

TIMELINES FOR PROGRAMME APPROVAL AND VALIDATION

General principle: programmes complete validation nine months before delivery starts, to allow operational set up. A stage 2 is being introduced into the validation process that allows operational teams to gather the requisite information from programme teams and then complete set-up.

Recruitment principle: Inclusion in the prospectus allows programmes to get the best recruitment start possible. Timely approval of business cases allows programmes to receive a full cycle of recruitment before entry to give them the best chance of recruiting optimal numbers. Programmes can also be advertised for the longest amount of time possible without a 'subject to approval' caveat.

Where programmes have non-standard entry points (e.g. January starts), the first start of a programme is a minimum of nine months after validation.

SPC = Strategic Portfolio Plan

FBC – Full Business Case

Undergraduate and Postgraduate approval timelines

2024-25 entry

School Portfolio Plans to be approved by SPC

Latest approval from SPC for new programme FBC for 2024 entry is January 2023

CVRs for re-validated programmes July 2023; FBC where required September 2023

Undergraduate prospectus sign off – January 2023

Validation process for new programmes between September 2022 and April 2023 or September 2023 and December 2023

Validation process for re-validated programmes between September 2023 and May 2024

Delivery begins September 2024

2025-26 entry

School Portfolio Plans to be approved by SPC

Latest approval from SPC for new programme FBC for 2025 entry is January 2024

CVRs for re-validated programmes May 2024; FBC where required September 2024

Undergraduate prospectus sign off – January 2024

Validation process for new programmes between September 2023 and April 2024 or September 2024 and December 2024

Validation process for re-validated programmes between September 2024 and May 2025

Delivery begins September 2025

2026-27 entry

School Portfolio Plans to be approved by SPC

Latest approval from SPC for new programme FBC for 2026 entry is January 2025

CVRs for re-validated programmes May 2025; FBC where required September 2025

Undergraduate prospectus sign off – January 2025

Validation process between September 2024 and April 2025 or September 2025 and December 2025

Validation process for re-validated programmes between September 2025 and May 2026

Delivery begins September 2026