



QAA membership

Helping you put quality into practice

QAA membership: helping you put quality into practice

QAA membership gives you the expert guidance, resources, professional development and networking opportunities your institution needs to enhance quality, uphold academic standards and improve the student learning experience.

Through events, funded projects and practical opportunities to learn with others, we help you meet regulatory requirements, respond confidently to sector change and support your teams to embed effective, consistent quality practice.

Our international packages also give you access to new collaborations, partnerships, training and opportunities to strengthen your global profile.



Delivering impact across your whole institution

As a member, you gain access to exclusive events, collaborative projects and ready-to-use resources that help you anticipate challenges and demonstrate your commitment to quality.

Tackling key sector challenges together

By joining us, you become part of a collective voice that informs key decisions and drives the quality agenda forward. We work actively with governments, sector agencies and other influential bodies to shape policy and practice and keep quality considerations at the forefront of new and evolving initiatives.

Your membership has real sector-wide impact, funding collaborative projects and resources that drive innovation and solve common challenges around topics such as AI, sustainability and employability. Your institution benefits – and so does the wider sector.

QAA's support translates into clear benefits across your institution:

- **Insight that strengthens your strategy** – helping you make informed decisions and plan with confidence.
- **Tools that make quality work easier** – reducing duplication and freeing capacity across your teams.
- **Efficiency that reduces risk** – enabling rapid understanding of new developments without reinventing solutions.
- **A community that accelerates your progress** – giving you access to peers who are solving the same challenges.
- **Influence that shapes the sector** – creating ways for you to shape work that defines what good looks like across the sector.



What's new in 2026–27

In 2026–27, membership gives you a strengthened, future-focused offer built around five major themes affecting UK and global higher education.

These themes are shaped by what members have said they value most, and by the wider trends and pressures we see across the sector – ensuring support is focused where it will make the greatest difference.

One

Curriculum redesign

helping you rethink programme architecture, inclusive and flexible design, and the integration of industry and future skills to deliver coherent, future-ready curriculums for students.

Two

Strengthening partnership oversight

equipping you to build strong governance and accountability, develop partnership capability and pedagogy, and manage academic and reputational risk with confidence.

Three

Responding to emerging policy and regulatory change

giving you timely intelligence and practical support to prepare for TEF, meet evolving regulatory expectations and respond to lifelong learning priorities.

Four

Future-proofing assessment

enabling you to design authentic, inclusive and AI-aware assessment that balances innovation with academic integrity and maintains confidence in standards.

Five

Transforming quality processes

supporting you to protect academic standards, streamline quality arrangements and strengthen data-informed decision-making across your institution.

Your membership is about to get even better

You told us you want timely answers, usable guidance and a louder voice for quality.

This year, membership gives you sharper intelligence, more influence and practical support you can put to work immediately.



More communities, more connection – through new topic-focused peer groups and networking communities.



A strengthened Membership Resources area – a redesigned, easier-to-navigate 'My QAA' digital library is on the way, built around your feedback.



Improved Quality Academy – a scalable professional development pathway designed for everyone involved in quality.



Global Insights – our refreshed package equips you with clear, timely intelligence and practical guidance to strengthen your international activities, manage risks, and enhance both strategy and operations.



Boost your membership with the UK TNE Quality Scheme – developed with the sector and supported by DfE and sector bodies across the UK, the scheme provides practical support to enhance the quality of your transnational education partnerships.

Find out more about the range of member benefits and opportunities you'll have access to in 2026–27:

England



Nations



International




Beyond compliance: building capability that lasts

QAA helps your staff develop the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to respond to sector challenges and strengthen quality for the future. At a time of rapid change and increasing pressure on staff and systems, we help you move beyond compliance to resilience and long-term capability.



Training and CPD that meets real needs
Our expert-led programmes, networks and events give your teams practical guidance they can use immediately. You gain access to targeted development that closes skills gaps and supports consistent, confident quality practice.

A structured development pathway for your staff
Membership offers a progressive pathway of **expert-led programmes** that take you from practical skills to deep expertise. Designed for every level and embedded in real work, they build confidence in managing academic quality, standards, and international and transnational education partnerships, without adding to your workload.

 **The Quality Lab** – focused workshops that help your teams increase knowledge and understanding of effective quality practice.

 **The Quality Academy** – intensive two-week learning programmes for quality professionals, academics and professional services colleagues seeking deeper expertise.

International members benefit from flexible, on-demand formats that can be accessed anywhere.

25+
hours of CPD per staff member available with QAA membership

Employer spending on training has dropped by 27% over the past decade, limiting opportunities for staff development. QAA membership reverses that trend – delivering structured, expert-led CPD that strengthens institutional quality.

