Student immigration compliance overview

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Introduction

This document provides an overview of the integrated framework of student immigration related policies, procedures and guidance which are in place to ensure the University of Bath maintains compliance with UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) regulatory requirements.

All policies, procedures and guidance are developed and kept under review by the Student Immigration Service (SIS), who is responsible for safeguarding the University's Student sponsor licence and Student sponsor track record of compliance. They are in keeping with the guiding principles of UKVI's Student sponsor duties ([Sponsor guidance document 2](#)) and aim to show 'that [the University] can fulfil and [is] fulfilling, these sponsor duties in order to gain and retain a Student sponsor licence'.

The key duties assigned to a Student sponsor are:

- assessment of a student's ability and genuine intention to follow and successfully complete a course of study
- taking responsibility for all its sponsored students whilst sponsoring them, including by doing all it can to ensure that students comply with the conditions of their visa and see their course through to completion
- record-keeping, including maintaining sponsored student details and carrying out immigration permission checks
- monitoring academic attendance and engagement
- reporting changes of circumstances to UKVI
- complying with all aspects of the Immigration Rules and sponsor guidance

In line with the UKVI sponsor guidance, the University's sponsorship duties start the moment the CAS is assigned to a student. Sponsor duties remain in place until the University withdraws sponsorship, the student leaves the UK, or the student is given permission with a different sponsor or under a different immigration category.

Relevant documents are regularly updated in response to government and institutional requirements and are communicated through various platforms across the institution to staff, students, and applicants. In addition, SIS has published an online [repository of important information](#) for students holding a Student visa. It includes Terms & Conditions of using the Student Immigration Service, as well as links to procedures, the University of Bath's data protection statement for student registration, and reference to the Immigration Advice Authority (IAA) client care letter which students are required to sign before a visa application appointment with a SIS adviser.

The University of Bath and SIS are members of the following national and regional networks: AISA (Association for International Student Advisers), ARC (Academic Registrars' Council – Immigration Practitioners), ICN (Immigration Compliance Network) and UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs). Members of SIS regularly attend relevant training sessions, workshops, conferences, and meetings to keep up to date with the latest immigration changes and develop competencies for providing immigration advice. SIS also adheres to the IAA Code of Standards and statutory guidance in respect of the provision of immigration advice.

Compliance policies, procedures and guidance

1. Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS)

In order to apply for a Student visa, a student must be in receipt of a CAS number from the sponsoring institution. The number is then provided as part of the visa application process so that UKVI can check information from the sponsor regarding the student's course of studies.

The University of Bath has published two CAS issuing procedures, one for [applicants](#) and one for [current students](#).

The procedures ensure that a CAS is assigned in accordance with the Student visa requirements set by UKVI. As per the sponsor guidance, the University carries out checks to confirm that 'the student will meet the requirements for a visa or permission to extend their stay' before assigning a CAS. Pre-CAS checks include final checks of admission documents, time limits, academic progression, Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS) clearance, English language requirements, financial requirements, under-18 checks and immigration history checks.

The issuing of a CAS and the decision to sponsor a student for a Student visa is at the University's discretion. The University reserves the right not to issue a CAS, or to withdraw sponsorship if a student does not comply with Student visa and / or University regulations meaning that they are no longer permitted to continue studying at the University.

Latest date of arrival

All students are expected to arrive for the start date of their course. Delays to arrival are permitted for a standard period of 2 weeks after the course start date for all students, except for pre-sessional students who must arrive by the start date of their course as stated on the CAS.

For new international students requiring a Student visa, a latest date of arrival of 2 weeks after the course start date is always stated on their CAS, required as part of the visa application (with the exception of pre-sessional students). International students experiencing exceptional circumstances which will delay their arrival beyond 2 weeks, such as visa or travel delays, must notify their department and the Student Immigration Service. The Student Immigration Service will liaise with the student's Director of Studies to confirm whether the latest date of arrival can be extended. If it cannot be extended, the department will liaise with the student and the Student Immigration Service will withdraw visa sponsorship. If a new latest date of arrival is agreed, the Student Immigration Service will notify the Home Office as appropriate. The student will not be able to commence studies until their arrival in the UK in accordance with Student visa regulations – distance learning overseas is not permitted with a Student visa.

