

Office for
Students

The logo for the Office for Students, featuring a dark blue square with a yellow square in the top right corner containing the letters 'OfS' in dark blue.

OfS

TEF consultation

Graeme Rosenberg
Head of TEF and Skills

Richard Smith
Head of TEF

03 February 2022

Follow us on Twitter at
[@officestudents](https://twitter.com/officestudents)

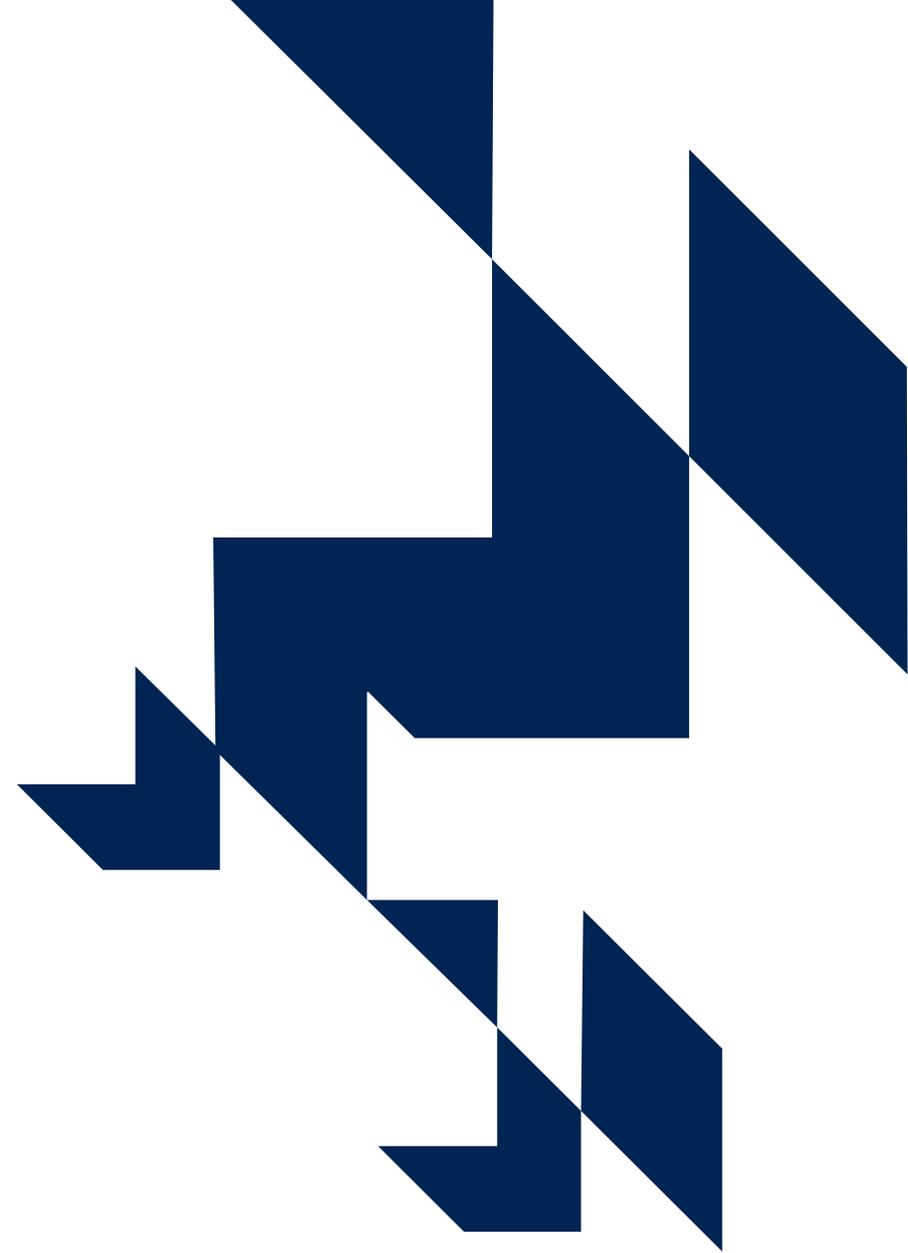
Welcome

- Your opportunity to ask questions about the TEF consultation
- What we will cover:
 - Background and purpose of the TEF
 - Proposals:
 - Framework
 - Scope
 - Evidence
 - Assessment
 - Outcomes and implementation

Other events

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 9
February | Consultation on the Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF). |
| Thursday 10
February | Consultation on a new approach to regulating student outcomes |
| Thursday 17
February | Consultation on constructing student outcome and experience indicators for use in OfS regulation |
| Various dates | TEF student workshops |

