

Foreword

by Vicki Stott

Chief Executive, QAA

QAA plays a vital role in tertiary education across the UK and internationally. We're trusted by universities and other education providers, and by regulatory bodies, to maintain standards and enhance quality. Our collaborations with governments, agencies and institutions globally benefit the UK sector and its students.

Our work includes reviewing the quality of provision, holding the pen on sector-owned standards, producing advice and guidance, and helping providers enhance the quality of teaching and learning. Internationally, we're recognised as one of the world's leading quality agencies, and the growing demand for our international accreditation highlights the value of our brand on the global stage.

We engage with a diverse range of stakeholders, including universities, colleges, professional bodies, regulators and students. And we love what we do! Collaboration and partnership are central to our identity and to the effective delivery of our services as an agency.

In today's rapidly evolving higher and tertiary education landscape, providers face unprecedented challenges and opportunities. QAA Membership offers the essential support and resources your institution needs to thrive in this dynamic environment.

With nearly 30 years of experience, QAA has built extensive expertise and insight into the quality and standards landscape. Our reimagined enhancement programme is designed to adapt to the changing external environment and best support the sector. By becoming a QAA Member, you gain access to a wealth of resources, activities and support, empowering your institution to excel in both UK and international higher education arenas.

Join us today and unlock the full potential of your institution with QAA Membership. Together, we can shape the future of higher and tertiary education. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a community dedicated to excellence and innovation.



QAA Membership

The benefits of QAA Membership



Amplifying your voice

We have close relationships with institutions, quality agencies and partner bodies in the UK and internationally, and with professional, statutory and regulatory bodies (PSRBs), sharing the expertise of QAA Members on a global stage.



Developing your skills and networks

We work in partnership with institutions to support you with enhancement while respecting your autonomy and the diversity of the sector. Collaborative by design, QAA Membership thrives on building effective relationships, creating meaningful opportunities to network and engage with the wider sector, and helping to develop skills and experience across your whole institution.



Enhancing your knowledge and practice

With nearly 30 years of expertise as a world-leading impartial, independent quality body, QAA has helped establish quality systems around the globe. We can confidently support you to make practices and processes more efficient and effective, to maximise the impact from using our toolkits, guidance documents and policy and strategy briefings, and even offer one-to-one support as needed.



Addressing your priorities

The overarching themes of QAA Membership are crafted to tackle significant sector challenges head on, ensuring you stay ahead in the ever-evolving landscape of higher and tertiary education. We engage with you and your colleagues to understand your unique position and to support you to achieve meaningful change.

Amplifying your voice

Keeping you informed and elevating your institution's impact

> Championing standards and quality

We actively work with governments, sector agencies and other influential bodies to shape policy and practice. Our goal is to ensure that quality considerations are at the forefront of new and evolving initiatives. By joining us, you become part of a collective voice that influences key decisions and drives the quality agenda forward.

> Thought leadership and horizon scanning

Stay ahead of the curve with our timely insights on emerging trends and policy developments related to quality and standards. Our expert analysis and forward-thinking approach provide you with the knowledge and tools to navigate the ever-changing landscape of higher education. We offer exclusive access to reports, webinars and events that keep you informed and prepared for the future.





Amplifying your voice

> Global recognition

Our international activities open doors to new opportunities, collaborations and partnerships that enhance your institution's profile and impact worldwide. We leverage the excellent global reputation of QAA and UK higher education to expand into new areas, benefiting UK tertiary education.

> Your voice and representation

Participate in advisory groups and contribute to the development of sector reference points and benchmarks. Ensure these standards remain meaningful and accessible to you and your colleagues. Your input helps shape the future of higher education, ensuring that our work is informed by the sector and meets the needs of institutions and students alike. We provide a platform for your voice to be heard and your expertise to be recognised.

QAA's collaborative ethos makes them a great ally for universities when working to enhance all aspects of teaching, learning and assessment. They have been fantastic to work with in terms of our personal academic tutoring approach. QAA colleagues helped to identify and facilitate collaborations with other institutions who are undertaking similar work. This in turn has now led to the development of a new national network for personal tutoring strategic leaders.

Dr Steve Briggs,
Director of Learning and
Teaching Excellence,
University of Bedfordshire



Developing your skills & networks

Cultivating connections and advancing your capabilities through a range of exclusive benefits designed to support your professional growth

> Engaging conferences

Participate in conferences* that cover the themes and topics most relevant to your role and institution, providing valuable learning experiences. Our thought-provoking events are designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills you need to succeed – enabling you to explore the latest research and innovations as well as practice from across the sector. Our online conferences offer the flexibility to learn from anywhere, making it easy to stay informed and engaged no matter where you are.

> Networking opportunities

Connect with peers, exchange ideas, share insights and learn from the experiences of others. QAA Membership provides you with the opportunity to discuss important issues and collaborate with like-minded higher education professionals. We host online networking events* that allow you to build meaningful relationships with colleagues from across the sector. These connections can lead to new collaborations, partnerships and opportunities for professional growth.

*Introductory membership includes one free place at each of our online conferences per membership year.
All staff and students have unlimited access to our online networking events.





Enhancing your knowledge & practice

QAA Membership enhances efficiency by leveraging sector-wide expertise and best practices, allowing members to benefit without starting from scratch

> Extensive resource library

Gain access to a comprehensive library of membership resources, including research papers, policy briefs and case studies. Stay up to date with the latest developments and best practices in quality assurance and higher education.

