

Setting the agenda for TEF: Constructing a 10 year roadmap

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TEF: Constructing a 10 year roadmap
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Teaching Excellence Framework

- The purposes of the TEF are to:
 - provide students with information that will allow them to make more informed choices about what and where they study;
 - raise the esteem for teaching;
 - recognise and reward excellent teaching;
 - ensure higher education better meets the needs of employers, business, industry and the professions (DfE 2017).
- Initially, the idea was that in order for institutions to raise tuition fees in line with inflation, they needed to show that they were offering students a high quality undergraduate education.
- However, tuition fees were frozen in October 2017 and now awaiting the outcomes of the 'Review of Post-18 Education and Funding' due in early 2019.

TEF Structure

Universities assessed on assessment criteria relating to teaching quality, learning environment and student outcomes.

- **Teaching Quality:** Student Engagement (TQ1); Valuing Teaching (TQ2); Rigour and Stretch (TQ3); Feedback (TQ4).
- **Learning Environment:** Resources (LE1); Scholarship, Research and Professional Practice (LE2) Personalised Learning (LE3).
- **Student Outcomes and Learning Gain:** Employment and Further Study (SO1); Employability and Transferrable Skills (SO2); Positive Outcomes for All (SO3).

(see DfE 2016, 2017)

TEF Metrics – Years 2 and 3

- Examine performance on metrics over a three-year period;
 - Students' views of teaching, assessment and academic support from the National Student Survey;
 - Non-completion rates;
 - Rates of employment and further study from the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey (DHLE) and 'highly skilled job metric'.
- Benchmarked by student intake with significant differences flagged.
- Initial hypothesis formed based on number of positive/negative flags
- Then examination of contextual information and institutional 15 page submission
- Institutions awarded TEF Gold, Silver or Bronze

Future TEF

- The subject level TEF is currently being piloted and there is a government consultation on its future development, which closes on 21st May.
- Consultation includes a longer duration of the award (5 or 6 years) and a longer period before re-application (3 or 4 years).
- Identified future metrics:
 - Longitudinal Education Outcomes data set – more precise data on the relationship education and earnings;
 - Grade inflation;
 - Teaching intensity/weighted contact hours.

Statutory Independent Review of the TEF in 2018/19

- a) the process by which ratings are determined under the scheme and the sources of statistical information used in that process,
- b) whether that process, and those sources of statistical information, are fit for use for the purpose of determining ratings under the scheme,
- c) the names of the ratings under the scheme and whether those names are appropriate,
- d) the impact of the scheme on the ability of higher education providers to which the scheme applies to carry out their functions (including in particular their functions relating to teaching and research),
- e) an assessment of whether the scheme is in the public interest, and
- f) any other matters that the appointed person considers relevant

Today's event

- Focused on the future development of the TEF;
- Looking at definitions of teaching excellence, measuring teaching excellence, and the relationship between teaching excellence and enhancement;
- As a group develop ideas for the future development of the TEF to feed into the independent review;
- Focus on principles in terms of the future TEF in terms of the meaning, measurement and enhancement of teaching excellence;
- We will circulate a summary of the ideas that have been generated after the event.