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MSc Public Policy

Dr Jay Wiggan | Programme Director

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Agenda

- The Social Policy subject area
- Introducing the MSc Public Policy
- Questions



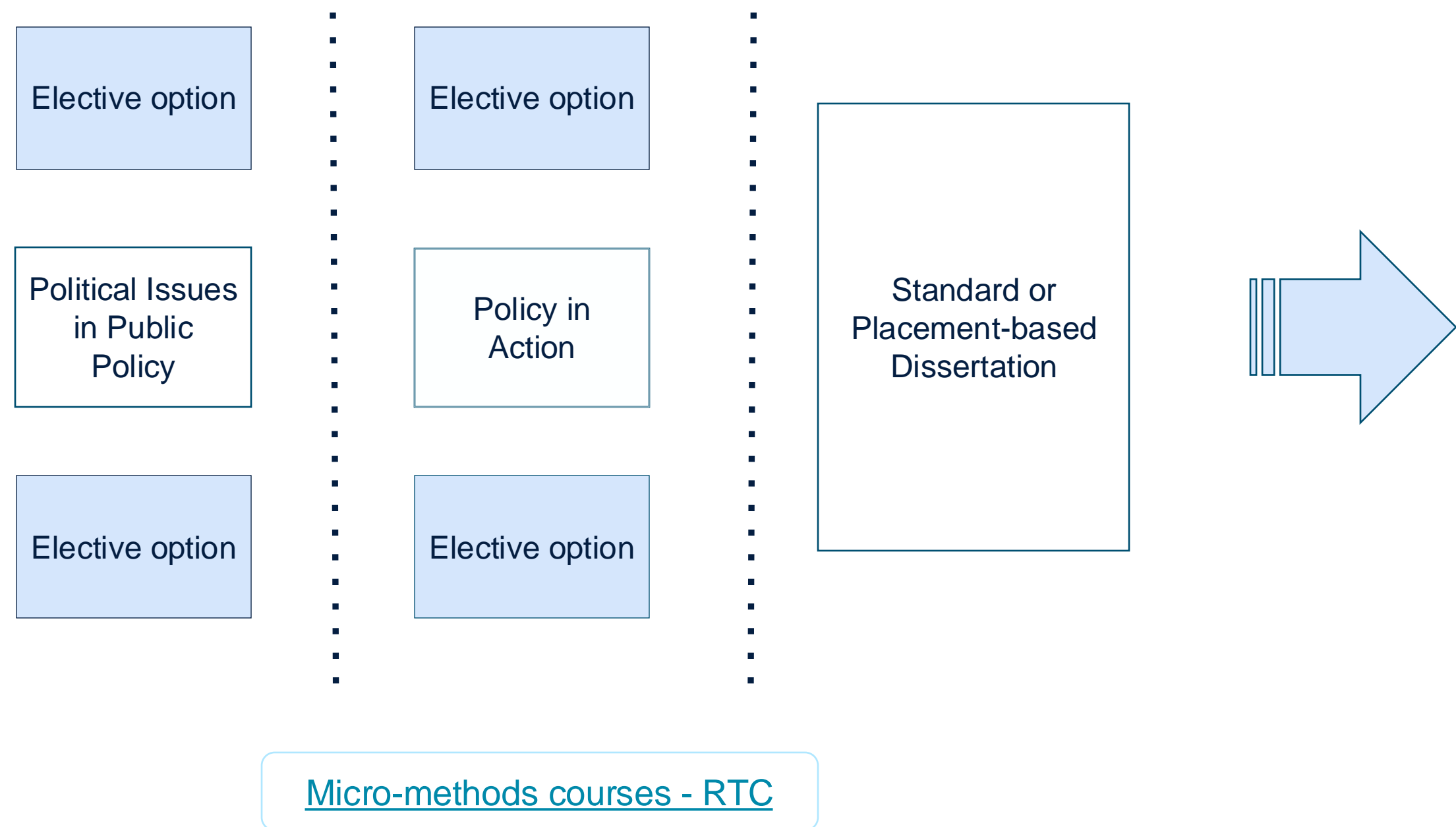
Social Policy subject area

- We conduct independent, high-quality, multi- and inter- disciplinary research on various social and public policy areas, including
 - Employment policy
 - Social security policy
 - Health policy
 - Education and training policy
 - Migration policy
 - Cultural policy
 - Gender policy
 - Governance and administration
- Information on staff and their research interests can be found at <https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/subject-area/social-policy/people-intro>



