



Postgraduate Research Strategy 2026-2029

Senate | 24 June 2026

**UNIVERSITY
OF WARWICK**



Bowmer + Kirkland @bandkphoto

Reasons for a PGR Strategy

Embedding aspects of University Strategies

- Education & Student Experience
- Research, including Research Spotlights
- International, including Global Partnerships

Meeting External stakeholder expectations

- UKRI Expectations of Doctoral Training
- Post-16 Education and Skills White Paper
- Vitae Researcher Development Framework
- REF2029 (incorporating SPRE Statement)

Other Internal Drivers

- Doctoral Values Project
- Research Culture Roadmap
- Environmental Sustainability Concordat



Refreshed Warwick PGR Strategy 2026-29

***Vision:** to identify and develop the agency, talent and commitment of PGRs to create new knowledge in the world*

**STRAND 1:
Recruitment &
Resources**

**STRAND 2:
PGR Training &
Development**

**STRAND 3:
Supervision &
Tutoring**

**STRAND 4:
Quality & Student
Success**

**STRAND 5:
Doctoral
Research Culture**

CROSS-CUTTING THEME A: Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

CROSS- CUTTING THEME B: Graduate Teaching Assistants

Recruitment & Resources

STRAND 1

Aims

- ✓ **Inclusive** PGR recruitment
- ✓ **Sustainable** scholarship portfolio
- ✓ **Accessible** routes to and new models of doctoral study

Measured by

- Maintaining recruitment of funded PGRs
- Increased diversity of nationality and background
- Growth of donor-funded PGR scholarships
- New models of PGR established and recruited



PGR Training & Development

STRAND 2

Aims

- ✓ **Systematic approach** to PGR training and development
- ✓ **High-quality** programmes that meet funder expectations
- ✓ **Implementation** of 2026 PGR Training Review actions

Measured by

- Improved PRES results in 2028
- Successful funding body reviews and bids
- Recommendations implemented by 2029



Supervision & Tutoring

STRAND 3

Aims

- ✓ **Supervisor development** recognised as integral
- ✓ **Holistic support** individualised for all PGRs
- ✓ **Structured training** for 'the team around the PGR'

Measured by

- Engagement by and feedback from supervisors
- Personal tutor or equivalent for every PGR by 2027-28
- Bank of supervisor resources by 2026-27



Quality & Student Success

STRAND 4

Aims

- ✓ **Academic integrity** guidance for PGRs that keeps pace
- ✓ **Progression and success** support that is PGR-centred
- ✓ **Evolved PGR Assessment** models

Measured by

- Guidance for PGRs, supervisors and examiners by 2027-28
- Satisfactory thesis submission rates
- Temporary and permanent withdrawal rates
- Viva outcomes
- PRES results