Events that connect you to sector thinking

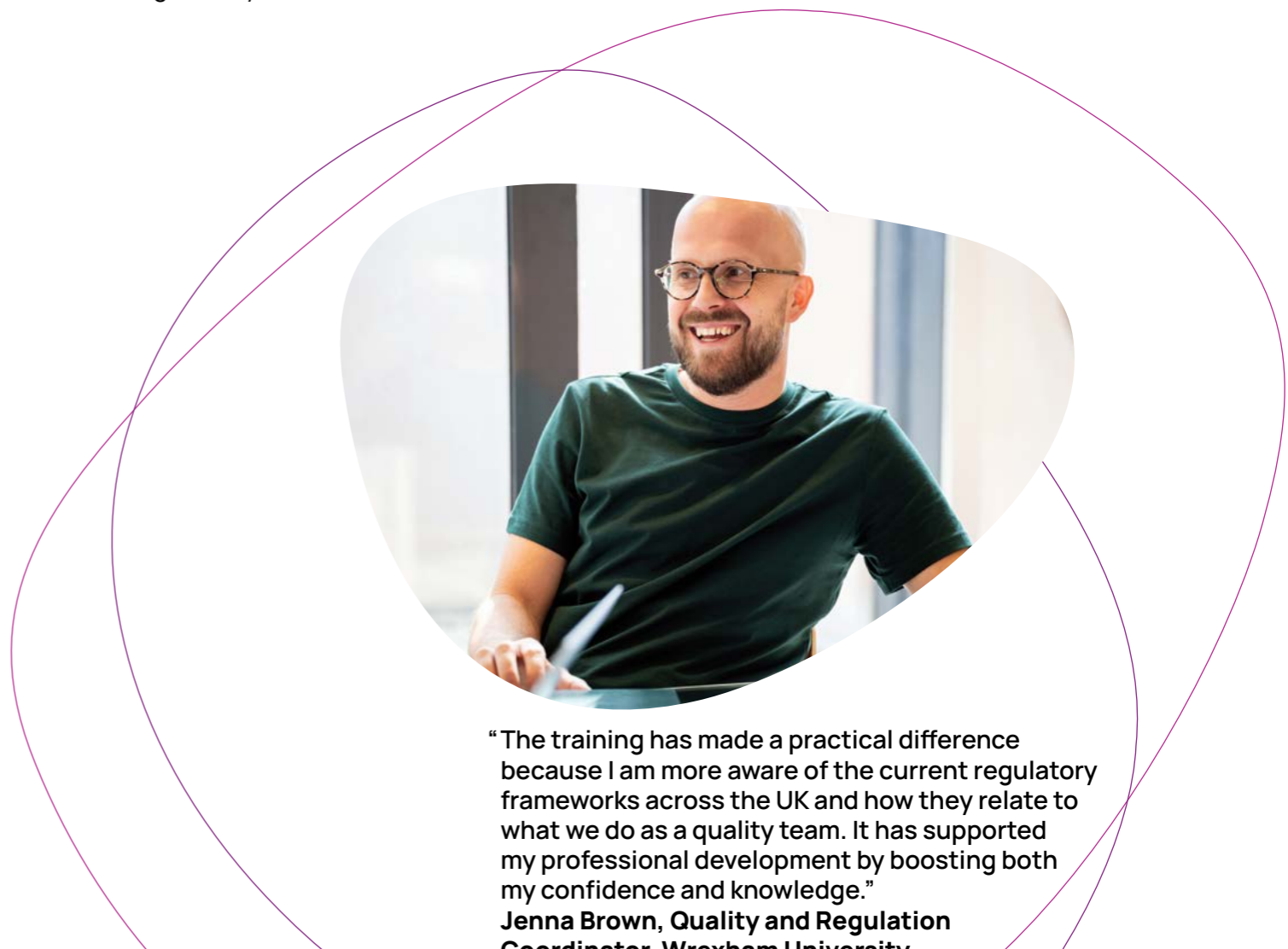
Our programme includes Curious Conversations for fresh perspectives and rapid insight into emerging issues, and Forum for Thought for reflective exploration of major themes – from TNE strategy to quality risks, governance challenges and regulatory change.

A year of building capacity
This membership year, we’ve already welcomed over 4,000 delegates from more than 270 higher education providers globally and are on track to deliver even more learning activity than in 2024–25.

Training tailored for transnational education

As part of the new **UK TNE Quality Scheme**, professional development sessions will cover topics including:

- due diligence and risk management
- reviewing, developing and exiting a partnership
- governance.



Learning through dialogue: creating connection across the sector

QAA membership helps you connect with peers who face the same challenges, giving you the space to test ideas, access insight and solve problems together. In a sector shaped by rapid change and complexity, trusted relationships help you respond faster and act with confidence.

How we help you build connection and community

Our **networking communities** and **topic-focused peer groups** connect your colleagues with peers across the UK and internationally. These are safe, constructive spaces where you can share approaches, compare solutions and work collaboratively on emerging issues.

