

THE rank	Institution	Initial assessment	++	+	=	-	--	Average Z-score
1	University of Buckingham		6	0	0	0	0	5.67
2	Coventry University		4	1	1	0	0	16.52
3	University of Surrey		4	1	1	0	0	8.66
4	Conservatoire for Dance and Drama		4	1	1	0	0	6.58
5	Aston University		4	1	1	0	0	5.87
6	Loughborough University		4	0	2	0	0	8.36
7	Keele University		4	0	2	0	0	7.21
8	University of St Andrews		4	0	2	0	0	4.35
9	University of Law		3	2	1	0	0	3.57
10	University of Cambridge		3	1	2	0	0	7.25
11	Harper Adams University		3	1	2	0	0	3.73
12	Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London	Silver	3	1	1	0	1	1.96
13	Arts University Bournemouth		3	0	3	0	0	5.02
14	University of Dundee		3	0	3	0	0	2.73
15	Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts		3	0	3	0	0	2.53
16	University of Lincoln		2	3	1	0	0	6.32
17	University of Bath		2	2	2	0	0	6.16
18	University of Exeter		2	2	2	0	0	5.91
19	University of Oxford		2	2	2	0	0	4.06
20	University of Essex		2	2	2	0	0	3.92
21	Royal College of Music		2	2	2	0	0	1.52
22	University of Derby	Silver	2	2	1	0	1	5.20
23	Nottingham Trent University		2	1	3	0	0	8.40
24	De Montfort University		2	1	3	0	0	8.13
25	Bangor University		2	1	3	0	0	3.95
26	Royal Northern College of Music		2	1	3	0	0	3.36
27	Liverpool Hope University	Silver	2	1	2	1	0	2.33
28	University of Huddersfield	Silver	2	0	4	0	0	5.10
29	University of Portsmouth		1	3	2	0	0	5.93
30	Falmouth University		1	3	2	0	0	5.47
31	Lancaster University		1	2	3	0	0	4.29
32	Robert Gordon University		1	2	3	0	0	2.70
33	Norwich University of the Arts		1	2	3	0	0	2.01
34	University of Northampton	Silver	1	2	2	0	1	3.18
35	Rose Bruford College	Silver	1	2	2	0	1	0.66
36	University of Kent	Silver	1	1	4	0	0	7.87
37	University of Birmingham	Silver	1	1	4	0	0	4.58
38	Edge Hill University	Silver	1	1	4	0	0	2.51
39	Bishop Grosseteste University	Silver	1	1	4	0	0	2.36
40	Newcastle University	Silver	1	0	5	0	0	3.45
41	Royal Academy of Music	Silver	1	0	5	0	0	1.61
42	Imperial College London	Silver	1	0	4	1	0	-0.57
43	University of Leeds	Silver	0	1	5	0	0	4.00
44	University of Nottingham	Silver	0	1	4	1	0	0.56
45	Royal Veterinary College	Bronze	0	1	3	1	1	-1.26

THE rank	Institution	Initial assessment	++	+	=	-	--	Average Z-score
46	University of Chichester		3	0	2	1	0	3.07
47	Birkbeck, University of London	Bronze	2	1	1	0	2	0.30
48	University of East Anglia		2	0	4	0	0	3.35
49	Kaplan Open Learning		2	0	4	0	0	1.75
50	Leeds Trinity University		2	0	4	0	0	1.32
51	Royal Agricultural University	Bronze	2	0	2	0	2	0.64
52	Ravensbourne	Bronze	2	0	2	0	2	0.35
53	Swansea University		1	1	4	0	0	4.70
54	Oxford Brookes University		1	1	4	0	0	2.34
55	University of Sussex		1	1	3	0	1	4.55
56	University of Hertfordshire		1	1	3	0	1	2.32
57	Bath Spa University		1	1	3	0	1	1.55
58	Anglia Ruskin University		1	1	3	0	1	-0.82
59	University of West London	Bronze	1	1	2	2	0	1.00
60	Teesside University	Bronze	1	1	2	0	2	-2.24
61	University of the Arts London	Bronze	1	1	1	1	2	-3.50
62	Durham University		1	0	5	0	0	3.40
63	Heriot-Watt University		1	0	5	0	0	1.29
64	University College Birmingham		1	0	5	0	0	-0.11
65	University of Gloucestershire		1	0	4	1	0	2.04
66	St Mary's University, Twickenham		1	0	4	1	0	1.00
67	Guildhall School of Music and Drama		1	0	4	1	0	0.77
68	Middlesex University		1	0	4	1	0	-1.08
69	University of Winchester		1	0	4	0	1	0.68
70	University of Bradford	Bronze	1	0	3	2	0	-0.53
71	Staffordshire University	Bronze	1	0	3	0	2	-2.04
72	University of Bolton	Bronze	1	0	3	0	2	-2.81
73	University of Chester		0	2	4	0	0	1.77
74	Anglo-European College of Chiropractic		0	2	3	0	1	-0.14
75	Brunel University London		0	1	5	0	0	0.99
76	Leeds College of Art		0	1	5	0	0	0.58
77	Abertay University		0	1	4	1	0	0.10
78	University of Sunderland		0	1	4	1	0	-0.42
79	University for the Creative Arts		0	1	4	0	1	0.44
80	City, University of London		0	1	4	0	1	-0.16
81	Liverpool John Moores University		0	1	4	0	1	-1.54
82	University of Bedfordshire	Bronze	0	1	3	0	2	-1.07
83	University College London	Bronze	0	1	3	0	2	-4.23
84	Sheffield Hallam University		0	0	6	0	0	2.14
85	University of the West of England		0	0	6	0	0	1.67
86	Northumbria University		0	0	6	0	0	1.32
87	University of York		0	0	6	0	0	1.09
88	Birmingham City University		0	0	6	0	0	1.06
89	University of Sheffield		0	0	6	0	0	1.03
90	University of Reading		0	0	6	0	0	0.66
91	University of Hull		0	0	6	0	0	0.53
92	Cardiff University		0	0	6	0	0	0.52

