



Top 10 Tips for Supporting Student Success and Graduate Outcomes

Follow established effective practice in supporting your students. Act in accordance with the [UKAT Core Values of Personal Tutoring and Academic Advising](#), follow the competencies articulated in the [UKAT Professional Framework for Academic Advising](#) and Personal Tutoring, and make use of resources available to personal tutors through UKAT (<https://www.ukat.ac.uk>).

1 GET TO KNOW YOUR STUDENTS

Create space for students to talk about who they are, their motivations, and what they hope to become. Establishing identity early builds belonging and purpose, two key predictors of persistence and success.

2 CONNECT LEARNING TO FUTURE GOALS

Students often don't see how curriculum tasks, feedback, or extracurricular activities link to their future employability. Advising/tutoring conversations are the bridge that helps them join the dots.

3 PRACTICE ARTICULATING SKILLS

Graduate readiness depends not just on having skills but being able to communicate them. Help your students find the language to describe their strengths and experiences using examples (e.g., [STAR](#) statements).

4 FEEDBACK AND FEED-FORWARD

Help your students use feedback (academic or experiential) to set future goals. Encourage them to create an e-portfolio to hold action plans, progress logs, and reflections, making development visible and trackable.

5 BUILDING A PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY

Support students in shaping CVs, LinkedIn profiles, About Me videos, or digital showcases. This helps them develop a sense of self as emerging professionals, not just students.

6 NORMALISE REFLECTION

Show students that reflection isn't 'extra', it's how they make meaning of experiences. Encourage short, frequent reflections after activities or conversations. An [e-portfolio](#) can become a living learning journal.

7 PROMOTE EARLY EVIDENCE GATHERING

Reduce anxiety when job applications come around. Encourage your students to capture achievements as they happen: projects, group work, volunteering, part-time jobs.

8 INCREMENTAL CAREER EXPLORATION

No big decisions are needed at the outset. Instead, prompt 'micro-exploration' e.g. talking to practitioners, attending events, joining societies, trying things out. These small steps build confidence and clarity.

9 MATTERING AND CONNECTEDNESS

Students who feel seen, valued, and supported are more likely to thrive and flourish. Genuine interest, remembering personal details, and recognising progress strengthen a sense of belonging.

10 EMPOWER STUDENT OWNERSHIP

Shift from 'telling' to 'coaching'. Ask questions that foster agency, e.g. What are you proud of this term? What have you learned about yourself? What's your next step and how can I support you?