Our **networking communities** include:

- Executive Leaders (Education, Teaching and Learning)
- Programme Leaders Network
- College HE
- Specialist and Independent Providers
- Student Engagement
- Wales Quality Network



“The value I get from the network is having a trusted space to test my thinking with peers facing similar challenges. Being able to explore ideas without fear of judgement, and build on each other’s experience and feedback, has been invaluable to me.”

Professor John Murray, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning), University of Huddersfield

Global Insights

Global Insights offers a wider package of international intelligence and support. As a member, you’ll also gain access to three additional international networks, strengthening opportunities for dialogue and collaboration:

- Global quality and partnerships
- Global experience and mobility
- Executive leaders (international).

Events that strengthen connection

Alongside our networks, you can access online and in-person flagship events and rapid-response sessions that bring the sector together to make sense of emerging issues and share practical approaches.

Our flagship conferences convene senior leaders, quality professionals and sector experts to examine major developments and future priorities.

Throughout the year, our virtual roadshows, sector spotlight opportunities and webinars provide accessible opportunities to learn from peers facing similar issues. Together, these activities create a dynamic, engaged community that promotes learning from one another and moves forward collectively.

New topic-focused peer groups

Launching in 2026-27, these groups will create targeted spaces for deeper collaboration on shared challenges.

Depending on purpose, they will either take the form of short-term task and finish projects or longer-term communities of practice – but all will support meaningful, peer-led engagement.



“What I value most about QAA’s support is its ability to create the conditions for collaboration, reflection, and enhancement across the sector. QAA support has contributed to how I think about curriculum design, student engagement, work-based learning, and the role of higher education in addressing complex social and economic challenges.”

Dr Fredrick Agboma, Senior Lecturer in Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, Liverpool John Moores University

Trusted, expert resources: supporting better, faster decision-making

QAA helps you use expertise and resource more effectively, saving you time. Our practical tools, clear guidance and timely insight reduce duplication for your teams, streamline effective quality processes and give you the confidence to act quickly when the sector shifts.

International access

Global Insights members gain access to additional international intelligence, events and professional development opportunities that support consistent decision-making across borders, covering topics such as:

- International strategy
- Quality processes in global multi-campus institutions
- Internationalisation of the curriculum
- International student voice and support.

“QAA’s guidance on generative AI enabled us to update ethics regulations and set clear expectations quickly, avoiding the need to develop policies from scratch and creating consistency across departments.”
Manjola Hoxa, Vice Rector for Quality and Inclusion, Polis University



How we help you drive efficiency

Resources that embed effective quality practice

Our practical tools and resources reduce the administrative load on your teams. And, through clear guidance and support, we help you simplify quality processes so your teams can work more efficiently and consistently.

Publications that translate sector thinking into action

Our regular publications for quality teams and practitioners bridge the gap between sector-level thinking and day-to-day practice. They offer clear, evidence-based approaches that help you respond to priorities without reinventing solutions.

Driving improvement through collaboration

As a member, you can apply for **Collaborative Enhancement Project** (CEP) funding to work with other institutions and organisations on shared priorities.

These projects pool expertise, reduce duplication and generate practical tools and research that benefit the sector.

Since 2021, the programme has invested over £827,000 in 91 projects across 147 institutions and sector organisations. Projects have produced ready-to-use resources on AI, student voice, employability, and more.



“I use QAA resources to guide our daily work, from writing policies to shaping procedures and regulations. They inform the operating manuals we’re developing for collaborative partners and support our student partnership work. The visuals give an immediate overview of key considerations, saving time and providing a strong foundation for deeper engagement.”
Dawn Martin, Head of Governance and Quality Enhancement, Queen Margaret University

Improving NSS scores

Through a QAA-funded CEP, De Montfort University developed shared research, tools and best practice examples from **its move to block delivery** that helped teams redesign programmes in weeks and streamline approvals. DMU’s block delivery project saw a measurable improvement in the university’s NSS scores, with particularly strong gains in Teaching on my Course (+11.6%) and Learning Opportunities (+6.6%).



Shaping the future of higher education: championing quality

QAA champions high-quality learning and teaching by influencing how quality is understood, governed and supported across the sector.

We promote clarity and coherence across the quality system so you can navigate change confidently and focus time where it matters most: improving outcomes for your students.

Influencing a clearer, more coherent quality system


We represent the principles of effective quality assurance in national and international discussions. Working with governments, regulators, sector bodies and PSRBs, we promote clearer, better-aligned expectations to reduce duplication and create a more coherent, proportionate system. Our policy insights and horizon-scanning briefings give you early visibility of what's changing and what that means for your institution.

A recognised symbol of standards and trust

Membership also includes the right to use the QAA badge, demonstrating your institution's commitment to protecting academic standards and aligning with internationally respected expectations – reinforcing credibility with students, partners and regulators.