English language requirement

The sponsor guidance states that the sponsor 'must take all reasonable steps to ensure that [they] are satisfied through [their] assessment that the applicant meets the language competence requirements'.

The below procedures align with the relevant sponsor requirements highlighted in the Sponsorship duties guidance.

Proficiency at the relevant level, in all 4 components (speaking, listening, writing, and reading), is required of all applicants requiring sponsorship.

As a Higher Education Provider (HEP) with a track record of compliance, the University of Bath may choose its own methods to assess English language competency for degree-level courses and above, or alternatively request an acceptable English language test at B2 level which may be a Secure English Language Test (SELT), which is verified before an unconditional offer is made.

Where the University chooses its own methods of assessment, these are documented on SAMIS and stated on the CAS. Where the student has provided the results of a test, individual scores are quoted on the CAS. The method of assessment is also noted on the CAS.

As per Appendix English Language, applicants who 'have already shown that they met the requirement, at the level required, in a previous successful application for entry clearance or permission to stay' are not required to be re-assessed on their English language proficiency (although this may be required separately to meet University admission requirements).

The University of Bath also accepts that applicants from a majority English-speaking country and applicants holding an eligible academic qualification taught in English do not require a separate English assessment to meet UKVI requirements (although this may be required to meet University admission requirements).

The list of English language qualifications which are accepted for UG courses (and the scores required for each component) is available online on each of the UG programme-specific pages, as well as on online factsheets relating to the category of the course (Category A, Category B, Category C).

The list of English language qualifications which are accepted for Postgraduate Taught (PGT) and doctoral courses (and the scores required for each component) is available online on each of the PGT and doctoral programme-specific pages.

The University of Bath offers 10-week and 5-week pre-sessional English courses, with the option for a combined course / CAS if the student meets the unconditional offer eligibility. Students must pass a UKVI Secure English Language test (SELT) showing proficiency at CEFR level B1 or B2 to undertake a stand-alone pre-sessional course. For a combined CAS, the University can select other methods of assessing English proficiency, although a SELT is preferred. The list of English language qualifications which are accepted for pre-sessional courses (and the scores required for each component) is available online on the pre-sessional website.

Students are assessed in all four components and each course is designed to uplift the student's English language level by 0.5 -1.0 point. Listening skill is assessed via continuous assessment, writing skill is assessed via essay writing and reading and writing skills are assessed against the BALEAP framework, but tested separately.

In accordance with the sponsor guidance, the end of the pre-sessional course is no more than one month before the main degree course and the course is no more than 3 months in duration.

A General English 10-week course is also available at the start of each semester for all undergraduate and postgraduate students and staff who use English as a second language. Students who may benefit from further tuition (as assessed by their Director of Studies or tutors) are encouraged to register.

The University has an English Review Group, comprising senior staff from Admissions and Immigration teams. The Group reviews English tests before adding them to the lists of accepted tests and regularly evaluates student outcomes against the English tests used for admission.

Time limits

Before issuing a CAS, SIS advisers check that each sponsored student will not exceed their UKVI study time limits. Written guidance has been developed and published on the main University of Bath website.

Though it is the responsibility of the student to ensure they have valid immigration permission to complete their studies within time limits, SIS pro-actively warns students who might be at risk of non-completion within time limits and advises on options.

An annual procedure is also conducted by a SIS adviser to calculate time limits for all sponsored students and contact the ones who are at risk of breaching the time limit rule (i.e., they have repeated a year, added a placement, etc.), providing advice accordingly.

There is no time limit on study at postgraduate degree level and above, including integrated Masters courses.

