

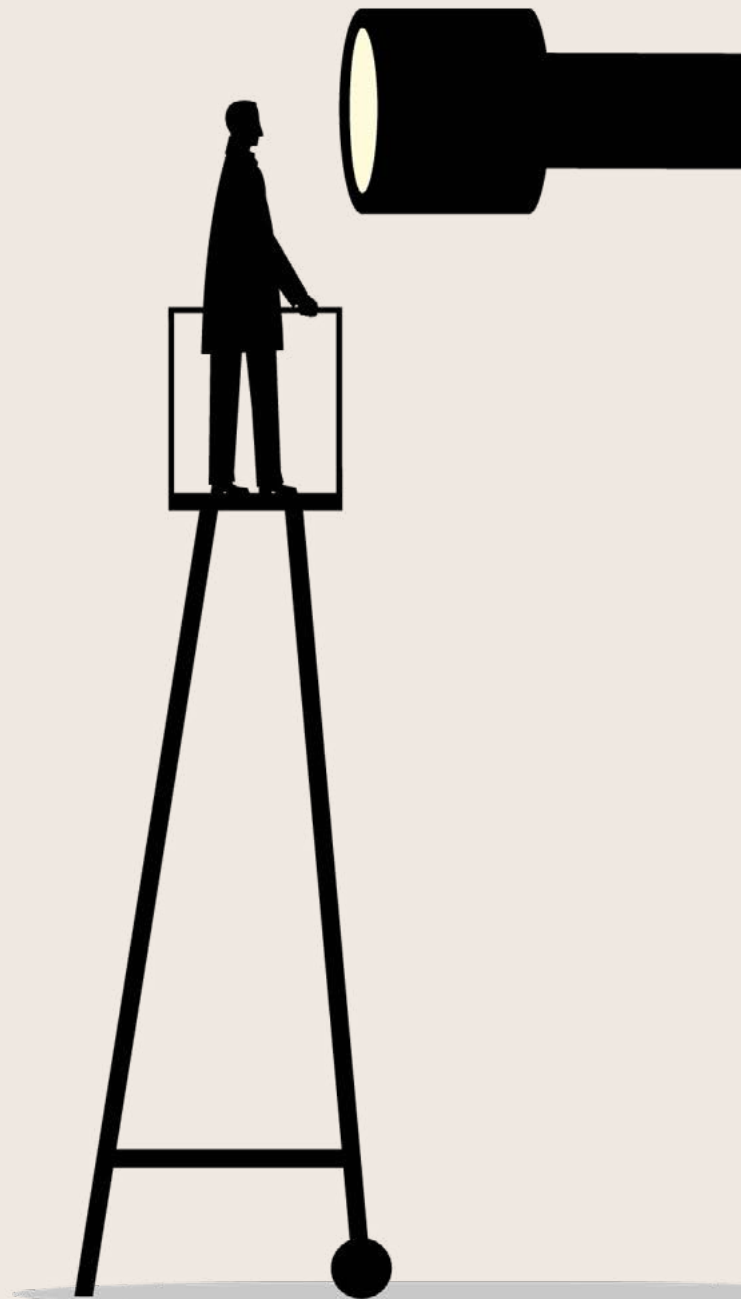


THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM

Research Strategy

2022 - 2027

For
Independent
Minds



Introduction

Our Mission and Values

“To inspire and empower individuals through excellence in education, research, innovation, and service”

The University of Buckingham's Research Strategy 2022 - 2027 and underpinning operational framework is shaped by its unique vision and distinctive mission within British Higher Education, as outlined in our Strategy and Vision Statement. It should be read alongside the University Strategies and Frameworks for Learning and Teaching, and for Assessment, and used in conjunction with:

- The **Research Degrees Handbook**, which details the essential procedures and regulations for the conduct of all research degrees¹
- The **University Research Centre**, the University's central online access page for research- related resources and events²

It is underwritten by the advice and guidance on good practice in supporting research students and developing a strong research culture 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 about their experience of assessment in the national Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES).

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 research students, scholars, and support staff through an abiding commitment to the values of the University, summarised in the acronym CARE:



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.

Professor James Tooley

Vice-Chancellor

The University of Buckingham

¹ See buckingham.ac.uk/about/handbooks/research-degrees-handbook

² See uniofbuck.sharepoint.com/sites/SPO-URC

Principles and Parameters

1. We will promote a visible and vibrant research culture, in which a sustainable body of leading scholars engages the wider public with our research ideas and our research community.
2. We will build a strong research infrastructure and environment for academic staff, encouraging successful and innovative applications for external funding, and will fund partial and full-fee research scholarships to encourage early-stage researchers.
3. We will ensure all research supervisors and research officers are suitably qualified experts in their field, and are well-informed, resourced and supported in their work.
4. We will benchmark our research against national and international standards of excellence by whatever means look most certain to secure due recognition for the University as a whole, as well as for its individual members, and to confer advantages on our students.
5. We will support and build on centres of existing research excellence, as well as establishing new areas of consequence, by raising significant external funding so that student fees are no longer the primary means of research support – and in doing so, we aim to raise the profile and impact of the new ideas and knowledge our researchers make available.
6. We will design suitably framed and intellectually challenging programmes of doctoral and Masters' level study for all our research students within a welcoming, inclusive and supportive research environment.
7. We will provide transparent and clear information to all our research students regarding each stage of their progress and development, as well as maintaining excellent oversight of progress and results at a School, Faculty and university-wide level.
8. We will provide suitable, and where possible, bespoke opportunities for professional and intellectual development to our research students, including facilitating and funding participation in conferences, access to archive and rare source material, and teaching/training opportunities.
9. We will provide helpful feedback and detailed guidance to our research students on the assessment and examination of their work, as well as on research ethics.



Operational Framework

The commitments outlined on page three 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 underpinning Operational Framework.

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

OBJECTIVES

Promote a visible and vibrant research culture, in which a sustainable body of leading scholars engages the wider public with our research ideas and our research community.

Build a strong research infrastructure and environment for academic staff, encouraging successful and innovative applications for external funding, and will fund partial and full-fee research scholarships to encourage early-stage researchers.

Ensure all research supervisors and research officers are suitably qualified experts in their field, and are well-informed, resourced and supported in their work.

Benchmark our research against national and international standards of excellence by whatever means look most certain to secure due recognition for the University as a whole, as well as for its individual members, and to confer advantages on our students.

Support and build on centres of existing research excellence, as well as establishing new areas of consequence by raising significant external funding so that student fees are no longer the primary means of research support – and in doing so, we aim to raise the profile and impact of the new ideas and knowledge our researchers make available.

Provide opportunities for researchers to link their research to their teaching practice for the mutual benefit of our staff and students.