Strengthening understanding of quality across your institution

QAA strengthens how quality is understood at your institution by providing clear reference points, frameworks and guidance. These help teams build a consistent internal interpretation of academic standards and demonstrate how quality underpins effective learning and teaching. We clarify expectations and highlight effective practice, enabling you to embed approaches that reflect your institution's culture and priorities.



“QAA membership means being part of a community dedicated to continuous improvement in higher education, where we can all learn from best practices and contribute to raising standards across the sector.”
Dr Craig Ruddock, Director of Quality and Curriculum, Goldsmiths, University of London

Shaping sector reference points and strengthening standards

QAA plays a leading role in maintaining the sector-owned quality architecture used across the UK and internationally.

From the UK Quality Code to credit frameworks, our work brings coherence across systems, giving you clearer expectations to work with and a stronger foundation for decision-making.

A global community of more than 60,000 higher education professionals contributes to this collective effort, demonstrating a shared commitment to protecting academic standards and strengthening quality worldwide.

Since 2022, we have published 54 revised Subject Benchmark Statements and, by summer 2026, we will have published Advice and Guidance on all 12 Principles of the UK Quality Code. These have been directly shaped by members through our reading and writing groups. Members will have exclusive access to workshops on applying this guidance proportionately and effectively.

Through QAA, your teams are part of a trusted community shaping the frameworks, expectations and reference points that underpin high-quality provision.



Membership in action

QAA's support translates directly into benefits across your institution.



Insights that clarify what's changing for you and why it matters

Through briefings, analysis and topic-led discussions, QAA helps members understand how regulatory and policy developments affect quality and academic standards, offering clear, actionable insight.



Opportunities for you to shape sector reference points

Members help develop and review core sector reference points – such as Subject Benchmark Statements and the UK Quality Code – ensuring these frameworks reflect diverse contexts while maintaining consistency and trust across the sector.



Thought leadership that advances your quality practice

QAA brings the sector together to explore emerging issues including AI, academic integrity, student engagement, and evolving regulatory approaches. These conversations support collective sense-making and help shape shared approaches to future challenges.



“QAA membership ensures we have a meaningful voice in the sector. Through participation in QAA working groups and by hosting sector-wide discussions, we're able to both learn from peers and contribute to shaping national guidance. In a rapidly evolving landscape, that blend of structure, insight, and collaboration genuinely strengthens our work and supports confident decision-making.”
Carly Rees, Quality and Academic Services Manager, University of South Wales

A complete approach to strengthening your international activity

In addition to core membership, you can access two packages designed to strengthen your international activity.

Together, they support your strategic direction, day-to-day delivery and long-term global ambitions.

Global Insights

Holistic support for navigating and thriving in an evolving international landscape

Global Insights gives you clarity and confidence in a fast-changing global environment. It spans key international themes – including international strategy, student mobility, internationalisation of the curriculum, and international student support – and provides wide-angle country reports and global policy insight to help you understand the broader international landscape. You'll also gain access to networking communities and a new sector-leading Global Insights conference, connecting you with peers and strengthening strategic decision-making, operational effectiveness and global engagement.

UK TNE Quality Scheme

Dedicated, sector-led and practical support for delivering confident, high-quality transnational education

The UK TNE Quality Scheme focuses specifically on transnational education, drawing on live TNE partnerships and arrangements, to provide sector-led peer learning alongside tailored QAA training and guidance. Its thematic insights and country-specific regulation digests give you targeted intelligence to navigate diverse international contexts, supporting high-quality, sustainable TNE delivery. The annual in-person TNE In Practice Symposium provides space for discussion and networking, as well as practical sessions giving attendees actionable takeaways to apply to their own TNE activities.

Two complementary offers, one joined-up approach

Global Insights and the UK TNE Quality Scheme give you the international support you need – one broad and strategic, the other focused and practical – both designed to strengthen your global impact.

The Department for Education England supports QAA's UK TNE Quality Scheme as a way to strengthen the quality of transnational education delivered by English providers, reflecting the priorities of the UK government's International Education Strategy. It encourages higher education providers in England involved in TNE to engage with the scheme.



Join QAA membership for 2026–27

Being a QAA member unlocks continued access to our unparalleled support, intelligence and resources – helping your institution excel and innovate in a dynamic higher and tertiary education environment.

You can also enhance your engagement through [Global Insights](#), our international intelligence offer, and the [UK TNE Quality Scheme](#), which supports high-quality transnational education delivery.

Contact us

For UK membership and the UK TNE Quality Scheme:
UKservices@qaa.ac.uk

For international membership:
internationalmembership@qaa.ac.uk

© The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education 2026

Registered charity numbers 1062746 and SC037786

www.qaa.ac.uk

