

## Welcome to the Royal Society Open Access Membership programme

### Royal Society Publishing

The Royal Society publishes high quality, peer-reviewed journals covering all scientific disciplines. This is part of our mission to recognise, promote, and support excellence in science and to encourage the development and use of science for the benefit of humanity.

As the national academy of science for the UK, we support open access and open science as a means of maximising the dissemination and re-use of research outputs. We are a member of [OASPA](#) the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association and we are involved in a number of [open science](#) initiatives, including open peer review, open data and Registered Reports.

### Open Access Membership

Your institution's [Open Access Membership](#) with the Royal Society means that researchers will receive a 25% discount on article processing charges for papers published as open access in the Royal Society journals.

Our [open access policies](#) are fully compliant with the requirements of a range of funders and fully support researchers who are funded by signatories to Plan S. The Royal Society journals are compliant with US federal public access policies under the 2022 OSTP 'Nelson Memo'. We can publish work funded by the Wellcome Trust, HEFCE (REF 2020), NIH, HHMI, RCUK, the European Commission, MRC, NERC, STFC, ESRC, EPSRC, BBSRC and the National Science Foundation.

A full list of funders with open access requirements is available at [SHERPA](#).

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"The Royal Society membership is easy to adopt, good value and encourages our authors to publish open access."  
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**Stephen Street, University of Brunel London.**  
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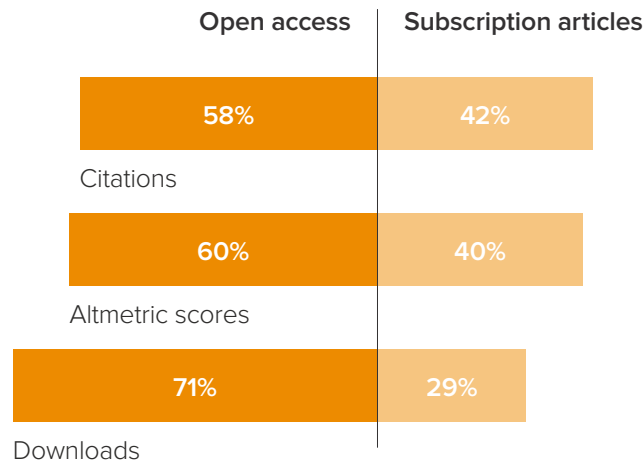
Authors publishing open access receive the same quick acceptance decision, high quality peer review and production as non-open access papers and:

- for relevant journals, the article will be deposited into PubMedCentral;
- a liberal licensing and re-use policy through Creative Commons licence CC-BY 4.0;
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- full media promotion of articles;
- a wide international readership;
- a responsive and personable relationship with Royal Society Publishing;
- sophisticated search, new issue alerts and keyword alerts;
- article usage statistics available online for each article;
- workflows with [CCC/Rightslink](#) and;
- your institution can report publishing activity in real time via the [OA Switchboard](#).

FIGURE 1

## Open access advantage

Authors who choose open access are likely to benefit from increased dissemination and citation. Data from our Transformative Journal articles published in 2021 shows that open access papers received on average 29% more citations, 60% more downloads and 34% higher Altmetric scores than subscription articles.



### Benefits of open access publishing

Publishing open access will help you to find greater exposure for research. Authors who choose open access publication are likely to benefit from increased dissemination and citation. Data from our Transformative Journal articles published in 2021 shows that open access papers received on average 29% more citations, 60% more downloads and 34% higher Altmetric scores than subscription articles.

### Author support

We are committed to increasing the accessibility of research and ensuring that it is communicated as rapidly as possible. To accelerate this process, we encourage researchers to deposit pre-publication versions of articles in appropriate preprint repositories. We also provide detailed [author guidelines and checklists](#) to help researchers prepare their article.

Our author journeys below highlight the simple steps from submission to publication for open access papers:

- [Download the author journey for our fully open access journals](#), *Open Biology* and *Royal Society Open Science*.
- [Download the author journey for our hybrid journals](#), *Proceedings A*, *Proceedings B*, *Biology Letters*, *Interface* and *Notes and Records*.

Helping to support early career researchers (ECRs) is vitally important for improving research culture and diversity, as well as training up the next generation of scientists. Our comprehensive [ECR hub](#) provides early career researchers, with the foundational knowledge of the publishing process and brings together resources to help them publish.

[Discover the benefits of publishing with the Royal Society.](#)

For any queries regarding your open access membership, please email Open Access Consultant Rebecca Ashworth at [oam@royalsociety.org](mailto:oam@royalsociety.org).

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