

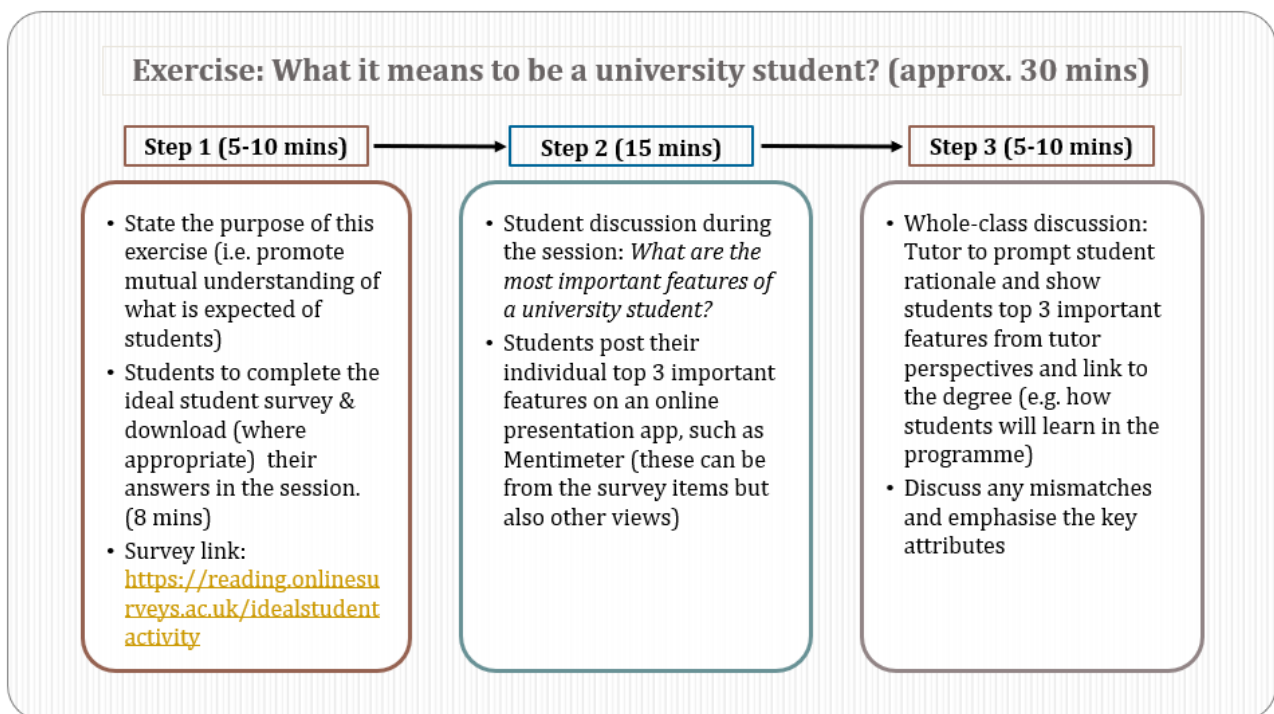
Staff Guide to using the Ideal Student Survey

We believe there is value to use the [Ideal Student survey](#) as an exercise in university teaching to facilitate discussion and manage expectations around what it means to be a university student. This will help encourage greater transparency between staff and students on the expectations of students and support student transition from school to university.

The Ideal Student Survey was developed using existing literature and empirical data gathered from 33 focus groups with 132 university staff and students, from the four broad disciplines of the applied sciences, arts & humanities, natural sciences and social sciences. Please see the project website here:

<https://www.idealstudent.org/>

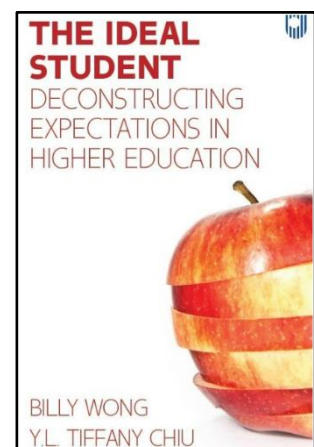
For induction events or workshops with students, we have provided step-by-step instructions for staff below, which can be adapted as appropriate.



(Ideal student survey link: <https://reading.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/idealstudentactivity>)

Other tips/ideas:

- The survey can be printed out for students to complete in the session or sent to students ahead of the session as a pre-session activity, which will leave more space for discussion.
- “[The student characteristics in the survey] can be printed out (and even laminated) as individual slips of paper, where students can be arranged to work in groups and discuss with each other the relative or order of importance from their perspectives (e.g., as a diamond 9 activity or simply ranked from most to least important)” ([Wong and Chiu, 2021](#), p. 125).
- “Students can also share their thoughts on ideal student characteristics by writing on small pieces of adhesive paper, before physically posting or illustrating on large posters or walls for further discussions. Each group can then present their thoughts and rationales, and where appropriate, staff can reinforce, elaborate, mediate or question these viewpoints” ([Wong and Chiu, 2021](#), p. 125).



Read about how we have implemented the ideal student survey for ‘managing expectations’ activity: [Managing student expectations and understanding of what it means to be an Imperial student](#)