

Postgraduate Admissions Statement for PhD Mathematics, MSc by research



This Admissions Statement applies to applications submitted for entry to the programme between 13 September 2025 and 11 September 2026.

It should be read in association with the [University Admissions Principles and Procedures](#) for Postgraduate programmes, the relevant [prospectus entry](#) and general [application guidance](#).

Admissions criteria

Academic and English language requirements

The academic and English language requirements for this programme are displayed on the [Postgraduate Prospectus](#)

For information on international equivalent qualifications, please refer to our [International Office website](#).

Non-standard applications

We may consider applications from those with non-standard qualifications who can demonstrate knowledge, experience and skills developed in the workplace, or elsewhere, relevant to the programme of study. Please use your Research Statement to provide further details.

Non-standard applications will be considered by the Admissions Tutor(s) for the programme on a case-by-case basis.

Application process

Online application form

Applicants should complete the online application form, uploading all required documents directly. Further information is available on our [guidance for online applications page](#).

Applications will not be considered until **all** required documents have been uploaded.

Required and optional documents

References: Required

We require two academic references. References should comply with our standard requirements outlined on [our guidance pages](#).

Degree certificate(s) and academic transcript(s): Required

From first and subsequent degrees. Degree certificates and transcripts should comply with our standard requirements outlined on [our guidance pages](#).

English language certificates/other evidence: Required

Evidence of meeting the English language profile as stated on the [Postgraduate Prospectus](#) and specified by the [University English Language Requirements Policy](#)

Curriculum Vitae (CV): Required

CVs might include details of other relevant work experience and qualifications to support an application.

Research Statement: Required

The research statement (maximum 4 A4 pages) should define and situate your prospective research within an academic and disciplinary context. If you do not have a specific research theme in mind, please indicate a general area that attracts you. We encourage you to specify the Bristol academics you would consider as potential supervisors. You are also invited to highlight your motivations for applying specifically to Bristol. Please also present any other relevant experience and/or skills in the perspective of your personal development that you believe may strengthen your application.

Personal statement: Optional

The personal statement is **optional** but can be submitted to highlight any relevant experience, skills not already included in your research statement.

Other: Optional

Applicants are welcome to optionally provide details of any relevant qualifications or training to assist with their application, or an example of their written work such as a research project or dissertation.

Selection process

Assessment of applications

All applicants are considered in line with the University's [Admissions Principles and Procedures Policy](#). Once a complete application has been submitted with all required supporting documents, it is considered by at least two members of staff using the following criteria:

- Performance in undergraduate degree
- Academic history and relevance of degree
- Degree content and performance in key modules
- Research Statement
- Performance at interview
- English language ability (where applicable)
- References
- Personal statement

Interviews

Interviews form part of the selection process.

The purpose of the interview is to assess whether the applicant has the necessary skills and capabilities to pursue the chosen postgraduate programme, and whether the programme is appropriate to the applicant's interests and aspirations.

If required, interviewees based overseas will normally be interviewed by telephone or online video conference.

Decisions

Applicants will be notified by email when a decision has been made and decision letters will be available to view and print by logging into the application. If there is a deadline by which applicants must accept an offer of admission or pay a deposit, this will be stated in the offer letter.

Offers

Offers will typically be made in line with the academic requirements set out above.

Offers made may be conditional or unconditional. An unconditional offer will be made to applicants who have already met the conditions and provided evidence that conditions have been met. Where academic or language requirements have not yet been fulfilled, applicants will receive a conditional offer outlining the requirements that must be met.

Deferrals

This programme does not normally allow deferrals unless there are exceptional circumstances. Please contact pg-math-info@bristol.ac.uk if you would like to discuss the possibility of deferring your start date.

Additional information

Extenuating circumstances

If your education has been significantly disrupted through health or personal problems, disability or specific difficulties within your studies, you can submit an [extenuating circumstances](#) form as part of your application.

The information provided will be treated confidentially and will help us to assess your academic performance fairly considering your circumstances.

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

International students and researchers (apart from exempt nationalities) who are subject to UK immigration control will be required to apply for an Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) certificate to study this programme. For further details see www.gov.uk/guidance/academic-technology-approval-scheme

Visa

International students coming to the UK to study full-time may need to apply for a student visa. Guidance is available on the [University website](#).

Fees and Deposits

Fees

Annual tuition fee is available on the relevant [prospectus entry](#) for this programme.

Deposits

Deposits are not required for this programme.

Sponsored Students

Sponsored students will need to upload a copy of their sponsorship letter to the online application.