

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK QUALITY AND STANDARDS SUBCOMMITTEE PUBLIC MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL 2026		
Present	Professor Will Curtis	Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education Quality and Standards) (Co-Chair) (Meeting Chair)
	Professor Andy Clark	Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education Policy) (Co-Chair)
	Dr Emily Biggs	University Community member
	Professor John Davey	Expert in managing domestic validation partnerships
	Dan Derricott	Director of Education Operations
	Dr Neil Evans	Departmental Director of Education, Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine
	Dr Laura Gelhaus	Deputy Chair (Education), Faculty of Social Sciences
	Lee Griffin	Academic Director (Postgraduate Taught)
	Dr Sam Hardy	Expert in the regulation of degree apprenticeship
	Professor Jonathan Hickman-Heron	Chair of the Postgraduate Research Subcommittee
	Grace Huang	Postgraduate Taught Student representative
	Karen Jackson	Research and Academic Support Manager, Library
	Dr Nalita James	University Community member
	Dr Alexa Kirkaldy	University Community member
	Dr David Lees	Representative of the Student Success Subcommittee
	Professor Debbi Marais	Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education and International)
	Dr Helen Nolan	Expert in the regulation of medical education
	Dr Martyn Parker	Deputy Chair (Education), Faculty of Science, Engineering and Medicine
	Maanya Raju	Students' Union Vice-President (Postgraduate)
	Dr Claudia Rei	Departmental Director of Education, Faculty of Social Sciences
	Dr Gavin Schwartz-Leeper	Departmental Director of Education, Faculty of Arts
	Linda Sherwin	University Community member
	Professor Phil Young	Expert in Online Programme Delivery
Attending	Lauren Anipchenko	Interim Head of Curriculum Management, EPQ (for item 083)
	Lauren Baker	Head of Education Quality and Partnerships, EPQ, Secretary
	Helen Hotten	Policy Advisor (Assessment and Regulations), Assistant Secretary
	Dr Ewan Mellor	Quality & Partnerships Development Manager, EPQ (for items 081, 082)
Ref	Item	
075	Welcome and Apologies for absence The Chair welcomed Dr Nalita James (incoming Community member). Apologies were received from: Professor Letizia Gramaglia, Dr Marta Guerriero, Andrew Higgins, Professor Georgia Kremmyda, Professor Ross Ritchie and Gareth Roberts.	

076	Declarations of Interest No new declarations were made.
077	Minutes of last meeting held on 25 February 2026 The minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2026 (077-QSS150426, Public) were approved .
078	Matters arising from meeting held on 25 February 2026 A verbal update from the Chair was received: - Item 009 Annual Committee Effectiveness Review – Chairs/Secretariat are reviewing best practices to improve the visibility of Matters arising and Minutes/Decision and action logs. Lead: Chairs/Secretariat – In progress. - Item 038 Academic Misconduct Annual Report: -Academic Conduct Panel training sessions are being delivered and continue to remind departments who haven't submitted an academic misconduct annual return for the past academic year and reiterate the importance of annual submission. Lead: Academic Integrity Lead - In progress. -Clarified that Action 4 relates to oversight of ethical approval of projects and dissertations as the Committee observed it wasn't clear that there was oversight of ethical approval of student projects and ethics breaches. Lead: Chairs/Secretariat - to determine ownership of ethical approval of student projects and ethics breaches and to report an update to a future QSS meeting. - Item 039 Student Outcomes analysis - Analysis of student outcomes is still in progress and meetings will be scheduled with relevant stakeholders to discuss further. Lead: EPQ team/WDL – In progress. - Item 040 UCB Teach Out Plan and Risk Register - An initial draft of the Operational Handbook was discussed at the UCB/UoW Validation Management Group on 13th February; a number of sections are still subject to ongoing discussion, and a final version will be shared once approved. Lead: Academic Partnerships Officer, EPQ – In progress. - Item 042 Education Quality Framework - To review comments made by committee members for future inclusion in the EQF, and will form part of future Review and revalidation work. Lead: Head of Education Quality and Partnerships, Director of EPQ, 2026-27 - In progress. - Item 059 CMA Working Group Annual report 2024/25 - CMA WG to develop and share clear, institution wide guidelines for the different types of consultation and communication with new and existing students and offer holders - In progress. - Item 060 Request for an exemption to Paragraph 5.4 in the Qualifications and Credit Framework - Chairs and Secretariat liaising with colleagues from PAIS Department to discuss alternative options to facilitate student needs within existing frameworks. Departmental conversation to gather internal perspectives to report back to Chairs and Secretariat to explore feasible options - In progress. - Item 065 UG External Examiners report analysis 2024/25 - Followed up with Departments where there are outstanding responses to External examiners. Lead: Policy Advisor (Assessment and Regulations)/Head of Education Quality and Partnerships - In progress. - Item 074 Academic casework that could affect a change in policy or guidance – the Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education Quality and Standards) is leading review work to investigate quality and student experience concerns on the Cyber Security programme. In progress. - Item 095 Proposed Changes to Quality Assurance of Collaborative Provision - Consultation process underway with departments and Educational Partnerships Oversight Panel for testing of proposed process and refinement. Work also underway to think about alignment of processes with the Curriculum Management system. To report an update to future QSS meeting – In progress.