Academic progression

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Academic progression checks are run before SIS issues a CAS for new and / or current students. If a student is exempt from demonstrating academic progression, SIS confirms this and the reason(s) for the exemption on the CAS.

SIS will issue letters, in accordance with UKVI guidance, confirming a student's highly likely successful completion of their postgraduate course to support their application if necessary. These letters are approved by the Director of Studies and based on assessment and performance of the student's academic progress throughout the course and to date. This is added to the CAS.

In circumstances where a student continues to study at the same level, evidence must be provided which confirms that the new course is related to the previous course for which the student was granted permission on the Student route (meaning that it is either connected to the previous course, part of the same subject group or involves deeper specialisation) or that the student's previous and new courses combined support the student's genuine career aspirations.

Academic Technology Approval Scheme (ATAS)

A CAS will only be issued to an applicant for a course subject to ATAS clearance once a valid ATAS certificate has been received and verified. The University of Bath has published an [ATAS procedure](#) which is reviewed every year and highlights our ATAS requirements and details ATAS procedures for both applicants and current students. It also contains a section on ATAS refusals. This is in line with the [UKVI's Appendix ATAS.](#) The University of Bath also has an institutional [Exports Control policy](#).

Under 18 students

Sponsors who recruit a child under the age of 18 must ensure suitable care arrangements are in place for them in the UK. This must include arrangements for their travel, reception when they arrive in the UK and care whilst in the UK.

SIS will only issue a CAS to an under-18 student once the parental consent letter to be used in the visa application has been submitted to SIS.

For the purposes of UKVI compliance, under 18 refers to the age the student will be on the date that the student's CAS is assigned.

Research-based qualifications

Research based programmes at RQF level 7 or above are indicated on the CAS by marking the academic course level as either 'RQF level 7 – Research' or 'RQF level 8 – Research' as applicable. Additionally, the University submits an annual list of research-based programmes at both RQF level 7 and 8 to UKVI.

2. Record-keeping

Student sponsors are required to keep copies of a student's:
- valid passport
- valid immigration status documents such as an eVisa (verified on gov.uk through share code) or other physical document
- ATAS certificate (if required)
- evidence assessed as part of the process of making their offer of admission
- date of entry to the UK

UKVI and IAA document retention timeframes are adhered to and do not conflict with any University or GDPR timeframes.

A history of the student's contact details in the UK must also be kept (this is recorded on SAMIS) as well as a record of their absence and attendance (see academic engagement monitoring below).

New and returning students are required to provide / update their contact details as part of their (re)-registration. They are also prompted to do this regularly throughout the year.

Right to study checks

The University of Bath has an obligation to ensure that every student subject to immigration control (including Home fee paying students) has valid permission to study in the UK. SIS must check and keep documents to confirm a student's right to study in the UK.

UKVI have confirmed that institutions do not need to make further checks for Home fee paying students who have had their identity checked by a third party such as the Student Loans Company. Home students without a student loan have their right to study confirmed through admissions and tuition fees assessment procedures.

SIS conducts Right to Study checks throughout the year for all new Overseas students and any returning students who have a new visa or passport. Visa-holding students are not allowed to complete (re-)registration until these have taken place. Documents (passport, immigration permission and date of entry to the UK) are stored securely in SAMIS.

Immigration permission will be verified online and via a 'share code' where possible before the student arrives in the UK.

Separate procedures are followed for students who are moving from one course of study at the University of Bath to another and students who have a UK study visa for another institution or other type of immigration permission which permits study. The former group are allowed 6 weeks before providing evidence of application (or new visa) but may register without it; the latter are not allowed to complete registration until proof of application (or a new visa) is provided to SIS.

Further record-keeping checks

SIS runs a complete 'signing-off records' exercise every year after the main cohort has registered (as well as during the year for mid-year starters). This consists of a final manual check on SAMIS of all new sponsored students' details, including passport and visa records and uploads.

