



2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by The University of Huddersfield against targets, objectives and written commitments set out in its 2019-20 access and participation plan. This document is a summary of information submitted by the provider to the OfS. This document is a self-report by the provider only and does not indicate any OfS assessment of compliance.

1. Ambition and strategy

The University of Huddersfield's ambition and strategy as detailed in the 2019-20 access and participation plan:

The change in University funding, in which the balance of the cost of studying has been largely shifted from the State to the graduate, may over time become a major challenge to widening participation and through it to increasing upward social mobility and one which may also be more marked among mature students. Figures from UCAS also show changes to the national funding model are altering the relative demand for particular programmes and specific institutions.

In response we have continued to review our portfolio, withdrawn all degree programmes which our research suggests will not fare well in the new environment, and between 2011/12 and 2012/13 transferred the undertakings from our remote campuses in Oldham and Barnsley to local FE providers. We have also streamlined the range of content we offer in every degree programme, and increased the efficiency and effectiveness of assessment. We are using our relationships with professional bodies and employers to ensure our content is relevant and that all students experience meaningful and relevant work-related learning as part of their programme of study. We are enhancing our already excellent student support mechanisms and ensuring our infrastructure is of the highest quality and fit for purpose. Working closely with our Students' Union we are also taking steps to identify and support students who may be at greater risk of withdrawing from their studies. Given our analysis of the particular issue posed for BME students in progression and success, we are developing our understanding of the challenges affecting these groups and the activities we are putting in place to address them. In our view these developments will help ensure we retain our current market advantage, and offer students excellent value for their investment in our programmes.

Our intended spend on access, student success and progression is just over £7m, representing 22.2% of our higher fee income.

Given the continuing success of our measures to ensure access to our courses is available across the society, we have decided to rebalance our spending towards work in ensuring progression and success.

Our approach to financial support has been shaped by the strong input of the Students' Union, who argued very clearly for the importance of cash support in the first year for our most disadvantaged students. This view from our students is supported by the emerging evidence so far in 2015-16, when we have seen a significant drop in withdrawal and suspension among our year-one undergraduate students as against the situation in 2014-15. We will therefore continue to develop the Scholarship for eligible Home/EU students on the model approved last year, at £1000 paid as a cash sum in the first year of study only. Eligibility is all students that are UK/EU for fees and have a household income of less than £25,000 and more than 120 UCAS points on entry.

White working-class boys – we will continue to monitor this aspect of our work, which is well supported by our developing range of activity, and do not see the need to set targets in terms of access.

Part-time students - We have no intention to take any strategic steps to reduce our commitment to those important aspects of part-time provision that remain, and we have held our fees at a relatively low level, and so although there is likely to continue to considerable fluctuation in numbers year-on-year, we would see no need to set targets in relation to this aspect of our provision but will continue to monitor the situation closely. Given that the main change of recent years has related to NHS funding issues, the introduction of nursing degree apprenticeship programmes from June 2018 will look to address this drop in numbers but the university will continue to monitor.

Mature students - As with part-time students, we have no intention to reduce our involvement in the aspects of activity which engage mature students, and therefore although there is the potential for some volatility in numbers year by year, we do not see a reason to set targets in this area.

BME students – As a result of the performance gap identified above, we have further developed actions against the target set last year to improve that performance by 1 %-point

per year to focus our continued work to address this issue. This year we have added an additional target to reduce the performance gap in 'good degrees' by 0.5% per year.

Degree Apprenticeships – The University is actively exploring opportunities for higher/degree apprenticeships, where these are appropriate within its overall teaching and learning and other strategies, and has projects currently under development in its School of Human and Health Sciences including through collaboration with Go Higher West Yorkshire (GHWY).

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by The University of Huddersfield of progress against the targets approved in its 2019-20 access and participation plan.

Please note the tables contain only a summary of target milestones approved in 2019-20 access and participation plans. Full information can be found in **Table 8a – statistical targets and milestones** and **Table 8b – Other milestones and targets** of The University of Huddersfield's 2019-20 [access and participation plan](#).

Any optional commentary provided against the targets is given in [Annex B](#).

Statistical targets and milestones

Reference Number (lifecycle stage)	Description	Baseline year	Baseline data	2018-19 milestone	2019-20 milestone	Units of target	Comparison year	Actual performance in comparison year	Target self-assessment
T16a_01 (Access)	Aim to maintain current high levels of entrants from lower Social Classes, despite changes to recruitment markets	2012-13	46.5	0	0	N/A (see description / commentary)	2019-20		Expected progress
T16a_02 (Access)	Aim to increase level of entrants from low participation neighbourhoods closer to our benchmark	2012-13	17.6	18	18	Percentage	2019-20	15.4	No progress
T16a_03 (Student success)	Aim to continue trend of improvement in retention of young entrants from low participation neighbourhoods towards benchmark	2012-13	10.5	9.3	9	Percentage	2018-19	9.4	Expected progress
T16a_04 (Student success)	Aim to continue trend of improvement in retention of young entrants from other neighbourhoods to be better than benchmark	2012-13	7	6.7	6.6	Percentage	2018-19	8.5	No progress
T16a_05 (Student success)	Aim to maintain current performance above benchmark	2012-13	8.6	8.6	8.6	Percentage	2019-20	8.1	Expected progress
T16a_06 (Access)	Percentage of our students with household income below £25,000	2014-15	45.7	45.7	45.7	Percentage	2019-20	46.1	Expected progress
T16a_07 (Student success)	Percentage of UK non-white students that achieve a first or upper second	2014-15	57.76	60.76	61.76	Percentage	2019-20	79	Expected progress

