

RATIONALE

Over 1 in 3 postgraduate researchers report dissatisfaction with their research culture (AdvanceHE 2019).

Positive academic & social integration can help achieve maximum benefits during research degrees (Lovitts 2001).

Endeavouring to enhance student experience.

RESEARCH AIM

Explore ways higher education institutions can actively create positive and cohesive research cultures for postgraduate researchers in their institution.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES



1. Explore what **positive research culture** means to postgraduate researchers.
2. Understand the **influencing factors** that contribute to a positive or negative research culture experience for postgraduate researchers.



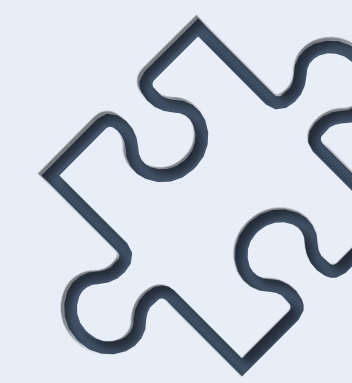
3. Design and **implement changes or initiatives** aimed at positively increasing postgraduate researchers' experience of the research culture.
4. **Evaluate the impact** of the implemented changes or initiatives on both the research culture, and the perception of the research culture.

RESEARCH METHODS

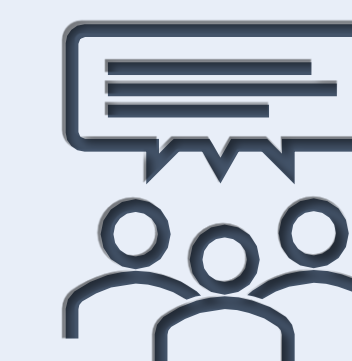
PHASE 1



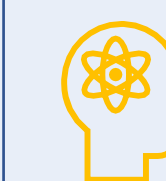
Online Survey
Explore research culture meaning.



Survey Themes
Theme via recursive abstraction (Polkinghorne and Arnold 2014).



Focus Groups
Understand influencing factors.



Interpretivist paradigm.



Pending research ethics approval.

REFERENCES

- AdvanceHE, 2019. Postgraduate Research Experience Survey [online]. York: AdvanceHE.
- Lovitts, B. E., 2001. *Leaving the ivory tower. The causes and consequences of departure from doctoral study* [online]. Maryland, Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc.
- Polkinghorne, M. and Arnold, A., 2014. *A Six Step Guide to Using Recursive Abstraction Applied to the Qualitative Analysis of Interview Data*. Discussion Paper. Poole, England: Bournemouth University.

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