Placement and Study Abroad students receive an email from SIS up to 3 times a year requiring them to confirm their contact details, visa information, passport information, and to confirm their ongoing engagement with their placement / studies. Sponsored students are also required to check their contact details, visa details, and passport information at the start of Semester 2, as part of the 're-enrolment' process.

SIS runs a bi-yearly procedure highlighting sponsored students whose term-time address is more than 50 miles from campus to check their circumstances.

All students can update their contact details at any time through the SAMIS-on-the-web portal.

SIS runs checks with UKVI on the progress of Asylum seekers' cases to ensure that these students continue to have valid permission to study. These checks are run every six weeks.

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3. Academic engagement monitoring

The University of Bath has an academic engagement monitoring policy for Student visa holders, which it reviews annually. The policy gets approved at University Executive Board level and is published on the main [University website](#) and communicated widely to staff and sponsored students at the start of each academic year.

As per UKVI guidance, the University of Bath defines its own academic engagement monitoring policy which applies consistently to international students across the institution and differentiates between levels of study. The policy monitors academic engagement based on students 'actively and consistently' engaging academically with their course of study.

The sponsor guidance states that 'it is the sponsor's responsibility to decide which study elements are required for a given course and constitute academic engagement and what minimum level of engagement is required for each element'. Study elements (or engagement points) for taught students at the University of Bath include students' Moodle submissions, Microsoft Teams meetings, Zoom meetings, viewing of lectures via Panopto and physical attendance. Data collated from these platforms is collated into a single monitoring system used for timely and accurate storage and analysis of engagement data by SIS.

Analysis for taught students is conducted on a fortnightly basis to mitigate against having to withdraw sponsorship after 60 days of non-engagement, as per UKVI sponsor guidance. Evidence of engagement, as well as reasons and follow-up actions for lack of engagement, are recorded securely.

Sponsored students are required to evidence their physical attendance at in-person study sessions (including labs, studios, tutorials, etc.) at least once in any 2-week period using the free SafeZone app.

Alternative arrangements are made for courses where standard study elements are not possible. Departments and students are encouraged to contact SIS where alternative arrangements are necessary. Evidence of engagement is then recorded securely.

Students on placement, fieldwork, or study abroad programmes, as well as PGT students at dissertation stage, are required to meet alternative electronic engagement points monitored by SIS. Evidence of engagement is recorded securely.

Doctoral students are required to engage via quarterly in-person supervisory meetings and six-monthly progress reports. Evidence of engagement is recorded securely. Doctoral students going on fieldwork are required to request approval beforehand by submitting an authorised absence (with start and end date of time spent away from campus). SIS checks that the student is back on campus at the end of the period.

The academic engagement monitoring policy for pre-sessional courses (below degree level) is incorporated into the main policy. It includes the minimum attendance requirement of 15 hours per week of classroom-based study and a robust escalation procedure (with clear timelines).

Our policy clearly details the escalation procedure for all sponsored students, which may lead to withdrawal of sponsorship.

Where a student was suspended due to non-engagement and wishes to return to study at the University of Bath, they will be asked to explain how their situation has changed, in ways that enable them to meet their academic engagement monitoring requirements. They will be asked to provide evidence where possible.

- If the Student Immigration Service is satisfied that the situation has changed and that the student is committed to engaging actively and regularly with their studies, the Department/School will be contacted by SIS as normal to initiate the student's return from suspense.
- If there are doubts as to whether the situation has changed or the student is committed to engaging actively and regularly with their studies, SIS will request that a Support to Study Plan be put in place by the Department/School, which the student will be required to agree to, before a CAS may be issued. The Support to Study Plan will include agreed specific actions and review dates, which the student will be required to meet.

Our Partnerships Agreements and all Placement Provider letters clearly specify that our partner institutions and placement providers are required to inform SIS as soon as students stop engaging.

