



Student Transfer Plan



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1. Introduction

All providers of Higher Education in England are required to publish student transfer arrangements in accordance with the Higher Education Research Act 2017 and Office for Students Regulatory Framework 2018. A student transfer is defined within Section 38 of the Higher Education and Research Act.

2. Purpose of Plan

The purpose of this Plan is to set out the necessary institutional arrangements that enable a student to transfer in a manner that facilitates the continuation and quality of study for all students whenever a transfer occurs.

The Plan informs the College's staff and students of the principles governing student transfer and ensures compliance with key regulations/policies within the College including, Admissions, Assessment, Fees and Charges, Recognition of Prior Learning, Research, Student Protection Plan and UKVI Tier 4 Compliance.¹

It is the College's aim to ensure that students are able to continue on their current courses wherever possible, where this is not possible the College will facilitate an appropriate transfer.

Student transfer for the purpose of this Plan is defined as:

- a) Transfer to another provider from the College initiated by a student.
- b) Transfer to the College from another provider initiated by a student.
- c) Transfer between courses or modes of study at the College initiated by a student.
- d) Transfer as a result of the initiation of the College's Student Protection Plan.

3. Scope

The Plan applies to all students, including a student wishing to transfer to the College.

4. Plan Statement

4.1 Transfer to another provider from the College

Should the transfer to another provider be initiated by a student the College will:

- a) Confirm any completed credit, level attained or study undertaken as appropriate to facilitate the student to transfer to another provider.² This will

¹ With registration with the OfS the College has reapplied for UKVI Tier 4 Compliance.

² Students must settle any outstanding fees before withdrawal from a programme of study and return any books borrowed from the library. The College reserves the right to take legal action against (former) students who fail to pay their fees and/or to return books. See the Spurgeon College's Fees

be provided through a student transcript or record of progress. Our validated programmes are currently awarded by: the University of Manchester; the University of Wales; and the University of Chester. You can obtain a print out of your current transcript by contacting the registry@spurgeons.ac.uk

b) Use the liability periods, published in paragraph 30-31 of the College's Tuition Fees Policy, to calculate any payments due or to be refunded should a student withdraw from the College to transfer to another provider.

4.2 Transfer to the College from another provider

As a consequence of events at another provider activating a transfer or as a result of a student electing to transfer, the College will consider:

a) The admission of a student on to a similar course in a cognate area or an alternative award, taking into account completed credit, appropriate level of qualifications, level of study and any other previous study, as appropriate. The process will be facilitated through the College's Admissions Policy, and be in accordance with the regulations of the appropriate degree-awarding authority.

b) The admission of a research student to complete their research project, subject to the availability of appropriate supervision. The process will be facilitated through the College's Admissions Policy, and be in accordance with the regulations of the appropriate degree-awarding authority.

4.3 Transfer between courses or mode of study at the College

As a consequence of a student initiating a transfer between courses the College will consider:

a) The transfer or progression of a student between courses. This will be considered by the Progression and Awards Board to ensure that the requirements for progression and awards laid out in the academic regulations of the appropriate degree-awarding authority and relevant programme specifications are complied with.³ This will be facilitated through the internal transfer process detailed in Appendix A.

b) The transfer of a student from a taught to a research course in accordance with the Admissions Policy of the research validating body.

As a consequence of a student requesting to transfer between modes of study on the original enrolment award the College will:

a) Explore the transfer of a student to a different mode of study on a case-by-case basis. The student will be invited to discuss their request with the Director of Undergraduate or Postgraduate Studies as appropriate and their request will be formally considered by the Admissions Committee. This will be facilitated through the internal transfer process detailed in Appendix A.

Policy: https://www.spurgeons.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Policies_Procedures/Tuition-Fees-Policy-Dec-2018.pdf

³ Available at: <https://www.spurgeons.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/Documents/TOR/Progression-and-Awards-Board-Terms-of-Reference-v1.pdf>

4.4 Transfer as a result of the initiation of the College's Student Protection Plan

The College is committed to teaching-out any students studying on courses or modules that are planned for future closure. It is considered highly unlikely that teach-out would not be possible for such students.

In the improbable event that the continuation of study cannot be sustained, the College will support the student in transferring to an alternative provider and/or will, as appropriate, refund or compensate the student. Students who transfer to another institution and who have not completed their programme of study may be eligible for an exit (or intermediate) award. The degree awarding authority will make the award if you are eligible when you leave your programme of study.

5. Refund and Compensation

The College's Tuition Fees Policy contains details of the institution's position on refunds.⁴

6. Advice and Support

In the event of an individual student transfer, academic advice and support will be available via Course Tutors, Pastoral Group Leaders, Research Supervisors, the College Chaplain or the Academic Director.

