



Postgraduate Research Student–Supervisor Agreement

Why use this agreement?

This agreement aims to facilitate a collaborative discussion around expectations and responsibilities between postgraduate research (PGR) students and their supervisors.

It will help you to get to know each other and enable your working relationship to be as positive and productive as possible.

This agreement is designed to ensure that PGR students and their supervisors are meeting the requirements described in the University of Bristol's (UoB) [Regulations and code of practice for research degree programs](#).

When should this agreement be used?

For new PGR students, we advise that the agreement should be discussed by the supervisor(s) and student in their first supervision meeting. A completed version should then be signed within a month of the PGR student's start date.

For established students, you may also find completing the agreement a useful process, particularly around research and training.

The agreement should be shared and signed by all supervisors.

This is intended to be a live document; it is recommended that you review this at least annually. The agreement should also be reviewed following any changes to the supervisory team, or if a Support to Study plan or Enhanced Academic Support is put in place.

How to use the agreement

Supervisors and students can find discussion topics and tips related to each section of the agreement in the [guidance document](#). Please share with the whole supervisory team before completing the form.

The agreement is not currently mandatory, but its use is strongly endorsed by the University Postgraduate Research Committee for all new PGR students from 25/26 onwards.



Postgraduate Researcher–Supervisor Agreement

1 Research project and timelines

See [section 1 of the guidance document](#) for some additional prompt questions to discuss.

Project title:

Programme start and end date:

Submission date

Other key progression milestones:

2 Supervisory team and other support

See [section 2 of the guidance](#) for more information on roles and discussion prompts. Add more sections if you have a larger supervisory team.

Main (or primary) supervisor:

Main supervisor's area of expertise (i.e. background, methods, and expertise):

Co-supervisor 1:

Co-supervisor 1: area of expertise or role:

Co-supervisor 2:

Co-supervisor 2: area of expertise or role:

[Add additional supervisors as needed]

Other research support outside the supervisory team (specify name and role):

3 Supervision meetings, communication and feedback

Confirm how supervision meetings and communication will take place, including frequency, location, structure and who will attend, and how, and when, feedback will be provided. See [section 3 of the guidance](#) for further details on what to cover:

4 Funding and funder requirements

Outline how the project is funded, the length of funding and any specific terms and conditions. See guidance section 4 for further details on what to cover:

5 Working patterns and tools

Discuss and confirm the working patterns of the PGR student and supervisors and any support needed. See [section 5 of the guidance](#) for further prompts.

6 Research practice and integrity

Discuss any issues relating to creating a research plan and considering ethics, intellectual property and academic integrity. See [section 6 of the guidance](#) for more details.

7 Training and professional development

List any areas of training and development required for the research project and how these will be addressed, along with the PGR student's personal development. See [section 7 of the guidance](#).

8 Additional areas

Please use this section to cover any other areas not covered in the above sections, that need to be agreed on.

Signatures

- All supervisors are to read and be aware of their roles and responsibilities, before signing.
- The agreement should be signed at every review point and when changes are made (see guidance for suggested review points).

Postgraduate research student

Name: _____

Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Main supervisor

Name: _____

Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Co – supervisor #1

Name: _____

Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Co-supervisor #2

Name: _____

Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Co-supervisor #3

Name: _____

Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Co-supervisor #4

Name: _____

Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____