A University of Bath 'Procedure to respond to poor attendance' policy (University of Bath Regulation 3.1) is used side-by-side with SIS escalation procedures for sponsored students. If applicable, SIS will recommend to the relevant Director of Studies / doctoral supervisor to follow this procedure.

Authorised absences

Authorised Absences must be requested if the student will be absent for a minimum of 8 days (including weekends) and a maximum of 60 days. These must be approved by Directors of Study or doctoral supervisors.

Doctoral students may request shorter or longer periods of absence depending on the reason for being absent. Repeat or extended requests are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Sponsored postgraduate taught students who wish to work on their dissertation in the summer away from the University are advised to discuss their intentions with the supervisor / Director of Studies to seek academic approval and discuss any additional support they may need. They are also advised to update their address on SAMIS.

4. Reporting to UKVI

Change in circumstances

When a student makes changes to their study circumstances, this can affect their immigration permission and the University's compliance with its Student sponsor duties.

To ensure students are informed and compliant with immigration requirements, and that the University fulfils its Student sponsor duties, the University of Bath Change of Circumstance forms (CC forms) refer the student to SIS for advice.

In the case of changing course or mode of study (doctoral students), and / or changes to end dates, the details must be approved by SIS before the change can go ahead.

SIS runs necessary checks (ATAS, time limits, academic progression, required visa application) before the change can be approved.

Where necessary, SIS will invite students to attend an advice session to explain the consequences of changing their circumstances.

It should be noted that UKVI also have a Change of Circumstances form which needs to be differentiated from the University forms to ensure students are aware they must do both.

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In the case of suspense or withdrawal from programme, students will be referred to SIS for standard advice, but the form does not need to be approved by SIS before the change can go ahead. Backdated suspensions are not normally accepted for sponsored students.

SIS reporting on non-enrolment, withdrawal, suspension (including because of lack of engagement with studies), early completion of studies (where the completion is earlier than the course end date listed on the student's most recent CAS) and breach of Student visa conditions may lead to the student's visa being cancelled by UKVI.

SIS also reports a Change in Circumstance when a Sabbatical Officer on a Student visa is recruited. SIS retains contact with them during their time as a Sabbatical Officer.

UKVI Sponsorship Management System (SMS) reporting

As a Student sponsor, the University of Bath is required to report changes to student circumstances to UKVI using the Sponsorship Management System (SMS) within 10 working days of the change. In addition to the above, SIS reports students who have left the University, started a work placement / study year abroad (and any subsequent changes to it), suspended their studies, changed their course and other ad-hoc changes (such as changing immigration category).

SIS runs a weekly report to identify any sponsored students who need to be reported via SMS within the 10-working-day period.

SIS will report visa sponsorship withdrawal following an early completion of studies, academic non-engagement or a period of authorised absence exceeding 60 days, where applicable.

SIS will adhere to the sponsor guidance and will report 'anything that suggests that they are breaking the conditions of their permission to stay in the UK, such as working in breach of their conditions'.

SIS also annually reports international agents (third party recruiters) which the University of Bath has a contract in place with.

SIS will notify UKVI if a student has been granted leave with incorrect conditions of stay (such as incorrect working hours), or if a new Teaching Partnership has been agreed.

SIS also reports all eligible sponsored students on SMS, once successfully completed, to ensure they can apply for the Graduate visa.

5. Visa expiry

The University of Bath has an obligation to ensure that every student has valid permission to study here. The visa expiry procedure is in place to ensure that students with a visa expiry date within 3 months either makes an in-time visa application (which extends the validity of their visa until a new visa is granted) or leaves the UK before the expiry date to avoid becoming an overstayer.

If the student fails to provide evidence that they have applied for their visa in time or fails to provide evidence that they have a different immigration status, SIS will recommend to the Director of Academic Registry that the student is suspended from studies under regulation 3.1. This change will then be reported to UKVI if appropriate.

A similar procedure is followed for passport expiries for sponsored students.