In the event that the College's Student Protection Plan has been activated, advice and support will be available from Course Tutors, the Principal and Heads of Departments. If an appointment is necessary, you can make an appointment by emailing the appropriate member of staff (email addresses are available via the College website). The College will communicate with students in an open and transparent manner.

7. Contacts

Further information regarding the student transfer processes can be obtained as follows:

- a) For transfer from the College to another provider, please contact the Director of Admissions: l.campbell@spurgeons.ac.uk
- b) For transfer between courses or mode of study at the College, please contact the Senior Registrar: registry@spurgeons.ac.uk

⁴ Available at: https://www.spurgeons.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/Documents/Policies_Procedures/Tuition-Fees-Policy-Dec-2018.pdf

Appendix A - Internal Transfer Process for Taught Awards

General	<p>1. A student has the right to request an internal transfer, and all transfer requests will be considered according to the principles set out in this Plan. A student does not have an automatic right to transfer from one course or mode to another.</p> <p>2. Internal transfers are a subset of admissions. Since students are effectively applying for a place on a new course, they must meet the admissions criteria of the course for which they are applying (including e.g. DBS checks), and be formally accepted onto the new course.</p>
Finance	<p>3. A transfer of course may have an impact on funding or tuition fees. It is the student's responsibility to seek advice from the Director of Admissions, in order to make an informed choice, and this must be confirmed on the transfer form.</p>
Tier 4 Sponsored Students	<p>4. Only some Tier 4 sponsored students are permitted by UKVI to change from the course they are currently studying, and for which their Confirmation of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) was assigned, to an alternative course without first completing their current course. In order to comply with the relevant United Kingdom legislation and immigration regulations, the College will notify the immigration authorities, where relevant, of any subsequent changes to a student's registration status.⁵ The ability to change course is dependent on each individual student's conditions of leave, which differ according to the date on which a student applied for that leave. Further details can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration</p>
Process	<p>5. It is a student's responsibility to approach the Director of Admissions or the Senior Registrar as appropriate (see p. 5) in the first instance to discuss a transfer.</p> <p>6. Students seeking to transfer should provide all relevant information required by the new course in order to evidence that they meet the admissions criteria.</p> <p>7. Approval for the transfer will be sought from the Progression and Awards Board or Admissions Committee as appropriate. Decisions will be made in line with the College's Admissions Policy and the academic regulations in force at the time. The College may also consider any potential financial considerations pertinent to the decision.</p> <p>8. If the student wishing to transfer does not meet the admissions criteria, the College has the right to decline the request.</p> <p>9. If a transfer is approved for the end of the academic year, the</p>

⁵ See footnote 1.

	<p>credits (not grades) from the original course will be recorded on the student's new course record in line with the Progression and Awards Board Terms of Reference. Grades achieved whilst enrolled on the new course will be used to calculate the final award outcome, in line with the relevant Assessment Regulations.</p>
<p>Guidance for Decision Making</p>	<p>10. An in-year transfer must be completed and approved within two weeks of the start date of the course unless the modules for the current course are equivalent those for the new course, and no change in module selection is required.⁶</p> <p>11. An end of the academic year transfer may be considered, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The student continues to attend their original course, attempts any associated assessments and is in a position to progress from the original course under the degree-awarding authority's academic regulations for taught awards. ii. The College is satisfied that the learning outcomes from the original course/mode of study provide an adequate foundation for pursuing the new course, as per the degree-awarding authority's academic regulations for taught awards. <p>12. Students who have exhausted all opportunities to retrieve failure and whose study has been discontinued by a Progression and Awards Board, may be considered for transfer onto an alternative award subject to the degree-awarding authority's academic regulations for taught awards. Attention should be paid to a student's record of engagement/attendance, in the absence of any extenuating circumstances, when reaching a decision.</p> <p>13. Where a course/mode of study transfer takes place that requires a student to repeat a Level, the following should be noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Any modules undertaken on the original award must not be repeated on the new award, in line with the relevant academic regulations for taught awards. ii. If the transfer occurs mid-year the student may choose to complete the year or interrupt their studies for the remainder of the academic year. <p>14. The degree-awarding authority's academic regulations in force at the time will dictate the minimum number of credits a student must gain on the new course. For example, it would normally be expected that a student who transfers to a different course in the middle of a standard 360-credit undergraduate degree should complete at least half of the credits (180) on the new course.</p>

⁶ The College would expect that in-year transfers, initiated within two weeks of the start date of the course, would be done in exceptional circumstances only.