Background and purpose of the TEF



The purpose of the TEF

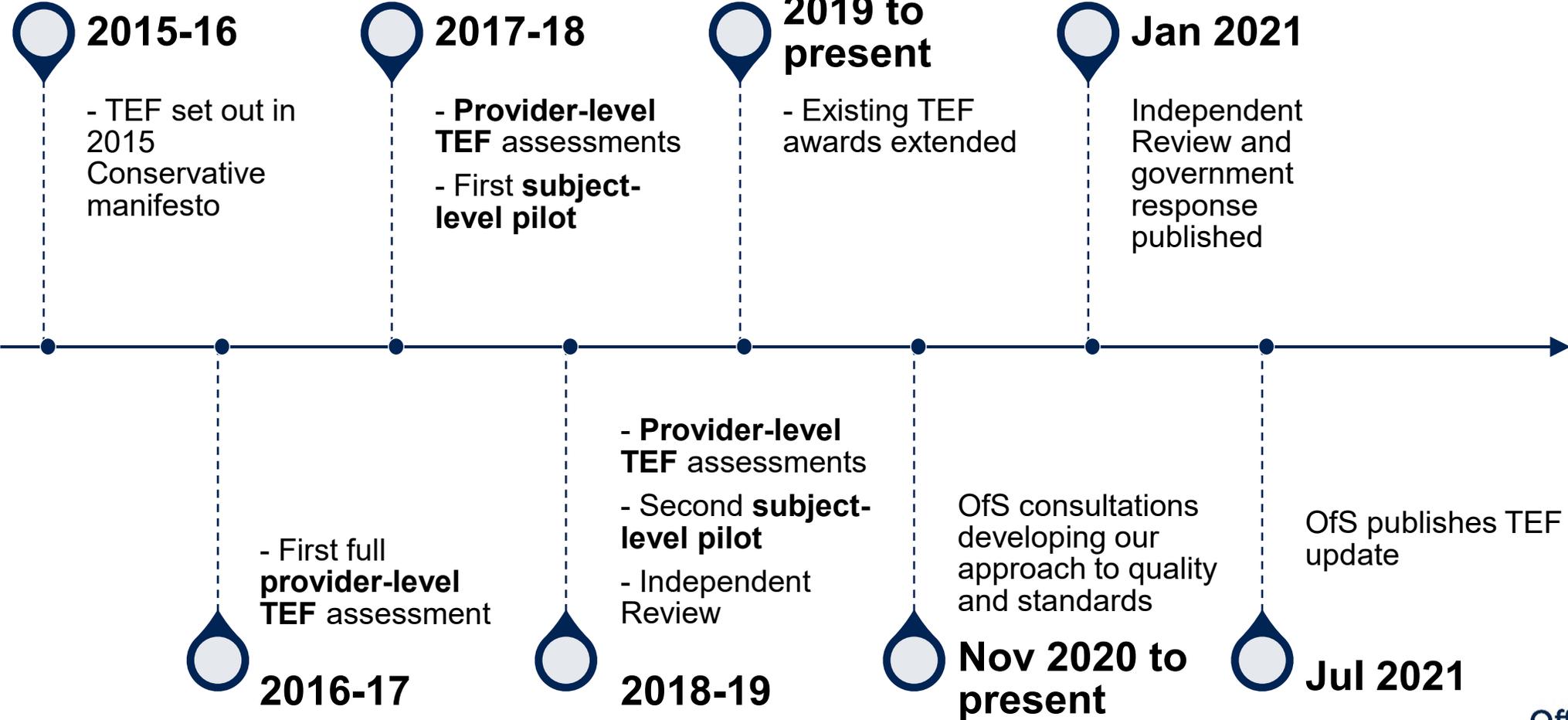
The TEF should incentivise

- excellence in teaching, learning and student outcomes.
- a provider to improve and to deliver excellence above our minimum baseline quality requirements, for its mix of students and courses.