Passport and visa checks are also conducted at the start of semester 2.

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SIS also runs a similar monthly visa expiry procedure for non-sponsored students; however, students apply for their visa independently. Non-sponsored students are also contacted to remind them their passport is expiring; however, they are not chased for the new passport details.

6. Student visa extensions

If a current student needs a Student visa extension, they are asked to request a CAS online.

The CAS number is not released until the student has provided evidence that they are ready to apply. Students complete their visa application online and provide their supporting documents, which SIS checks for them.

SIS offers daily Student visa extension appointments and advice appointments to support students with their application. This service helps mitigate the risk of a visa refusal. These are offered in-person and virtually and are advertised on the SIS webpages.

7. Visa application refusal and rejection

Applicants and students with a visa refusal are asked to provide a copy of the refusal letter. SIS will advise them on how to make a fresh visa application or submit an administrative review.

A new CAS will only be issued once SIS is satisfied that the student is ready to make a successful application. If a second visa application is refused, a third CAS will not normally be issued (unless the refusal is due to our error, in which case a third CAS will be issued the same day).

Following a visa refusal, current students whose visa has expired will be recommended for suspense under regulation 3.1 and must leave the UK to obtain a new visa.

If a Student visa is rejected, a similar procedure is followed. A new CAS may not however be required if it is still valid.

8. Working conditions

In keeping with the sponsor guidance and immigration rules, sponsored students (at degree-level) are only allowed to work up to 20 hours per week during term-time and full time in any one week (Mon to Sun) during 'vacation time' (which can vary according to type and level of study).

To protect students and the University of Bath, a Student / Tier 4 visa worker booking system has been developed with HR for sponsored students working at the University. This is an online tool to help Student visa holders work in accordance with the terms of their visa. Students will only be paid for work completed at the University of Bath if it has been booked in advance on the booking system.

SIS webpages also detail the types of work which sponsored students can and cannot do and what is termed as 'vacation'.

SIS works closely with HR, the Students' Union, and Careers Service to ensure consistent messaging across the institution and with employers.

9. Work placements

Students can undertake a placement on a (full-time) Student visa if the placement does not exceed 50% of the whole duration of the course and is an integral and assessed part of the course. UKVI is notified of a placement on a student's CAS, or through the SMS system if a placement is added to a course later.

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SIS sends a PowerPoint presentation via Moodle to all students due to go on placement / study abroad to inform / remind them of their responsibilities under Student visa, as well as the University's duties as their sponsor. This encourages them to continue to keep up-to-date with changes to current immigration requirements relevant to their situation, engage with their studies / placement and keep updating their contact details / immigration documents when necessary.

Sponsored doctoral students who wish to undertake a placement are required to request an authorised absence. This must be approved by their supervisor who is also required to confirm that the placement is both integral and assessed as part of the doctoral programme if necessary. This procedure is clearly laid out on SIS 'Placements' webpage and on the Doctoral College Placement page.

10. Sites and partnerships

Sponsors are required to notify UKVI of any teaching partnerships with other Higher Education Providers (HEP) and research institutes to which sponsored students (at RQF Level 7 or above) are recruited. Sponsors do not need to notify UKVI of most non-teaching partnership arrangements with other HEPs as students can attend as visiting students under the 'temporary authorised location' rule in the sponsor guidance.

Where teaching takes place in any of the institutions named in a teaching partnership agreement with the University of Bath, each partner institution is added to the University of Bath's Student sponsor licence and the Educational Oversight Body (the Office for Students) is also informed. A CAS will not be issued until the partnership has been approved by UKVI.

Only one institution is required to sponsor the student's visa (usually the lead institution) and must continue to fulfil sponsorship duties throughout the student's studies. Where the University of Bath is the lead HEP, the student will normally by sponsored by the University for their visa and must continue to fulfil the sponsorship duties throughout the student's programme.