	Item 096 Update on UCB Annual Quality Report – UCB Annual Quality Report was presented at the UCB/UoW Validation Management Group on 13th February, the Chairs have provided response to UCB which will be presented for assurance to the next QSS meeting – Update reported under item 082.
079	Chair's Business The Chair reported that the Co-Chairs via Chair's action recommended for approval to the Education and Student Experience Committee amendments to Ordinance 8 - Posthumous non-academic awards (058-ESEC180326, Public), expanding eligibility for posthumous awards to all awards; "In recognition of potential the University may posthumously confer either solely or jointly any of the degrees, diplomas or certificates listed above with the prefix Institutional."
Substantive Items	
080	Students' Union Update The Committee received a brief verbal report from the Students' Union Vice-President (Postgraduate), and the key points were as follows: - A successful Postgraduate Sports Day and National Liberation Conference events were both held in March and were well attended. - The SU is continuing to work on internal initiatives and activities in support of Education priorities and policies for the remainder of this academic year.
081	Chester Medical School – Guarantor and Validation Proposal The Committee received and noted the report (081-QSS150426, Confidential) and verbal update from the Quality & Partnerships Development Manager, EPQ and areas of discussion included: - The proposal details the reasons for the transition from a commercial partnership to a validation agreement with Chester Medical School, prompted by the General Medical Council's (GMC) decision that Chester Medical School is not yet ready to award its own degrees, requiring Warwick to award the MBChB and graduate the first cohort of students in 2028, with the option to extend if necessary. - A Collaborative Management Group will be established, with reporting lines into both the Education Partnerships Oversight Panel and QSS, and Chester Medical School's education governance structure. - The Committee noted it would be useful to include the Fitness to Practise Panel (MBChB) Chair on the Collaborative Management Group to provide oversight on fitness to practise assurances. - Highlighted some key risks including if the situation is classified 'Code Black', indicating total failure of the programme at Chester Medical School, requiring student transfer to Warwick Medical School for the delivery of the remainder of the programme. - Discussed concerns about systemic risks in partnership arrangements, especially as Warwick looks to expand its portfolio, and recommended robust Quality Assurance systems, financial due diligence on Chester Medical School's capacity to make improvements, and ongoing monitoring of staffing and financial resilience. DECISION: The Committee endorsed the proposal, in particular establishing a validation partnership with Chester Medical School.

