

5.3 Progression and transfer

There are procedures and criteria related to student progression and transfer. These include:

- procedures for systematic formal assessment of progress which involve supervisory teams; ensure objectivity and/or competence through the involvement of independent experts; and allow for extra assessment if requested by supervisors or students

- procedures setting out that final decisions related to student progression are made by appropriate bodies in the provider in accord with the regulations of the provider
- protocols for student transfer from another provider where research has already commenced
- formal processes to manage the progression of students to a higher research degree register, which involve independent expert review and defined criteria
- procedures to deal with matters that impact on the duration of student projects, including:
 - arrangements for maternity, paternity and adoptive and parental leave
 - students transferring from part-time to full-time study or vice versa
 - arrangements for suspension of study
- procedures for transfer between and exit from research degree programmes
- adequate opportunities for all relevant students to become aware of these procedures
- procedures to record all such decisions and retain relevant documents

Procedures are in place to allow decisions on progression and transfer to be reviewed or appealed. This procedure involves appropriate objective expertise and allows for decisions to change arrangements with respect to supervision.