

## Accreditation and Possible Marking Boycott

The Royal Society of Chemistry has been made aware of possible strike action in the form of a marking boycott. Should this take place we would like to remind departments that all accredited degrees should still fulfil the key requirements for their accreditation. The expectation would be:

1) All elements of project and practical work must be marked in full using the assessment methods presented in the accreditation submission and must retain their current credit weighting. No project or practical elements can be compensated or condoned, regardless of any local institutional regulations, and all project and practical elements must retain their advertised weighting in the final degree classification. All project and practical based ILOs should be met and assessed in full.

2) Ideally, all assessment components should be assessed as advertised. Where any (non-practical or project) assessments are compensated or condoned for graduating cohorts as a result of the effects of industrial action, the school/department must be able to demonstrate that all (non-practical or project) programme-level ILOs have been assessed appropriately for accreditation to stand. Schools/departments are advised to seek advice from the Royal Society of Chemistry if they are unsure as to whether or not this requirement is met by their local processes.

3) Where any elements of assessment (or the marking thereof) from non-graduating cohorts are postponed into subsequent academic sessions, the school/department must be able to demonstrate that marks obtained out of cycle are folded back into the relevant course units / modules at the advertised credit weighting. Any referred assessments resulting from this process (i.e. failed, but eligible for a resit opportunity) should then follow published local procedures for reassessment at the next available opportunity.

Should your school/department make any temporary changes to an accredited degree programme, for example using no-detriment policies, then please let us know, as per the conditions of accreditation which require the Royal Society of Chemistry to be informed of any changes to accredited courses.

We hope this advice is helpful, if you have queries or comments please contact us at [accreditation@rsc.org](mailto:accreditation@rsc.org).

21<sup>st</sup> April 2023