Public policy at a glance

- Some of the 2024-25 elective options
 - Economic Issues in Public Policy
 - Eco-social policy and sustainable welfare
 - Energy Policy and Politics
 - Foreign Policy Analysis
 - Global Environmental Politics
 - Global Politics of Public Health
 - Health Systems Analysis
 - Institutions and Policies of the European Union
 - International Political Economy
 - Policy Work
 - Social Demography
 - Social Determinants of Health & Public Policy
- Core quantitative data analysis 1 and 2
- Evaluation Research Methods
- Multi-Level Modelling in Social Science
- Research Skills in the Social Sciences: Data Collection



Dissertation

- A single 15,000 word piece of independent and in-depth research.
- Or a 'Placement based dissertation' of 12,000 words plus 3000 word diary.
 - PBD topics/ orgs vary by year and this option is competitive process with application and eligibility conditions
- The dissertation is written in the summer months (April to August) after the taught courses are successfully completed.
- An academic dissertation supervisor will provide you with support and guidance while you research and write your dissertation.



Standard Dissertations - examples

From Pilot to Diffusion: examining the types of environmental policies adopted in China

Understanding trends in trade protectionism in the USA: a narrative policy analysis

Policy 'success' and 'failure': examining centralisation of public education in Hungary

Childcare Policies and Social Equality: A Comparative Case Study of France and Japan

Exploring variation in poverty alleviation strategies and their effectiveness in India, Brazil, and Sweden



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Placement based Dissertations - examples

Policy advocacy, educational access for vulnerable populations, and the role of third sector organisations in policy change (Amal Alliance)

National strategic energy plans and what the UK can learn from policy success (Scottish Renewables)

Public attitudes towards contributing to the cost of public services (Joseph Rowntree Foundation)

How do periods of study account for pension accrual in various countries (Finnish Pension Policy Centre)

Revitalization tactics utilized by Trade Unions across Europe (European Trade Union Institute)