Doctoral Research Culture

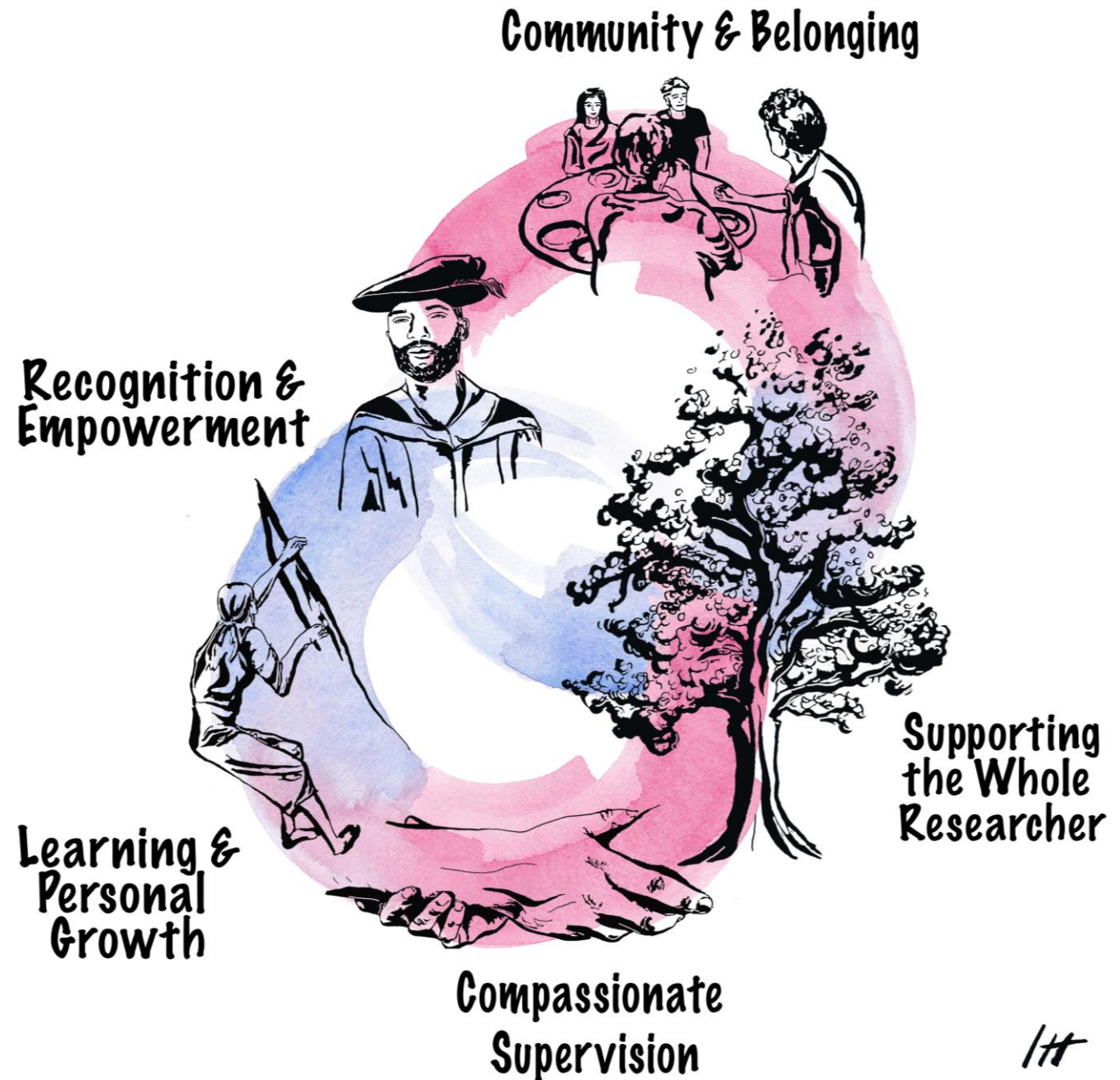
STRAND 5

Aims

- ✓ **Showcasing** PGR work internally and externally
- ✓ **Recognition** of PGRs in Research Culture
- ✓ **Engaged** interdisciplinary and international PGRs

Measured by

- REF Strategy, People & Research Environment narrative
- High participation in PGR activities
- Increased visibility of PGR activity



Equality, Diversity & Inclusion *and* Graduate Teaching Assistants

Cross-cutting Themes

Theme A

Aims

- [S1] **Recruitment** from the most diverse applicant pool
- [S2] **PGR Training & Development** is always fully accessible
- [S3] **Supervision** and personal tutoring practices are inclusive
- [S4] **Progress** support and assessment is equitable
- [S5] **Improved access** to research networks and success markers

Theme B

Aims

- ✓ **Developing new models** of GTA provision
- ✓ **Professional development** provision for all PGRs who teach
- ✓ **Supporting PGRs** to find balance between different roles

PGR World and Lifecycle

2027 will be the Year of Postgraduate Research

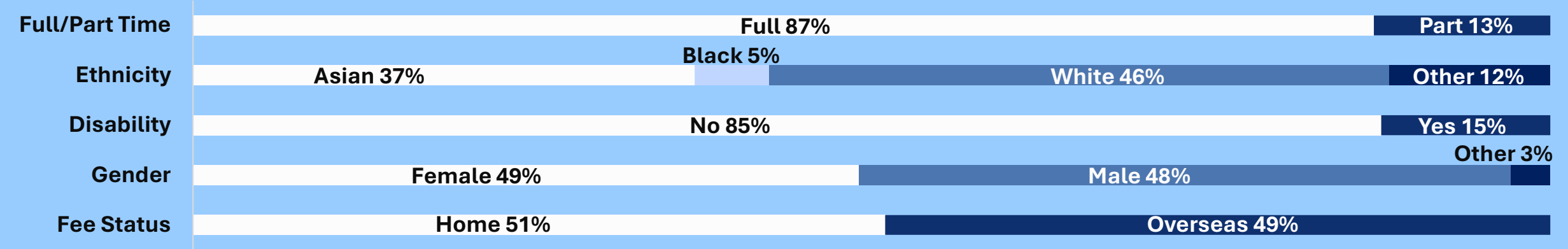
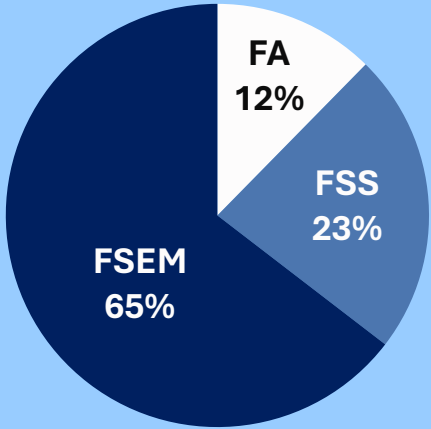


Table Discussions

Each table will be given one of the following 8 areas to discuss:

- 1. Recruitment & Resources**
- 2. Training & Development**
- 3. Supervision & Tutoring**
- 4. Quality & Student Success**
- 5. Doctoral Research Culture**
- 6. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**
- 7. Graduate Teaching Assistants**
- 8. Year of Postgraduate Research**

Thank You

- Postgraduate Research Subcommittee
- PRS Advisory Groups
- Doctoral College
- PG Finance team
- Professional Services Teams
- Academic Departments and Faculties
- Supervisor communities
- External collaborators and colleagues
- And of course... **the PGRs themselves.**

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