BEST PRACTICE GUIDE

PhD Supervision Lifecycle

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

Coláiste Dochtúireachta
Doctoral College

Conflict Resolution in Doctoral Supervision

Maintaining positive supervisor–candidate relationships

PREVENTION STRATEGIES

- Establish clear expectations and communications protocols from the outset
- Maintain regular meetings and open communication channels
- Address issues promptly before they escalate
- Ensure all parties understand their roles and responsibilities

STAGE 1: EARLY INTERVENTION

- Direct communication between involved parties
- Primary Supervisor mediation in group contexts
- Department / School intervention if needed

STAGE 2: ESCALATION PROCEDURES

- Head of Department / School involvement
- Doctoral College support and guidance
- Formal institutional procedures for serious conflicts

QUALITY ASSURANCE MEASURES

- Annual supervisory team relationship reviews
- Feedback from candidates and supervisors
- Monitoring of completion rates and time-to-completion
- Professional development via PhD Supervision Lifecycle programme

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