SIS will ensure that CASs issued to our sponsored students on teaching partnership programmes mention all partners. This includes for aligned students who are on courses that are aligned with a teaching partnership and can benefit from the teaching offered at other institutions.

The University of Bath also has a range of strategic partnerships with international universities, mostly covered by Memoranda of Understanding (MoU).

Where the University uses a site that is not the main campus in Bath to teach students, the site must be added to the Student sponsor licence before a CAS can be issued.

11. Standard Visitor visa

The Standard Visitor visa allows students to come to the UK if they are aged 16 years or older for a maximum period of 6 months. SIS provides a visa letter to students before their UK visit dates to support their visa application. The letter outlines the study details and other requirements in keeping with the Standard Visitor visa guidance. SIS will not issue a letter unless the dates have been confirmed by the department and an ATAS certificate has been provided where required.

12. Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA)

From 15 November 2023, certain non-visa nationals will require an Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) to come to the UK for up to 6 months to study a course of up to 6 months. An ETA gives permission to travel to the UK and is electronically linked to the individual's passport. British or Irish passport holders, and anyone with permission to live,

work or study in the UK, or on a UK valid visa, will not require an ETA. An ETA is valid for 2 years, or until the passport expires, whichever is the sooner. SIS will notify applicants and students if they require an ETA to ensure they obtain permission to travel.

13. Graduate visa

The Graduate visa is for graduates who want to work or look for work in the UK. Although an unsponsored visa, the University of Bath is required to notify UKVI when a student has successfully completed their course.

SIS is required to confirm to UKVI that a graduate is eligible as follows:
- the student's course is a bachelor's degree / postgraduate degree.
- the student has studied for the relevant period in the UK / arrived in the UK by the relevant date.
- the student has successfully completed their studies for the correct course.

If a student applies before the University has notified UKVI as above, then their visa can be refused. To mitigate against this, SIS emails each eligible student to inform them of the procedure, and again to notify them once we have reported their successful completion to UKVI.

Students who finish their course earlier than the course end date listed on their (most recent) CAS will normally have their Student visa shortened in line with their new course end date. As this can impact on when students may need to apply for the Graduate visa, students in this situation are informed to contact SIS as soon as possible so that they can be advised appropriately.

Students who are required to undertake reassessment may not be able to apply for the Graduate visa if the date of the reassessment falls after their current visa expires. If reassessment falls before the current visa expires, but the results are released after the visa expires, students are advised to contact SIS to discuss whether a Student visa extension may be appropriate.

14. Ensuring University of Bath students are compliant

SIS communicates widely and regularly with all sponsored students (whether on campus or placement / study abroad) to promote compliance. This includes (but is not limited to) webinars, workshops, regular email updates on rule changes and new procedures, dedicated SIS webpages, online courses, regular online announcements posted on the main University of Bath student pages / social media platforms and through other departments and an interactive online training course.

Applicants are also kept up-to-date with relevant immigration updates and advice via the SIS webpages and emails, online induction decks, webinars, electronic agents' newsletters and various visa sections in departmental / faculty handbooks.

SIS offers daily visa advice and Student visa extension service appointments (in-person and virtually) to advise students on maintaining their visa and remaining compliant with their responsibilities.

15. Ensuring University of Bath staff are compliant

SIS communicates widely and regularly with staff across campus to promote compliance. This includes (but is not limited to) staff training sessions, regular email updates on rule changes and new procedures via a dedicated mailing list, dedicated staff SIS webpages, regular online announcements posted on the main University of Bath staff pages and an interactive online training course outlining our sponsor duties.

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Additionally, a UKVI Coordination Group comprising of members from SIS, Admissions and Academic Registry convenes monthly to discuss relevant operational questions and issues.

The University of Bath also has a UKVI Steering Group (comprised of a wide group of stakeholders across the University, including colleagues from professional services, HR, and academics) which meets twice a year to discuss relevant internal and external policy changes.

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