THE rank	Institution	Initial assessment	++	+	=	-	--	Average Z-score
93	Courtauld Institute of Art		0	0	6	0	0	0.32
94	University of Worcester		0	0	6	0	0	0.17
95	University of St Mark and St John		0	0	6	0	0	-0.48
96	University of Warwick		0	0	6	0	0	-0.94
97	Wrexham Glyndwr University		0	0	6	0	0	-1.15
98	Manchester Metropolitan University		0	0	6	0	0	-2.72
99	Newman University		0	0	5	1	0	-0.44
100	University of Leicester		0	0	5	1	0	-1.72
101	Cardiff Metropolitan University		0	0	5	1	0	-1.82
102	Queen Mary University of London		0	0	5	1	0	-2.54
103	University of Brighton		0	0	5	1	0	-3.46
104	University of Manchester		0	0	5	1	0	-4.13
105	Royal Holloway, University of London		0	0	5	0	1	0.55
106	Canterbury Christ Church University		0	0	5	0	1	-2.00
107	University of Greenwich		0	0	5	0	1	-2.61
108	University of Central Lancashire	Bronze	0	0	4	1	1	-1.93
109	University of Bristol	Bronze	0	0	4	0	2	-4.28
110	King's College London	Bronze	0	0	4	0	2	-5.78
111	Leeds Beckett University	Bronze	0	0	3	2	1	-2.84
112	Bournemouth University	Bronze	0	0	3	2	1	-3.01
113	London South Bank University	Bronze	0	0	3	1	2	-5.12
114	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance		2	0	2	0	2	0.15
115	University of Wolverhampton		1	0	2	1	2	-3.25
116	London School of Economics and Political Science		1	0	1	1	3	-4.87
117	BPP University		0	1	2	0	0	0.70
118	Bucks New University	Silver	0	0	5	0	1	-0.87
119	British School of Osteopathy		0	0	5	0	1	-1.31
120	York St John University		0	0	4	2	0	-0.65
121	University of Cumbria		0	0	4	2	0	-2.22
122	University of Southampton		0	0	4	1	1	-0.89
123	Plymouth University		0	0	4	1	1	-1.48
124	University of Roehampton		0	0	4	1	1	-2.82
125	University of Liverpool		0	0	4	1	1	-3.90
126	Plymouth College of Art		0	0	4	0	2	-0.87
127	University of Suffolk		0	0	4	0	2	-3.38
128	Southampton Solent University		0	0	3	2	1	-3.82
129	University of Wales Trinity Saint David		0	0	3	2	1	-5.36
130	St George's, University of London		0	0	3	1	2	-2.43
131	Soas, University of London		0	0	3	0	3	-2.51
132	Goldsmiths, University of London		0	0	3	0	3	-2.88
133	University of East London		0	0	3	0	3	-5.86
134	University of Salford		0	0	2	2	2	-7.79
135	Kingston University		0	0	2	0	4	-5.47
136	University of Westminster		0	0	2	0	4	-8.56
137	Writtle University College		0	0	1	2	3	-3.67
138	London Metropolitan University		0	0	0	1	5	-11.93

Source: Hefce/Analysis by THE. Note: Table is based on core metrics for an institution's majority provision (full-time or part-time). Three of BPP University's metrics did not return a flag as there were not enough data to form a benchmark.

In each metric (teaching on my course, assessment and feedback, academic support, non-continuation, graduate employment or further study and highly skilled employment or further study), institutions were given a flag if they performed significantly well or badly (in a statistical sense) compared with a benchmark value.

An institution could have achieved one of five different flags in each metric: ++ (if they performed particularly well against the benchmark), + (if they performed well), = (if there was no statistically significant difference from the benchmark), - (if they performed badly against the benchmark) and -- (if they performed particularly badly).

Times Higher Education counted the number of times an institution achieved a flag in each category (six being the maximum) and then sorted the final table according to TEF award, then flag performance and finally by average Z-score across the six metrics. A Z-score is a numerical value that expresses how far the institution deviated from the benchmark in a particular metric.

Who were the movers?

Thanks to work by *THE* data scientist Billy Wong, the analysis also means it is easy to identify which institutions would have been given an initial TEF assessment, based on the core metrics, that was different from the final outcome.

According to the official TEF guidance document, “when looking at the delivery mode in which providers teach the most students”, an institution “with three or more positive flags (either + or ++) and no negative flags (either - or --) should be considered initially as Gold” while an institution “with two or more negative flags should be considered initially as Bronze, regardless of the number of positive flags”. All other institutions were to be initially considered silver.