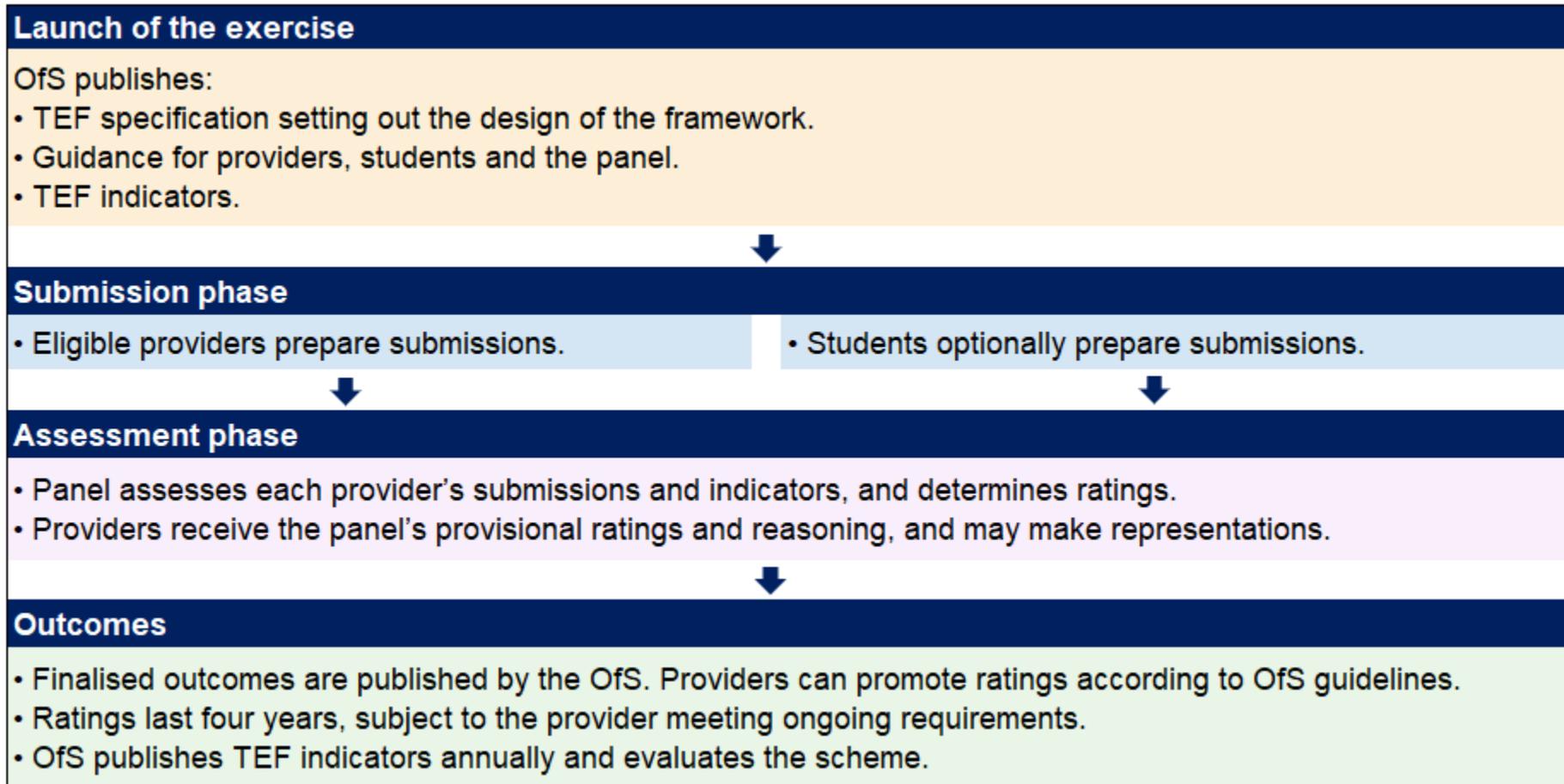
TEF ratings would create this incentive by putting a spotlight on the quality of providers' courses, influencing providers' reputations and informing student choice.



