

# Postgraduate Research Experience Survey: Staff Guide

The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey of taught postgraduates begins at Newcastle University on Monday 18 March 2019].

This guide has been produced to help you support students through the survey process.

## What you should tell your students:

The Postgraduate Research Experience Survey is a national survey, co-ordinated by Advance HE. It is carried out by the University and begins here on Monday 18 March 2019 and closes on Friday 17 May 2019.

The University and Students' Union are promoting the survey to help encourage as many eligible students as possible to complete it online and to give their feedback. The more students who complete, the more representative it will be.

The survey is the chance for research postgraduates to feedback on their experience. We need to know what postgraduates think so we can address issues and keep doing what is valued. It is an opportunity to say what went well and what could have been improved.

The survey is [anonymous so no one can be identified from the results.

Postgraduates will receive an email from Janice Trewick asking them to fill in the survey and a link to it.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### How will PRES be carried out?

The survey is carried out by the Learning and Teaching Development Service and the questionnaire hosted online by Jisc Online Surveys. On Monday 18 March 2019 all research postgraduate students will receive an email from Janice Trewick asking them to complete the survey.

Any students not completing the survey within the first couple of weeks will receive further reminders. The survey will close on Friday 17 May 2019.

## What will be asked?

The survey questions are broken down into the following areas:

- + supervision
- + resources
- + research culture
- + progress and assessment
- + responsibilities
- + research skills and professional development
- + opportunities
- + overall experience
- + demographic details

Within these categories, students are asked to agree or disagree with statements (on a 5-point scale of Definitely Disagree to Definitely Agree), or indicate how often a learning style or behaviour is encouraged. Students are encouraged to take an overview of their experience of the whole course and take into account the balance of what constitutes a 'better' and 'worse' experience.

## What if students don't want to take part?

We strongly encourage students to fill it in as soon as possible because their experience and views are very important. However, it is not compulsory. Students are able to opt out and can respond to invitation emails and let the University know they don't want to take part, either by responding to the invitation email or by emailing [studentsurveys@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:studentsurveys@ncl.ac.uk).

## How will I see the results?

The results of institutions aggregated together are published by Advance HE. Institutions own their results and can decide whether to make them public. Detailed results will be available to staff by July 2019. All reporting should provide a fair and balanced picture of provision, and should be directed towards enhancing practice.

## More information?

For more information please contact Janice Trewick in LTDS by email: [studentsurveys@ncl.ac.uk](mailto:studentsurveys@ncl.ac.uk)

You can also read more about the survey by going to <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/ltds/student/opinion/PRES/>