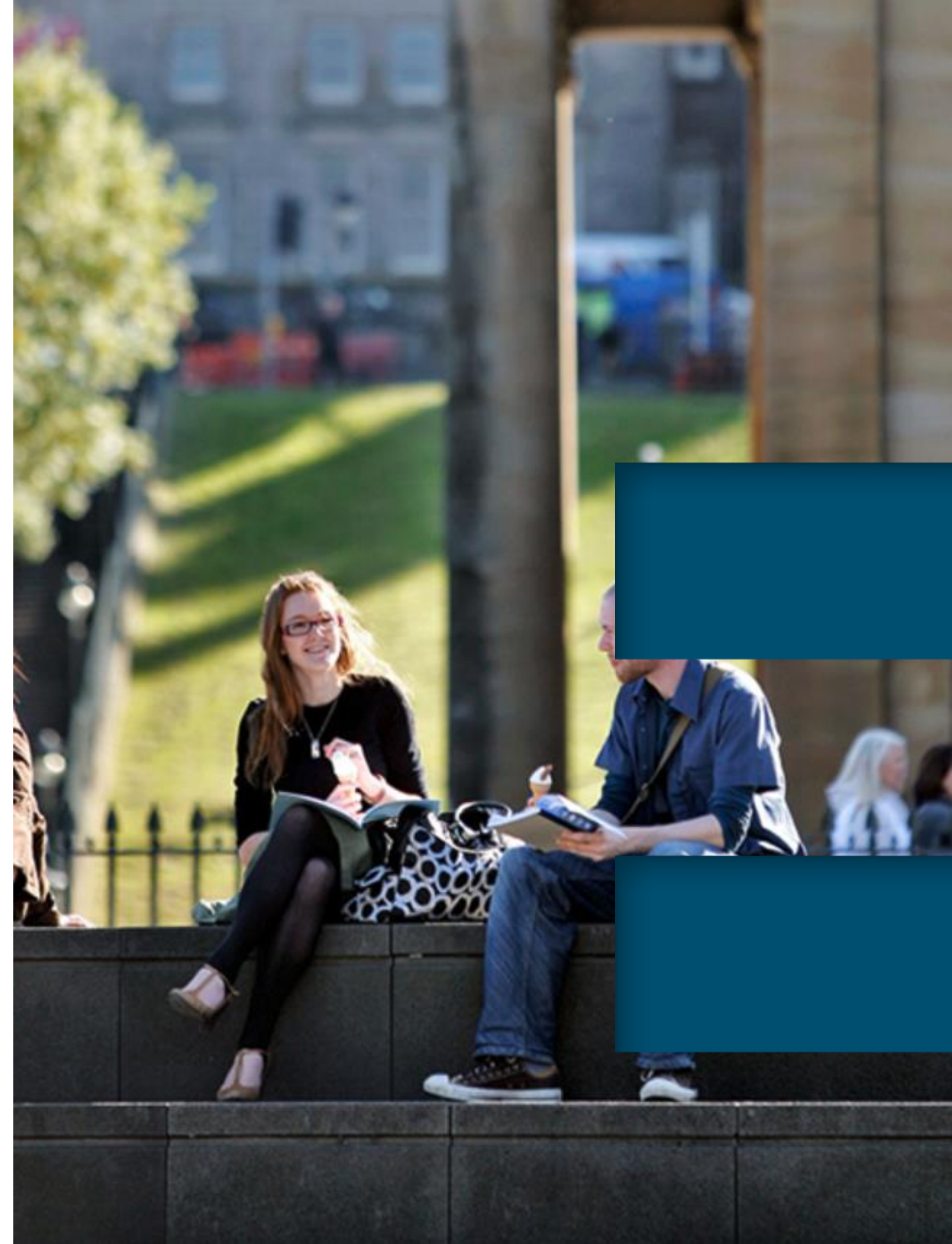


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How we study & learn

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Case studies and exercises
- Self-led/Group Study
- Independent Research



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Support for learning and teaching

- Programme Director
- Student Advisor
- Dissertation supervisor
- Student Development office:
<https://www.sps.ed.ac.uk/students/postgraduate/new-students/development-office>
- Institute for Academic Development: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/institute-acadsc-development/postgraduate>
- Peer study groups



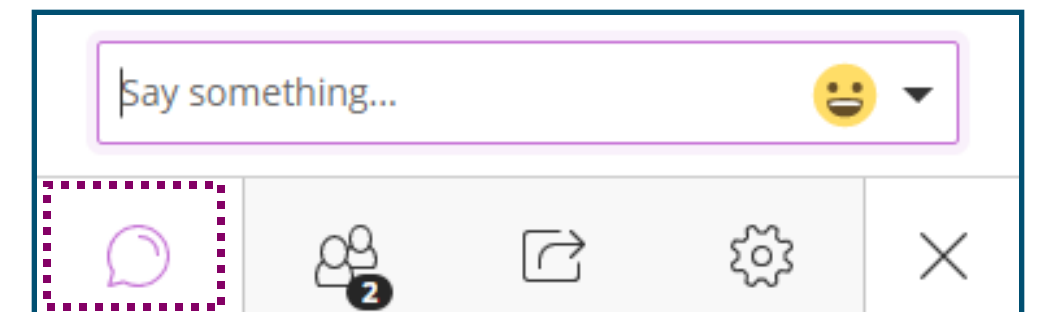
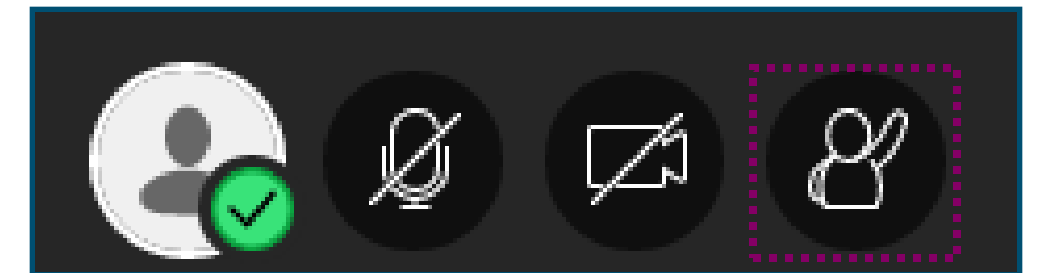
Student Development Office

