

Postgraduate Research Experience Survey: Staff Guide

The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey begins at Teesside University on Monday 12th February.

This guide has been produced to help you support students through the survey process.

What you should tell your students:

The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey is a national survey, co-ordinated by the national body for improving teaching and learning in Universities, the Higher Education Academy. It is carried out by the University and begins here on Monday 12 February and closes on Sunday 4 March.

Teesside University are promoting the survey to help encourage as many eligible students as possible to complete it online and to give their feedback. The more students who complete, the more representative it will be.

The survey is the chance for research postgraduates to feedback on their experience. We need to know what postgraduates think so we can address issues and keep doing what is valued. It is an opportunity to say what went well and what could have been improved.

The survey is confidential and the results are made anonymous so that no individual can be identified.

Postgraduates will receive a survey link by email from Bristol Online Surveys, and will also be able to access the survey via Blackboard.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will PRES be carried out?

The survey is carried out by the Academic Registry and the questionnaire hosted online by Bristol Online Surveys. On Monday 12 February all research postgraduate students will receive an email from Bristol Online Surveys asking them to complete the survey.

Any students not completing the survey within the first couple of weeks will receive further reminders. The survey will close on Sunday 4 March.

What will be asked?

The survey questions are broken down into the following areas:

- supervision
- resources
- research community
- progress and assessment
- responsibilities
- research skills and professional development
- opportunities
- overall experience
- demographic details

Within these categories, students are asked to agree or disagree (on a scale of one to five) with statements, or indicate how often a learning style or behaviour is encouraged. Students are encouraged to take an overview of their experience of the whole course and take into account the balance of what constitutes a 'better' and 'worse' experience.

What if students don't want to take part?

We strongly encourage students to fill it in as soon as possible because their experience and views are very important. However, it is not compulsory. Students are able to opt out through contacting surveys@tees.ac.uk.

How will I see the results?

The results of institutions aggregated together are published by the HEA. Institutions own their results and can decide whether to make them public. Results for the sector, for our institution and student comments can be made public. Other results, for example for groups of institutions or sector quartile results, cannot be made public. All reporting should be provide a fair and balanced picture of provision, and should be directed towards enhancing practice.

More information?

For more information please contact the Learning and Teaching Enhancement team via surveys@tees.ac.uk.