

Graduate School's Policy Statement: Supporting Students Who Care for Others

The Graduate School wishes to support postgraduate students who care for others. This may be students who are parents, or who become pregnant during their academic programme, and/or those who have other caring responsibilities. It is recognised that a large proportion of students who care for others are part-time students.

The School acknowledges the support provided by College to students who care for others: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/student-support-zone/advice/being-a-parent-or-carer/> and the College's policy on children on campus - <http://www.imperial.ac.uk/safety/safety-by-topic/children-and-young-persons-on-campus/>.

In order to improve the overall accessibility of the professional development opportunities delivered by the Graduate School, and thereby better support students who care for others, the Graduate School will ensure that by October 2020:

- Individual workshops are scheduled at different times during the day and on different days of the week;
- Lunch-time webinars are scheduled;
- Each programme has a range of workshop delivery methods, including face-to-face and webinar offerings;
- Each workshop has resources which complement the workshop, and which can be accessed at any time via the programme's Blackboard module. It should be noted that course resources do not constitute attendance at a workshop and therefore do not carry credit.

The Graduate School is also very happy to deliver courses at other campuses, even to small groups of students (where the subject is suitable, for some courses a larger group is needed e.g. teams, networking and negotiation). Departments can arrange this through our cohort booking system (insert link).

For students facing emergency childcare or other caring responsibilities, or those students who, for whatever reason, struggle to travel into the main College campuses, the following options are available.

1. Students who are struggling to access courses or who have missed a course due to a caring emergency will have priority booking for a future course. Students should contact the Graduate School to arrange this: graduate.school@imperial.ac.uk
2. Subject to tutor availability, it may be possible to arrange a 1-2-1 with students to cover the content of a Graduate School workshop. The 1-2-1 support can also be delivered via Skype. Students wishing to explore this option should contact the Programme Leader in the first instance. 1-2-1 workshop sessions will be accredited. The tutor delivering the session will confirm this with the Postgraduate Professional Development Coordinator: k.hayes@imperial.ac.uk
3. Students facing emergency childcare or other caring responsibilities will not incur a cancellation charge from the Graduate School.