	ACTION: To report the draft action plan and updates on the validation process for discussion and approval to the next QSS meeting [Quality & Partnerships Development Manager, QSS June meeting] ACTION: To provide the updated Transnational Education (TNE) report for wider quality assurance discussion at the next QSS meeting [Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education Quality and Standards)/Secretariat, QSS June meeting].
082	Update on UCB Annual Quality Report The Committee received and noted the report (082-QSS150426, Confidential) and verbal update from the Quality & Partnerships Development Manager, EPQ and key points and discussions were as follows: • The report to the Validated Management Group on 13 February outlines the response of the Accreditation Visitors to the Annual Quality Report submission. • Noted UCB's strong quality assurance processes, with high National Student Survey (NSS) results except for the Culinary Arts Management programme, which is being addressed through action plans. • Highlighted the ongoing Teach-out of Warwick-validated programmes with the last cohort entry for the remaining few programmes in September 2026. • The Link Tutor reports and external examining processes are effective and robust with detailed feedback provided. • The UCB partnership demonstrates effective quality processes, while noting challenges related to strategic alignment and staff turnover in the sector.
083	Amendments to the Curriculum and Partnerships Approval Policy The Committee received the report (083-QSS150426, Public) and verbal update from the Interim Head of Curriculum Management, EPQ and areas of discussion included: • Highlighted key changes to the Curriculum and Partnerships Approval Policy (CPAP), including clarifications, future-proofing, and the introduction of course pausing and increased flexibility for new provision types. • Discussed concerns that the new pausing provisions could limit WMG's ability to make agile decisions about course viability and requested more consultation and clarity. • Noted that the proposed timelines for online provision would need to be shortened; future amendments would be made once the online provision model is defined. • Confirmed that the CPAP is intentionally flexible regarding new module rationalisation deadlines, and that exceptions are handled case by case. • The Committee discussed the need for robust strategic approval to prevent course duplication and internal competition; the future role of improved curriculum data and ongoing engagement with faculty leads will help to enable robust strategic approval. DECISION: The Committee agreed that following minor amendments based on feedback, the revised policy be circulated to relevant colleagues regarding strategic approval (section 4.11), timelines (section 6), and pausing (sections 11.4 and 11.6), for final comments before approval by QSS Chair's action. ACTION: To circulate the amendments based on feedback to the revised policy to relevant colleagues regarding strategic approval (section 4.11), timelines (section 6), and pausing (sections 11.4 and 11.6), for final comments before approval by QSS Chair's action [Interim Head of Curriculum Management, EPQ, Term 3].
Items below this line were for receipt and/or approval, without discussion	

084	PSRB Activity The Committee received and noted the report (084-QSS150426, Confidential).		
085	Chair’s Actions The Committee received and noted the report (085-QSS150426, Public).		
DECISIONS AND ACTIONS			
ITEM	DECISION/ACTION	LEAD AND DUE DATE	STATUS
2025-26			
083 Amendments to the Curriculum and Partnerships Approval Policy	ACTION: To circulate the amendments based on feedback to the revised policy to relevant colleagues regarding strategic approval (section 4.11), timelines (section 6), and pausing (sections 11.4 and 11.6), for final comments before approval by QSS Chair’s action.	[Interim Head of Curriculum Management, EPQ, Term 3	In Progress
081 Chester Medical School – Guarantor and Validation Proposal	ACTION: To report the draft action plan and updates on the validation process for discussion and approval to the next QSS meeting ACTION: To provide the updated Transnational Education (TNE) report for wider quality assurance discussion at the next QSS meeting	Quality & Partnerships Development Manager, QSS June meeting Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education Quality and Standards)/Secretariat	In Progress
065 UG External Examiners report analysis 2024/25	ACTION: To follow up with Departments where there are outstanding responses to External examiners.	Policy Advisor (Assessment and Regulations)/Head of Education Quality and Partnerships, Term 2	In Progress
060 Request for an exemption to Paragraph 5.4 in the Qualifications and Credit Framework	ACTION: The Committee asked the Chairs and Secretariat to liaise with colleagues from the Department to discuss alternative options to facilitate student needs within existing frameworks.	Chairs/Secretariat, 2025-26	In Progress
059 CMA Working Group Annual report 2024/25	ACTION: To develop and share clear, institution wide guidelines for the different types of consultation and communication with new and existing students and offer holders.	CMA Working Group, 2025-26	In Progress
042 Education Quality Framework	ACTION: To review comments made by committee members for future inclusion in the EQF, and will form part of future Review and revalidation work.	Head of Education Quality and Partnerships, Director of EPQ, 2026-27	In Progress

