

Postgraduate Research in the School of Psychology and Neuroscience

Frequently Asked Questions – Staff

Please find below a list of FAQs about PGR matters. If you have other questions that you'd like to see included here, please let David Hughes, Martin Lages (PGR Convenor SPN), or PGR Administrators PGR Admin SPN know. Thank you!

A student contacted me for a PhD position and I'd like to accept them –now what?

Students need to apply for a [PhD in Neuroscience and Psychology](#) (College of MVLS). The only exception are ESRC-funded students (SGSSS) and CDT students (SOCIAL), who are always in CoSE, independent of the college of the supervisor.

How do PGR Annual Reviews work?

Each year, typically in June, there is a formal review of each student's progress by two independent reviewers. This is organised by the PGR Convenors David Hughes (Neuroscience), Martin Lages (Psychology) and the PGR Administrators. The review consists of a report and forms completed by the student and supervisors (either online in MVLS, or on paper in CoSE), a presentation and meeting with the reviewers, and a final recommendation by the reviewers. Detailed information about the process is sent out in April, including assignments of reviewers to students.

I have been asked to convene a viva –now what?

PGR Administrators ask all staff to convene vivas on a rotating basis. This means that you will be asked to convene a viva sooner or later, but normally no more than once a year. Once you have agreed to do this, you will receive all further information from the Graduate School. You will not need decide on examiners, but you will be asked to arrange the logistics of the viva, including the date. The Graduate School and PGR Administrators will also send you detailed information on conducting remote vivas.

Bench Fees

Bench Fees are usually only applicable to full fee paying students. They can be charged assuming the costs can be justified to support the student's research. Dry labs have a maximum of £6,000/annum and a wet lab £12,000/annum. Bench fee forms must be completed, breaking down the requested fees. All bench fees need to be added at the point of offer otherwise student has the right to refuse to pay.