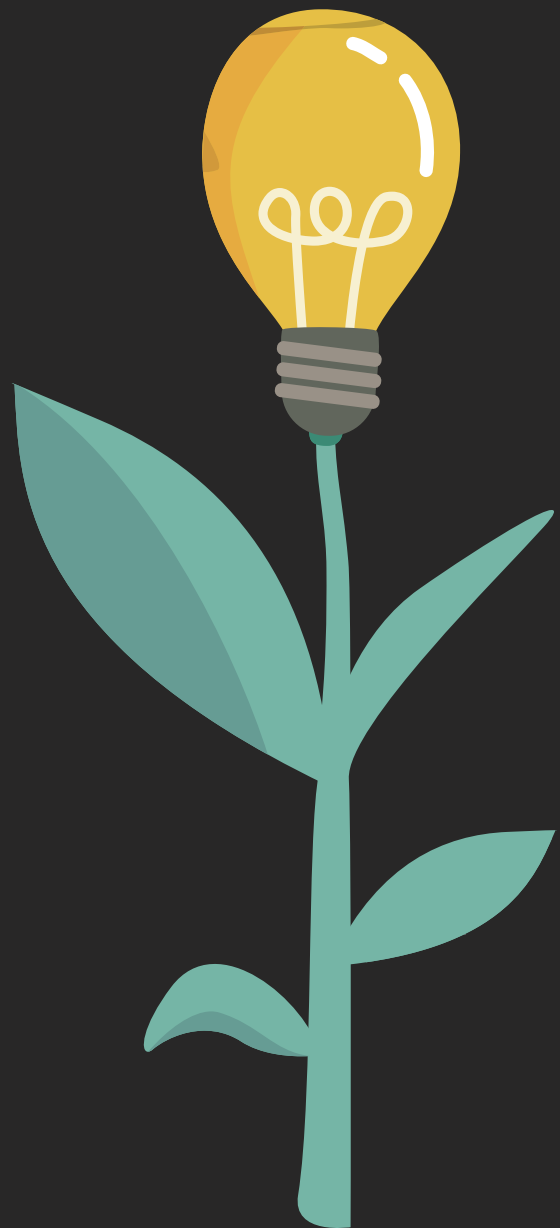




THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM

Learning & Teaching Strategy

2023 - 2027



For
Independent
Minds

Introduction

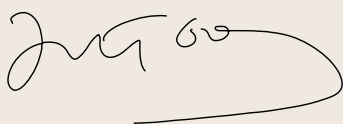
Our Mission and Values

“Inspiring and empowering individuals through excellence in education, research and sharing knowledge.”

The University of Buckingham’s Learning and Teaching Strategy 2022-27, and the associated underpinning operational framework is shaped by our distinctive mission within British Higher Education, as outlined in our Vision and Values Statement. It should be read in conjunction with the University Strategies and Frameworks for Assessment, and for Research, as well as the series of policy and procedural documents referenced in each section of the operational framework.

It is underwritten by the advice and guidance on best practice in learning and teaching set out in the UK Quality Code for Higher Education and by the University’s commitment to the four primary objectives of its principal regulator, the Office for Students. It also takes into consideration the key questions asked of the UK’s students regarding the quality of their academic experience in the National Student Survey, in which the University has a track record of strong performance.

However, in addition to complying with such expectations, the University seeks, with this document, to set out how we aim to educate and inspire our community of undergraduate and taught postgraduate students, our scholars, and our professional support staff through an abiding commitment to the values of the University, summarised in the acronym CARE:



Professor James Tooley
Vice-Chancellor
The University of Buckingham



COMMUNITY

We are global community of students, scholars, professionals, and alumni, sharing and delighting in our local community and historic landscape.



AUTHENTICITY

We are true to who we are and to our founding status as an independent university, wholly committed to academic freedom and free enquiry.



RESPONSIBILITY

We take responsibility for our actions and our words, and how we look after our resources and environment.



EXCELLENCE

We aim to flourish in all aspects of academic endeavour and to be enterprising – in our teaching, research and professional practice, in our support for one another, and in our leisure and cultural life.

Principles and Parameters

1. We will engage effectively with all students registered on our programmes to ensure they receive resources and support commensurate with a high-quality academic experience and do all we can to set them on the path to success, in and beyond higher education.
2. We will ensure that our students, their Students' Union, academics and support staff all share a full understanding of the University's strategy for learning and teaching, and how this helps fulfil the university's vision.
3. We will strive to make our teaching accessible, engaging and challenging for students of all kinds, making use of a broad range of relevant resources and co-curricular activities.
4. We will support our students' learning with clear and consistent information about scheduling, expectations for independent and guided study, preparation for teaching sessions and assessments, and how to get advice and questions answered.
5. We will provide our students, wherever they are based, and whatever level or mode of study they have chosen, with a consistently positive experience of the university as a centre of educational excellence where ideas and concepts can be explored in depth.
6. Our approach to learning and teaching will encourage our students to be proactive and self-motivated learners, able to think critically, synthesise, analyse and apply what they have learned, including responding to timely feedback on their work.
7. We will enable our students to manage their own learning, progress, and development, using suitable tools, as well as through regular opportunities for dialogue with knowledgeable members of the university's teaching and support staff.
8. We will reflect thoughtfully on our teaching practice, making sure our academic staff all have time to engage regularly in suitable forms of professional development, so as to share the right knowledge and skills with our students.
9. We will regularly evaluate our teaching, in order to improve, responding meaningfully to student and stakeholder feedback, and by monitoring how well our students move through and out of their studies, what level of qualifications they achieve, and what careers or further learning they undertake on graduation.
10. We will focus on teaching and systems that both enable and challenge our students to achieve to the best of their ability, regardless of their background or prior educational achievement.



Operational Framework

The commitments outlined in the Learning and Teaching Strategy can be achieved and evidenced, by acting on the elements of good practice and by following the procedures and policies outlined and linked in the operational framework.

The Operational Framework will cover how we will achieve the following objectives related to the Learning and Teaching Strategy and other key university strategies and agendas:

OBJECTIVES

Engage effectively with all students to ensure they receive resources and support commensurate with a high-quality academic experience.

Strive to make our teaching accessible, engaging and challenging for students of all kinds, making use of a broad range of relevant resources and co-curricular activities.

Support our students' learning with clear and consistent information.

Encourage our students to be proactive and self-motivated learners, able to think critically, synthesise, analyse and apply what they have learned, including responding to timely feedback on their work.

Enable our students to manage their own learning, progress and development using suitable tools, as well as through regular opportunities for dialogue with the University's staff.

Reflect thoughtfully on our teaching practice, making sure our academic staff have time to engage regularly in suitable forms of professional development, so as to share the right knowledge and skills with our students.

Regularly evaluate our teaching, in order to improve, responding meaningfully to student and stakeholder feedback, and monitoring how well our students move through and out of their studies.

Focus on teaching and systems that both enable and challenge our students to achieve to the best of their ability, regardless of their background or prior educational achievement.

Explore flexible learning models including apprenticeships, online/blended delivery, micro-credentials and executive education.

Develop opportunities for our students to work with us in partnership to develop their employment-related skills and to support key agendas, including sustainability and inclusion.

