**COVID-19 Postgraduate Research Impact Statement**

**Acknowledging the impact of COVID-19 on postgraduate student research programmes:**

Swansea University recognises that the COVID-19 pandemic has directly and/or indirectly impacted the work of many of our postgraduate research students.

Many of our students have and will be able to adapt to disruption to their research by making various adjustments to their research projects. With this in mind, the University requests all Examiners take into account the potential impact of Covid 19 when assessing the thesis and student at viva.

Such impact could include but is not limited to:

* Volume and range of research
* Access to facilities and resources
* Wellbeing issues
* Childcare / Caring responsibilities
* Alternative methodologies
* Alternative or reduced datasets
* Rescoping projects
* Adapting to a new context for research

The University emphasises the quality of the work being submitting should still meet the necessary criteria for award and any consideration of impact should not compromise the standards set out in the University’s Regulations and the QAA’s expectations of doctoral outcomes.

This approach is in line the UK Council for Graduate Education Covid-19 Impact on Assessment of Research Degrees and many other HEIs within the sector.