- Workshops on professional, personal and academic skill building
- 1:1 skills coaching
- Cohort Building activities
- Funding opportunities to support development
- Edinburgh Award and Professional Development Certificates
- School-wide events and activities



Asking questions (Collaborate)

- Please hold all questions until the end of the formal presentation
- Always use the ‘hand raise icon’ to queue up your question
- When called upon to ask your question, type it into the “Text chat area”
- Once your question is answered, please lower your hand



Next steps...

<https://virtualvisits.ed.ac.uk/pg>



<https://edin.ac/student-chat-pg>



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Contact details for follow-up questions

We apologise if we did not get through all of your questions in the time allotted for this session. If you have further questions that have not been answered, or for general admissions questions please email PGT admissions: futurestudents@ed.ac.uk

Alternatively, if you have a specific academic query you can contact the Programme Director:

Dr J. Wiggan j.wiggan@ed.ac.uk

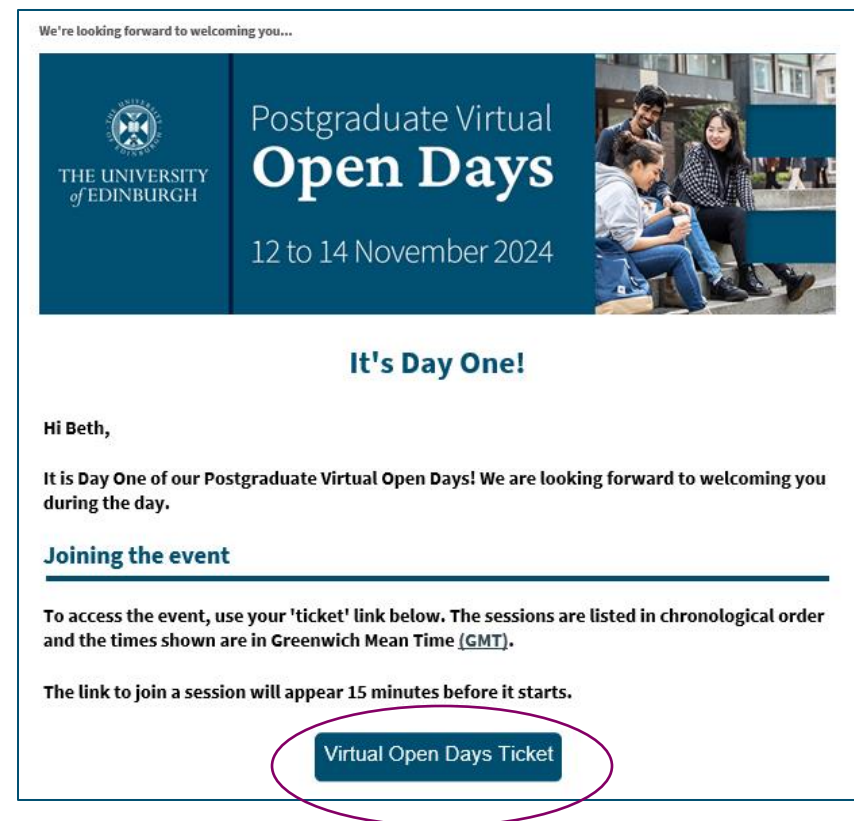


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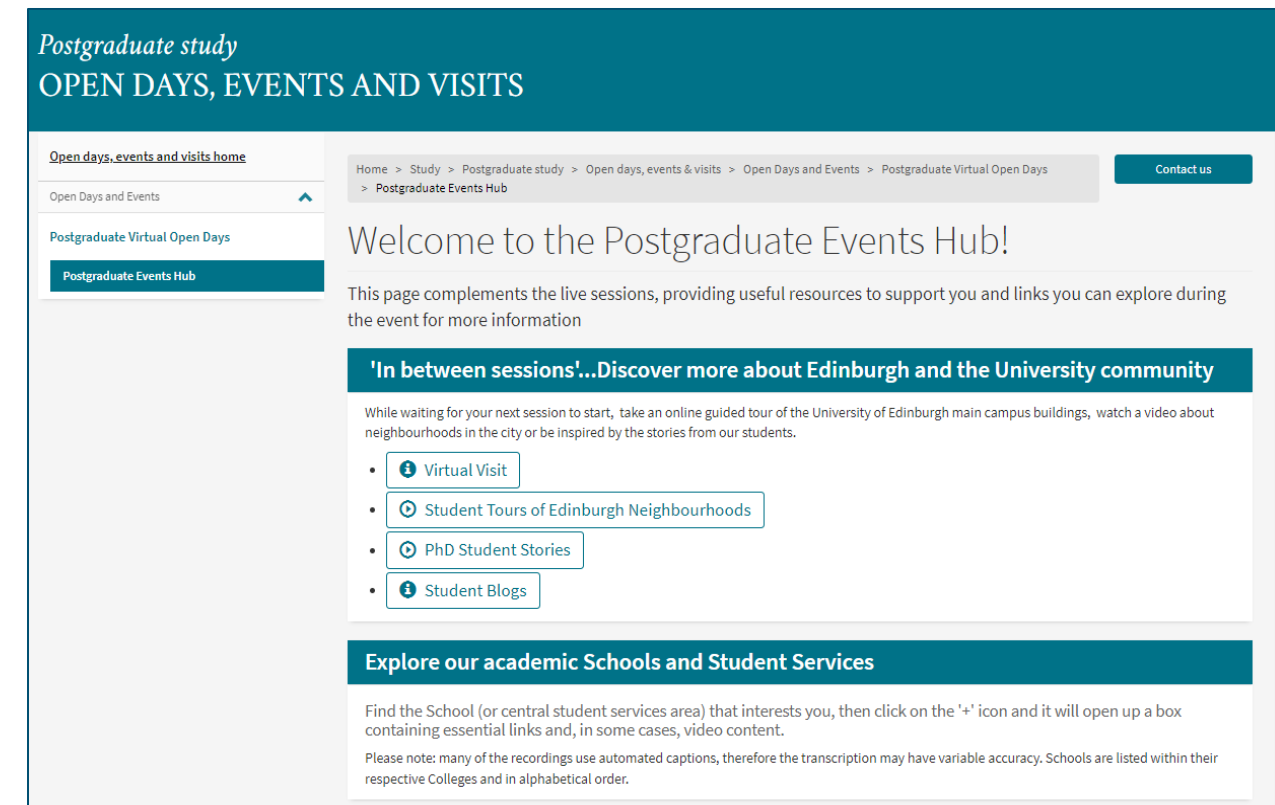
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Thank you – click ‘Leave’ when the session ends

- Return to your ‘e-ticket’ to find and attend other sessions you’ve booked – by clicking on the button in the email we sent you...



- ...and visit the events hub:
- <https://edin.ac/4gZuP3G>



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Thank you

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