Internet connection if you are still working from home.

- Have a noise-cancelling headset with a mute button to communicate
- Reset the router frequently to refresh the Internet connection
- Reposition the router to get a stronger WiFi signal
- Reduce other online streaming activities for faster connectivity
- Clear cookies and trackers that slow down the computer
- Place WiFi devices nearer to the router for stronger and faster connectivity
- Use a LAN for faster speed



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