

OXFORD  
BROOKES  
UNIVERSITY

# ACADEMIC ADVISING STRATEGY

2022 - 2026





**“to achieve a high-quality and  
inclusive academic support  
system which engages students”**

## Academic Advising Strategy

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1. This Academic Advising strategy seeks to enhance practice, increase engagement and mitigate risk. The strategy speaks directly to Brookes Strategy 2035, builds on the existing **Academic Guidance What to Expect document** and the findings of the Academic Advising Task and Finish group including the Principles for Academic Advising at Brookes (ratified July 2022), **available here**.
2. The strategy will ensure Brookes meets our conditions of registration B2, offers good value for money to students and furthers our Access and Participation commitments. It will establish a role title and terminology to better describe the function, speak to the learning community and that resonates with the NSS Qs 15 and 16 (2023) ie. Academic Advisors, Academic Advising Tutorials and Student Drop-in hours.
3. Brookes' **Vision** for Academic Advising: 'to achieve a high-quality and inclusive academic support system which engages students to (pro)actively participate in their own self- development to enable them to become successful learners and graduates' (Brookes' Principles for Academic Advising, 2022).
4. Brookes' **Mission** for Academic Advising: enable all students to take responsibility for their academic progress, grow self awareness of their academic abilities and where necessary aid in students identifying appropriate academic, professional and personal development opportunities and support.
5. Brookes' **Ambition** for Academic Advising is to offer consistent, high-quality Academic Advising to all students. **This includes ambitions to:**

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### Enhance Practice:

#### a. **Provide professional development and peer-support for all staff involved.**

- By October 2025 90% of Academic Advisors and relevant administrators will complete CPD. We hope this will have a positive impact on student satisfaction, evidenced in the National Student Survey.
- By September 2026 we aim to meet then exceed NSS sector benchmark for academic support (Q15-16) (representing an increase of 3.63% minimum).
- By September 2026 reach then exceed NSS sector benchmark for the communication of information on mental wellbeing services (Q26).

#### b. **Embed external scrutiny and sector leading support: register for UKAT membership 2023/24.**

- In 2023/24 register for UK Academic Tutoring Association membership.

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### **Increase Engagement:**

- a. **Establish protocols to ensure students have every opportunity to access Academic Advising, their engagement recorded and where necessary prompted (for example where student engagement in study or GPA dips, repeated use of Exceptional Circumstances).**
- By the end of the academic year 2025/26 student engagement with Academic Advising to reach 80%.

### **Mitigate any risk of institutional failure to discharge our duty of care to student safety, well-being and academic support:**

- a. **Establish operational protocols for good Academic Advisor practice, monitoring and oversight (see a above).**
- b. **Communicate roles and responsibilities to staff and students.**
- By September 2023 all faculties will adopt effective processes in readiness for the new academic year.

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- 6.** To realise our vision, mission and ambitions for Academic Advising Brookes will:
- a. Establish a clear governance structure:**
- Position strategic oversight of and ultimate responsibility for the function within the portfolio of the PVC Education.
  - The PVC Education will delegate university wide strategic oversight to a senior academic leader, the Associate Dean Student Outcomes, to report into University Quality Learning and Infrastructure Committee.
  - Each Faculty will appoint a Senior Academic Advisor, responsible for the function in their faculty, supported by the Delegated Officer and reporting to Associate Deans Education and Student Experience/Heads of Department and into Faculty QLIC. (Seconded Senior Lecturers or Principal Lecturers Education and Student Experience, 0.3fte, three-year tenure).
- b. Institute the vision, mission and principles in an Academic Advising Policy, to be ratified Spring 2023, launch September 2023.**
- c. Work to a 10 month implementation plan, chaired by the Delegated Officer, the Associate Dean: Student Outcomes, OCAED's Head of Academic Practice and a dedicated project manager, reporting to QLIC.**
- 7.** Our ambition is for renewed processes to be effectively introduced throughout the Academic year 2023/ 2024.

### References

Office for Students (2022). Condition B2 of the OfS Conditions of Registration: Resources, support and engagement.





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