> Guidance documents

Find solutions and follow effective practices with our detailed guidance documents. These resources are designed to help you navigate complex challenges in higher and tertiary education and implement successful strategies. Whether you are dealing with policy changes, accreditation processes or quality improvement initiatives, our guidance documents provide clear, actionable advice to support your efforts.

The Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) has been a steadfast pillar of support throughout the years. Their invaluable advice, guidance, and extensive networks have not only facilitated significant achievements within our institution but have also propelled my personal professional objectives. With their continued dedication and expertise, I have no doubt they will remain instrumental in shaping our success in the future.

**Rosie Scott-Ward, Deputy Vice-Chancellor,
Hartpury University**

💡 Enhancing your knowledge & practice

> Practical toolkits

Make your tasks more efficient with our practical and adaptable toolkits. These materials are tailored to support your daily operations and enhance your productivity.

> Policy and strategy briefings

Receive comprehensive summaries of key policy developments to support your strategic planning. Our briefings provide you with the insights needed to make informed decisions and stay ahead of the curve. We cover a wide range of topics, from regulatory changes to emerging trends, ensuring you have the information you need to navigate the complex landscape of higher education.



Addressing your priorities

Our themes for 2025-26 will be threaded through all membership activity, including the diverse programme of events and suite of resources

> Supporting high-quality teaching and learning

Helping providers as they are evaluated for their quality above the regulatory baseline

QAA Membership equips your institution with the tools and guidance necessary to excel in the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). Our resources help you demonstrate your commitment to high-quality teaching and learning, enabling your institution to stand out in evaluations and meet the rigorous standards set by TEF.

> Innovation in delivery

Embracing generative AI, academic integrity and more

As the tertiary and higher education sectors continue to innovate and change, QAA Membership keeps you at the forefront of these developments. We provide insights and support on the latest trends, including the use of generative artificial intelligence and maintaining academic integrity. Our resources help you navigate these innovations, allowing your institution to remain competitive and compliant with evolving standards.

> Maintaining quality in challenging times

Enhancing efficiency in your quality function

In times of uncertainty, maintaining high standards of quality can be challenging. QAA Membership offers practical solutions to help your quality function work more efficiently. Our resources and support enable you to streamline processes, reduce administrative burdens and focus on delivering excellent education to your students. In the event of provider failure, QAA Membership can provide guidance on managing this process, including Recognition of Prior Learning, and facilitating smooth transitions for students to ensure they continue to receive the education they deserve.



Elevate your membership

Additional QAA products and services

Full QAA Membership

Full membership offers all the benefits of introductory membership plus:

A full programme of events offering opportunities to learn, exchange ideas and share practice to enhance your delivery, including:

- topic-based webinars and workshops
- unlimited places at Membership conferences
- in-person events

Training and development

Focused professional development programmes including the popular series of Academic Quality and Standards courses for broad audiences across your institution.

Individual quality support

Benefit from dedicated 1:1 clinics with our quality specialists for personalised support to address unique challenges and enhance the quality of your work.

Opportunities to lead and receive funding for a Collaborative Enhancement Project.

International Insights

Supports UK members in their international work through activities and

- developing, managing and monitoring international partnerships and transnational education (TNE) arrangements
- delivering international programmes
- supporting international students
- overseeing quality assurance and enhancement of international activities
- recruiting international students.

Elective Quality Review

Offers a cyclical quality enhancement review by QAA, providing independent assurances about the standard of your academic awards and learning experience.

This service will:

- enhance your reputation with the QAA Quality Mark
- demonstrate adherence to the European Standards and Guidelines, aiding international recruitment and partnerships
- offer expert advice on enhancement through tailored follow-up activities.

This service is available to providers in England registered with the Office for Students.

Targeted Quality and Standards Service

Offers providers in England a bespoke, external assessment for specific quality

This service will:

- offer a fresh, objective perspective through detailed analysis to identify strengths and priority areas
- provide a bespoke report with quick wins and long-term strategies, including clear recommendations and next steps
- future-proof strategies with access to QAA experts who offer
- support and sector insights, and help turn your quality vision into reality.

Degree Awarding Powers (DAP) Service

Offers specialist guidance for providers in England seeking or holding time-limited or probationary DAP.

This service will:

- save time by providing access to QAA experts with extensive experience in DAP criteria and evidence requirements
- offer actionable insights into risks or weaknesses, including comprehensive reports with clear recommendations
- be fully bespoke, tailored to your needs, experience and current stage in the DAP process.

Next steps

Renew your QAA Membership for 2025-26 to unlock continued access to our unparalleled support and resources, helping your institution to excel and innovate in the dynamic higher and tertiary education environment.

The next steps are simple. You will receive a link to your renewal form when renewals open in May.

Just click on the link in the email to submit your form and we will do the rest!

If you would like to confirm your intention to renew with us now, please contact your Account Manager to discuss next steps and find out more about making the most of your QAA Membership.

It is my privilege to lead the Membership Delivery team, whose responsibility is to ensure that resources, training, Collaborative Enhancement Projects, membership events and networks are designed not only to support QAA Members but also to have a measurable and transformative impact on practice.

I look forward to the coming year of membership, where we will partner with providers to explore and inspire exceptional teaching and learning. The quality of this work has the potential not only to enhance the learning environment but also to change the lives of those involved, both practitioners and students. While there will inevitably be challenges ahead in the higher and tertiary education environment, both in the UK and internationally, I am confident that the next year of QAA Membership presents an opportunity for growth and enthusiasm toward the aspirational enhancement of quality.

By working together, we will continue to thrive and, in doing so, retain the quality perspectives and academic standards that we, as a sector, are all so proud of.

Steph Tindall, Head of UK & International Membership Delivery

