

## Summary of Changes

### Postgraduate Researcher (PGR) Submission Pending Policy – April 2026

#### Nature of the update

The policy has been updated to include an additional clarification within the *Submission Pending – General Principles* section.

#### Summary of change

- **New section 3.11 added** to clarify requirements for **international PGRs sponsored under the Student Route visa** who plan to **leave the UK during a period of submission pending**.
- The new provision confirms that:
  - PGRs must notify the University **at least six weeks in advance** of leaving the UK.
  - PGRs are required to provide details of their **planned location and dates**, and to notify the University of any subsequent changes, which should occur only in exceptional circumstances.
  - PGRs are directed to their **Doctoral Academy** for process guidance and to the **Student Immigration Team** for visa-related advice.
- The addition reflects **recent confirmation from UKVI** that continued sponsorship is permitted during submission pending where appropriate monitoring arrangements are in place.

#### Rationale for the change

- To ensure institutional and PGR compliance with Student Route visa requirements.
- To provide clear, consistent guidance without embedding operational process detail within the policy.
- To reflect current UKVI expectations and support robust monitoring arrangements.

#### Impact

- No change to eligibility for submission pending.
- No change to the duration, purpose, or academic expectations of the submission pending period.

- Impact limited to **international PGRs holding a Student Route visa** who intend to be **temporarily based outside the UK** during submission pending.