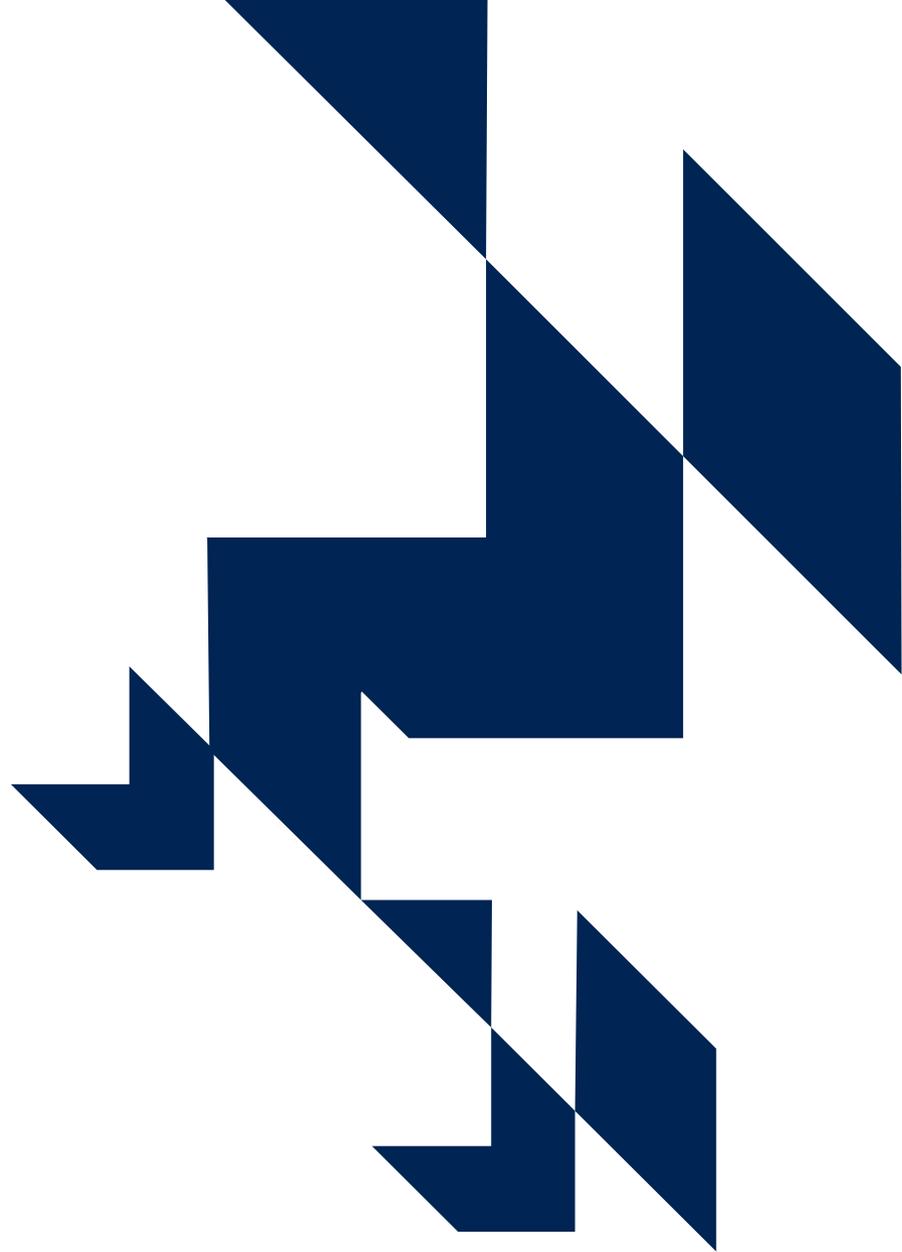
TEF timeline



Summary of how the proposed TEF would work



Proposals



Framework

- **Proposal 1 – Provider-level, periodic ratings**

An overall rating should be awarded to a provider reflecting the quality of its undergraduate courses, and these ratings should last for four years.

- **Proposal 2 – Aspects and features of assessment**

Two aspects should be assessed and rated: the student experience and student outcomes. The criteria for determining ratings should be based on the extent to which very high quality and outstanding quality features are demonstrated for each of these aspects.

- **Proposal 3 – Rating scheme**

There should be three rating categories – Gold, Silver and Bronze – signifying degrees of excellence above our baseline quality requirements.

- **Proposal 4 – Absence of excellence**

Where there is an absence of excellence, no rating should be awarded and the published outcome should signal that improvement is required. This outcome for a provider should be considered as part of our general monitoring of quality and standards.

Proposed TEF aspects and how they would relate to baseline conditions

TEF aspect	Student experience		Student outcomes		(Not assessed in TEF)
What the aspect covers	Academic experience and assessment	Resources, support and student engagement	Positive outcomes	Educational gains	
Evidence sources	Provider submission Student submission OfS indicators based on NSS		Provider submission Student submission OfS outcomes indicators		

Proposed ongoing quality and standards conditions	B1: Academic experience B4: Assessment and awards	B2: Resources, support and student engagement	B3: Student outcomes	B5: Secure standards
---	--	---	----------------------	----------------------

Proposed categories

TEF panel decisions	Gold	The student experience and outcomes are typically outstanding.
	Silver	The student experience and outcomes are typically very high quality, and there may be some outstanding features.
	Bronze	The student experience and outcomes are typically high quality, and there are some very high quality features.
	Requires improvement	The provider was assessed in TEF and no rating was awarded. Improvement is required for a TEF rating.
Regulatory decisions about compliance	Breach of minimum requirements	The provider has not met minimum requirements and the OfS may have imposed requirements for improvement in specific areas and/or suspended the provider's TEF rating.