040 UCB Teach Out Plan and Risk Register	ACTION: To circulate the operational handbook to QSS for oversight.	Academic Partnerships Officer, EPQ	In Progress
039 Student Outcomes analysis	ACTION 1: To identify the courses / Departments in relation to the split metrics with evidence of being below threshold and develop action plans to address the areas. ACTION 2: To further explore the conflict between preserving historic grade profiles and allowing classifications to rise (e.g. due to better teaching and closing of attainment gaps).	EPQ team/WDL 2025-26 QSS Chairs, Student Success Subcommittee representative 2025-26	In Progress
038 Academic Misconduct Annual Report	ACTION 1: Continue to deliver Academic Conduct Panel training sessions annually and provide clarity that the training sessions are open to all to encourage representation. ACTION 4: Update: Clarified that the action relates to oversight of ethical approval of projects and dissertations as the Committee observed it wasn't clear that there was oversight of ethical approval of student projects and ethics breaches. To determine ownership of ethical approval of student projects and ethics breaches and to report an update to a future QSS meeting.	Academic Integrity Lead, Senior Policy Advisor (Assessment) Chairs/Secretariat, 2025-26	Ongoing In Progress
009 Annual Committee Effectiveness Review	ACTION 1: Matters arising to be made more transparent and available to members following committee meetings. ACTION 2: Minutes and Decision and action log to be made available as soon as possible following committee meetings, ACTION 3: To utilise methods such as close scrutiny groups and break out groups when appropriate.	Chairs/Secretariat Ongoing, 2025-26	In Progress
2024-25			
074 Academic casework that could affect a change in policy or guidance	ACTION: Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education Quality and Standards) is leading Review work to ensure the Cyber Security programme addresses quality and student experience concerns. To report an update to a future QSS meeting.	Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education Quality and Standards)/ WMG colleagues Ongoing, 2025-26	In Progress
095 Proposed Changes to Quality Assurance of Collaborative Provision	ACTION: A report for approval to be considered at the October meeting of QSS following further testing and consultation with departments and Educational Partnerships Oversight Panel. Update: Consultation process underway with departments and Educational Partnerships Oversight Panel for testing of proposed process and refinement. Work also underway to think about	Quality and Partnerships Development Manager, EPQ Ongoing, 2025-26	In Progress

	alignment of processes with the Curriculum Management system. To report an update to future QSS meeting.		
100 Postgraduate Taught and Collaborative External Examiners' Report Analysis 2023-24	ACTION 1: Planned communication to Departmental staff involved in engaging with supporting External Examiners on key areas of interest identified in the reports to include: - Continued engagement and encouragement to write more substantive comments at a department level, and to respond to those comments in a timely manner - Departments to consider documenting clearly/sharing existing documentation concerning moderation processes and any audit trail - To establish a central point for matters concerning AI and encourage colleagues to consider their modules and courses in a world where it will continue to have a disruptive impact. ACTION 2: To follow up with Departments where outstanding responses are still awaiting. ACTION 3: To explore and follow up an institutional response to the External Examiner reports. ACTION: To review and propose amendments to the template for collaborative provision External Examiner reports. Update: These actions are all combined in a proposal for a refined approach to external examining, which is currently drafted and will be consulted on later this academic year.	Academic Director (Postgraduate Taught)/ Head of Quality and Partnerships/ Head of Education Policy and Governance, EPQ Head of Education Policy and Governance/Policy Advisor (Assessment and Regulations), EPQ Head of Quality and Partnerships/Head of Education Policy and Governance, EPQ Head of Education Quality and Partnerships, EPQ Ongoing, 2025-26	In Progress