

## OVERVIEW

### 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE HANDBOOK

This Collaborations Handbook sets out the University of Buckingham's policies and procedures in relation to collaborative partnerships for programmes. The main collaborative partnerships are described and there is information relating to staff and students. The handbook is designed for all who have a connection with the process: Programme Leaders who are planning new collaborative provision; Academic Link Tutors who act as the academic link between the partner institution and the University; External Examiners who play a key role in assuring the University about academic standards; those who are involved in periodic revalidation of collaborative partnerships and programmes delivered in those partner institutions; staff and students in the partner institutions; and anyone else who has an interest in the way in which the University assures itself of the quality and standards of its collaborative provision. In summary, the principal aim is to make explicit the responsibilities of the University of Buckingham and its partner institutions for the management and assurance of the academic quality and standards of academic awards conferred by the University.

Many of the processes, especially concerning approval, validation and monitoring of programmes, are the same whether the programmes are delivered at the University, partner institution, or both - but are nevertheless described here for the sake of clarity, with some additional guidance relating specifically to partner institutions.