Scope

- **Proposal 5 – Provider eligibility**

To be eligible to participate in the TEF, and to retain a rating once awarded, a provider must satisfy baseline quality and standards requirements.

- **Proposal 6 – Courses in scope**

All of a provider's undergraduate courses, and the students on those courses, should be within the scope of a TEF assessment.

Courses in scope

- All undergraduate courses:
 - Any HE course at UG level (whether or not it is eligible for OfS funding), and with any volume of learning, that leads to a qualification
 - All UG taught students registered with the provider or taught by the provider (including UK and international students being taught within the UK).
- Excludes UG courses that are ‘postgraduate in time’
- International students are in scope but there is limited coverage in the TEF indicators.
- Some courses are not covered in TEF indicators at all: it is optional for a provider to cover these in their submissions.

Evidence

- **Proposal 7 – Provider submissions**

Participating providers should submit evidence of excellence in relation to the experience and outcomes of their students.

- **Proposal 8 – Student submissions**

Students should be encouraged to submit their views on the quality of their experience and outcomes.

- **Proposal 9 – Indicators**

The OfS should produce numerical indicators based on the National Student Survey (NSS) responses; and student outcomes indicators defined consistently with the indicators proposed for the regulation of student outcomes through condition B3. For TEF purposes, the OfS would indicate a provider's performance in relation to its benchmark.

Indicators

Student experience measures		
NSS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The teaching on my course• Assessment and feedback• Academic support• Learning resources• Student voice	% 'Strongly agree' and 'Agree' responses

Student outcomes measures	
Continuation	% students continuing in the study of a higher education qualification (or have gained a qualification)
Completion	% students that complete a higher education qualification. Consulting on two possible measures of completion outcomes
Progression	% students progressing to managerial or professional employment, or further study

Split indicators

Time series

Level of undergraduate study

Subject

Student characteristics

Course type

Partnership arrangements

One of:

Age

Domicile

Disability

Free school meals

Ethnicity

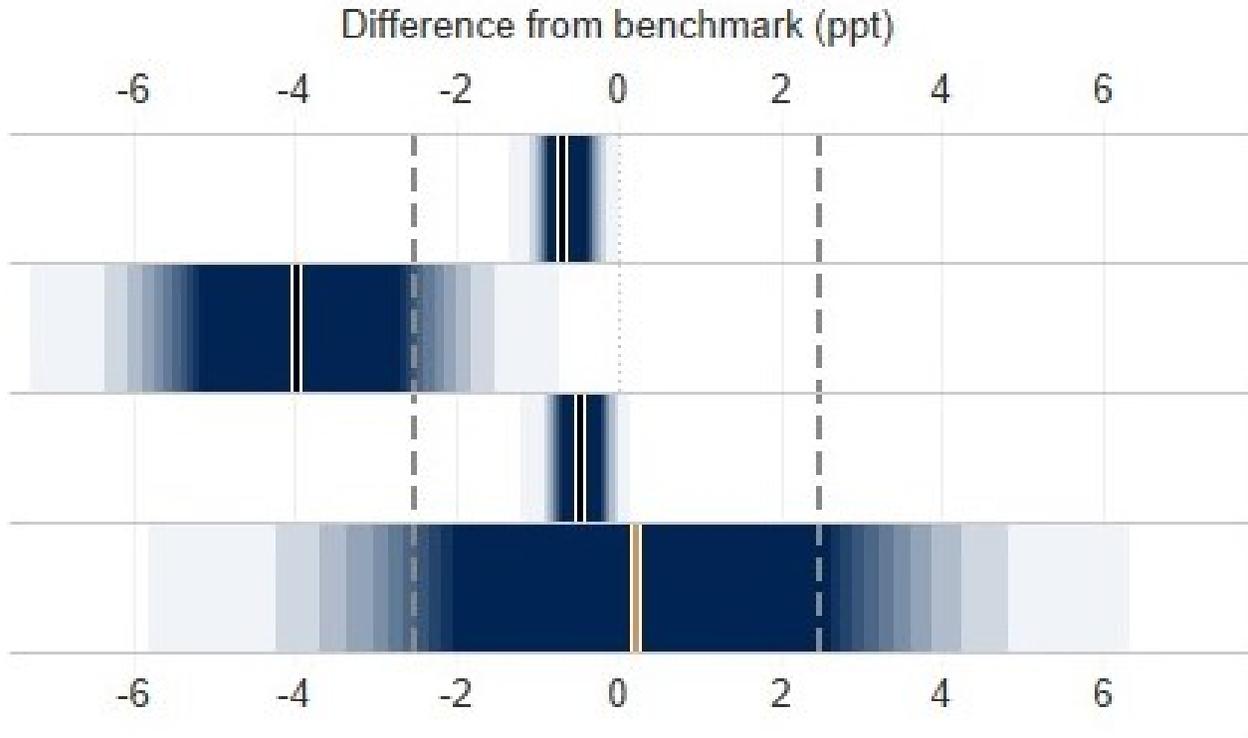
ABCS quintile

Sex

IMD quintile

Geography of employment quintile

Presentation of indicators



Assessment

- **Proposal 10 – Expert review**

Ratings should be decided by a TEF panel applying expert judgement.

- **Proposal 11 – Assessment of evidence**

The panel should interpret and weigh up the evidence by following a set of principles and guidelines, including that:

- the indicators should contribute no more than half the evidence of excellence in each aspect
- the two aspects should be equally weighted when deciding the overall rating.

Assessment of evidence

- Principles based approach:
 - The assessment should consider how far a provider delivers excellence for its mix of students and courses.
 - Positive evidence of excellence above the baseline requirements should be sought.
 - Assessments should be based on a balanced consideration of the sources of evidence.
 - The ratings criteria should be applied holistically to all the available evidence.
 - Assessments and outcomes should be transparent and coherent

Outcomes and Implementation

- **Proposal 12 – Published information**

TEF outcomes and the evidence used in assessment should be published in an accessible and timely way.

- **Proposal 13 – Communication of ratings by providers**

A provider should be able to display and promote its own TEF rating in accordance with a set of guidelines.

- **Proposal 14 – Name of the scheme**

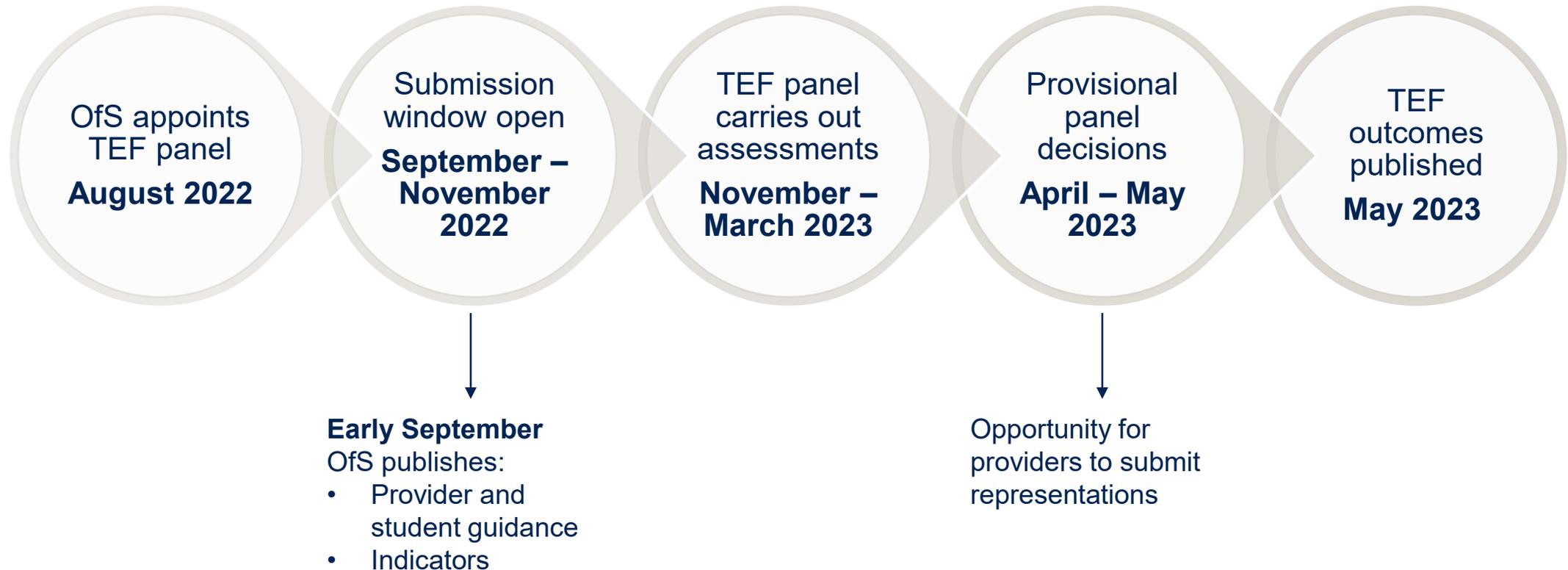
The scheme should be named the Teaching Excellence Framework.