Other milestones and targets

Reference Number (lifecycle stage)	Description	Baseline year	Baseline data	2018-19 milestone	2019-20 milestone	Units of target	Comparison year	Actual performance in comparison year	Target self-assessment
T16b_01 (Multiple)	Working in partnership across the region, Go Higher West Yorkshire will provide bespoke support for young people in public care and care leaver, aged 5-25, through sustained engagement	2015-16	116	131	136	Headcount	2019-20	146	Expected progress
T16b_02 (Multiple)	The young people in public care and care leavers with sustained engagement in activity via Go Higher West Yorkshire will increase in confidence through exposure to new and challenging experiences	Other (please give details in Description column)	83	90	90	Percentage	2019-20	94	Expected progress
T16b_03 (Access)	Working in collaboration with partners, including HE providers, Go Higher West Yorkshire will engage learners from areas and regions with low participation rates in sustained engagement.	2015-16	47	110	120	Headcount	2019-20	123	Expected progress
T16b_04 (Access)	Improvement in the 'Progress 8' measure at the Park Lane Academy in which we have had a leading role in governance as listed in Appendix B of our Access agreement	2015-16	-1.13	PILOT	to be determined in 2019-20 AA	Other	2019-20	-1.03	Expected progress
T16b_05 (Access)	Improvement in the 'Progress 8' measure at North Huddersfield Trust School in which we have had a leading role in governance as listed in Appendix B of our Access agreement	2015-16	0.27	PILOT	to be determined in 2019-20 AA	Other	2019-20	-0.53	No progress
T16b_06 (Access)	Improvement in the 'Progress 8' measure at Trinity Academy/Maltings College in which we have had a leading role in governance as listed in Appendix B of our Access agreement	2015-16	0.31	PILOT	to be determined in 2019-20 AA	Other	2019-20	0.61	Expected progress

T16b_07 (Access)	Improvement in the 'Progress 8' measure at Westborough High School in which we have had a leading role in governance as listed in Appendix B of our Access agreement	2015-16	-0.22	PILOT	to be determined in 2019-20 AA	Other	2019-20	0.11	Expected progress
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3. Investment commitments

3.1. Access and participation investment for the last audited year

Please note that some differences in predicted vs actual spend may be due to reporting differences between academic and financial years.

Financial year	2019-20		
	Predicted spend (£)	Actual spend (£)	Difference (ppt)
Access investment	£1,317,550.00	£1,213,000.00	-8%
Financial Support	£1,625,000.00	£787,000.00	-52%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected The University of Huddersfield has made the following commitments to increase the rate of progress against their targets.

Reference Number	Steps that will be taken in the future to make expected progress against target
T16a_02	The future steps are being taken in our new APP from 20/21 onwards and this has been reapproved for the 21/22 academic year as we are making expected progress against our new commitments.
T16a_04	The future steps are being taken in our new APP from 20/21 onwards and this has been reapproved for the 21/22 academic year as we are making expected progress against our new commitments.
T16b_05	We will continue to monitor the performance against the measure and with the enhanced input from a dean we hope to see progress. We will continue to engage closely closely with the school to ensure future progress.

5. Confirmation

The University of Huddersfield confirms that:

Student engagement	
Have you worked with your students to help them complete the access and participation plan monitoring student submission?	
No	
Have you engaged with your student body in the design, evaluation, and monitoring of the plan?	
Yes	
Verification and sign off	
The University of Huddersfield has confirmed that the information included in this impact report is accurate, that it has been compiled in line with OfS guidance, and that it is being submitted on behalf of the governing body of the provider.	
Yes	
Accountable officer sign off	
Name	Prof Bob Cryan
Position	Vice Chancellor b.cryan@hud.ac.uk 01484422288

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

The University of Huddersfield's commentary where progress against targets was less than expected.

Target reference number: T16a_02
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Even though there has been no progress against this commitment, this target has now been superceded by our 20/21 APP, the data demonstrates broadly consistent and contiuning strong performance by the University delivering on its goals.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
No

Target reference number: T16a_04
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Even though there has been no progress against this commitment, this target has now been superceded by our 20/21 APP, the data demonstrates broadly consistent and contiuning strong performance by the University delivering on its goals.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
No

Target reference number: T16b_05
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
No
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
We have refresehd out in put into the gocvernance at the school at a dean level to give a fresh impetus to the school.

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

The University of Huddersfield's commentary on any of the targets listed in [Section 2](#).

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	This measure is no longer in use
T16a_02	
T16a_03	
T16a_04	
T16a_05	
T16a_06	
T16a_07	
T16b_01	
T16b_02	
T16b_03	
T16b_04	
T16b_05	
T16b_06	
T16b_07	