

## Understanding & Evidencing Teaching Excellence

A strategic overview

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There is no single, easy metric for 'teaching excellence'. It can incorporate a wide range of aspects or definitions, and can be considered at different levels (e.g. individual, module, programme, School, etc). We can evidence teaching excellence through a range of signifiers, including teaching qualifications, peer review, student feedback, student destinations, CPD and professional portfolios.

High quality programmes and learning experiences are more likely when there is a strong sense of teamwork, identity, pride, belonging, and collegial sharing of responsibility. This can be challenged by individualistic approaches to promotion and the associated dominance of research performance.

Our current Academic Strategy has identified a number of opportunities for enhancement that are yet to be fully implemented. There is ongoing work at a national level to expand opportunities for CPD, qualifications and supports for curricular design and assessment reform.

We should consider a holistic model of academic work that recognises teaching, support of learning, research, administration responsibilities, leadership, research and scholarship. There will be variation not just between individual staff but also over different career stages and time periods.

We should consider what the hallmarks of 'excellence' might be for programmes offered by the University. These should be diverse, but evidenced, and give staff and students a sense of ownership, partnership, and agency.