- **Proposal 15 – Timing of the next exercise**

The next exercise should be carried out during 2022-23 and outcomes published in spring 2023.

Future exercises should be conducted every four years.

Proposed TEF implementation timeline

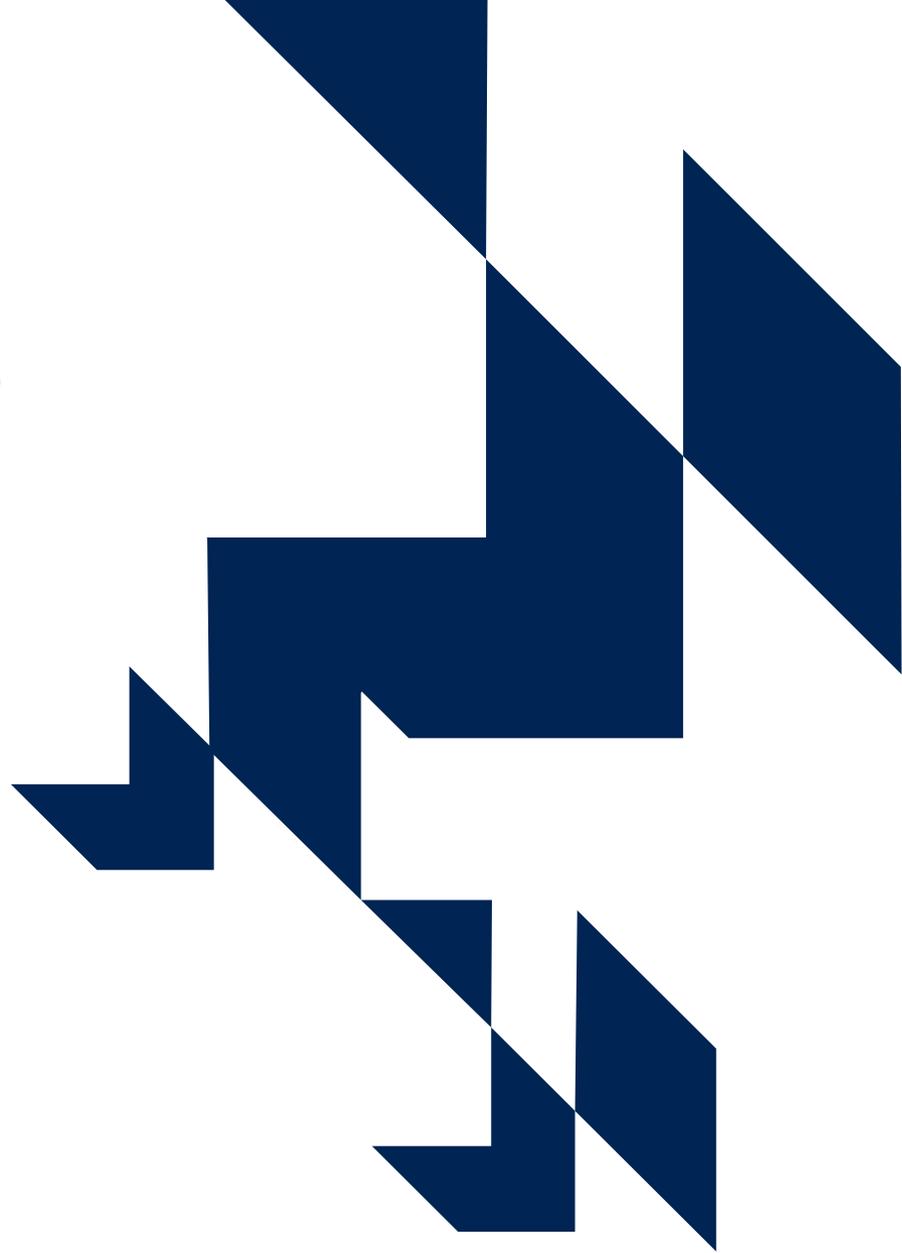


Further queries

Please send further queries about the TEF to tef@officeforstudents.org.uk

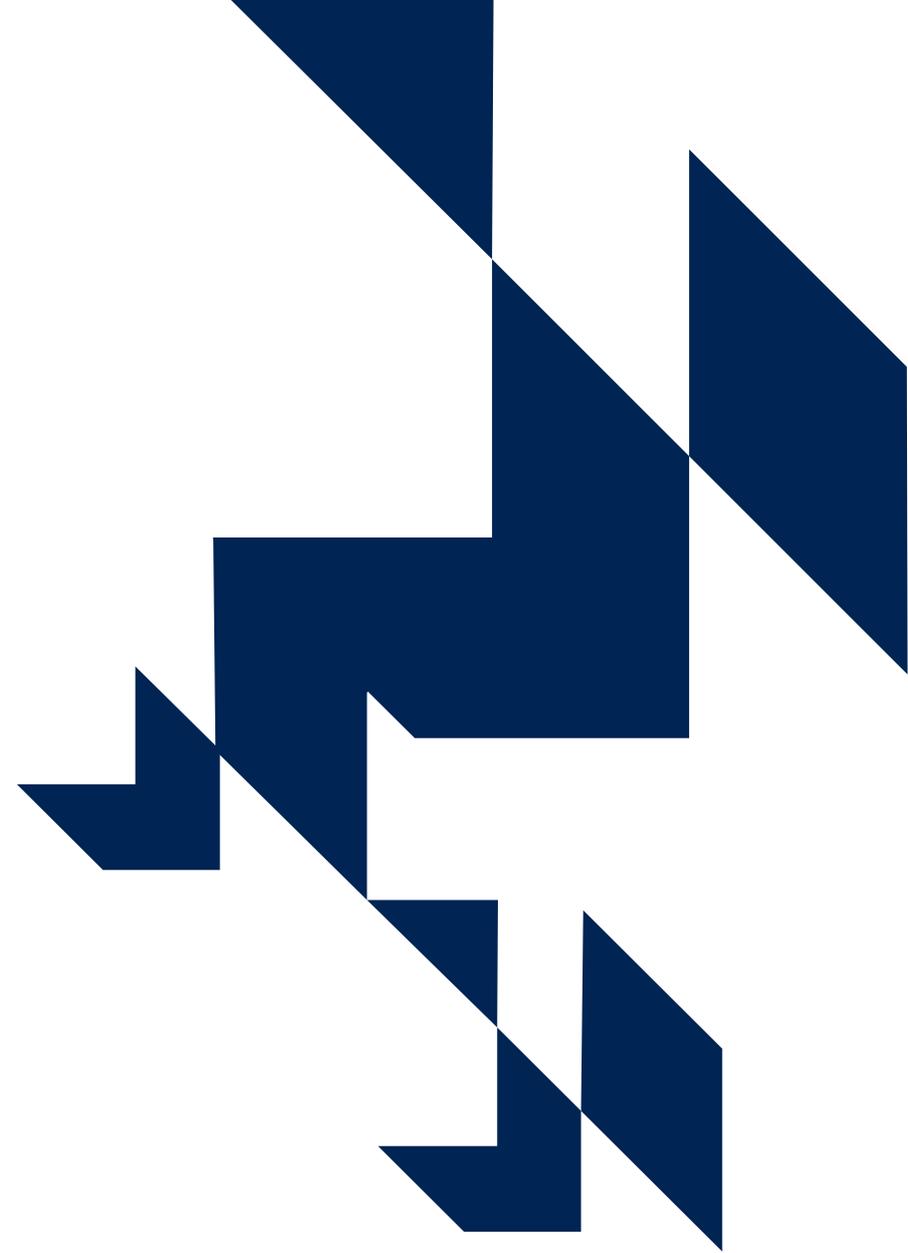
Event feedback

We appreciate feedback about our events. If you agreed to be contacted for this purpose you will receive a survey by email. Alternatively please send comments to events@officeforstudents.org.uk



Useful links

- [Other consultations](#)
- [Consultation events](#)
- [OfS TEF webpages](#)
- [OfS Learning gain webpages](#)
- [Independent review of TEF](#)
- [Govt response to IR](#)
- [Subject level pilot reports](#)
- [Q&S webpages](#)



Office for
Students

The logo for the Office for Students, featuring a dark blue square with a yellow square in the top right corner containing the letters 'OfS' in white.

OfS

Thank you for listening

Copyright ©

The copyright in this presentation is held either by the Office for Students (OfS) or by the originating authors. Please contact info@officeforstudents.org.uk for further information and re-use requests.