

Widening Participation Action Plan Report 2003/04

Theme A :Improving Access to the University	Outcomes 2003/2004	Comments/good practice identified
<p>A1. To raise awareness of HE among those currently under-represented in HE.</p>	<p>New Admissions Policy approved</p> <p>A1.1 All 7 Schools working with SCLS within CUSP to visit schools and colleges. 223 visits made A1.2 CUSP activities sustained in 5 key areas A1.3 Ace days increased to 6 A1.4 Student Information Centre. 10 community visits. A1.5 Focus days maintained level of activity at 18. A1.6 Year 10 Presentations increased to 20 A1.7 'HELPS' scheme included in CUSP activities.</p>	<p>Above benchmark for WP intake</p> <p>Good practice – CUSP development</p>
<p>A2. To reduce anxiety in the minds of potential students.</p>	<p>A2.1 Student Mentoring increased target to 60 students A2.2 Student tutoring scheme - 97 students Participated A2.3 Budgeting workshops, increased to 11. A2.4 Student shadowing discontinued in 2002.</p> <p>A2.5 Student experience panels</p>	<p>Good practice – response to differential fees anxiety</p>
<p>A3. To build Progression arrangements with schools and colleges and AVA's.</p>	<p>A3.1 Links with schools and colleges - 37 partners in CUSP A3.2 Links with WNYOCN sustained. Plus progression pathways activity in 6 areas with HTC/HNC A3.3 Guaranteed places scheme increased to 27 colleges and schools involved. A3.4 Teachers/Career Advisors Forum held for all CUSP partners.</p>	
<p>A4. To provide user friendly information to</p>	<p>A4.1 Course information improved by PR and Schools.</p>	

potential students and parents.	A4.2 Websites - all pages revised. A4.3 WP included on website - new content added. A4.4 Open Days - 2000+ visitors Parents Information Evening - 600 parents. Subject specific Open in Schools days	Good practice – Open Days positively identified in B2B report
A5. To attract potential students to University	A5.1 Visits to University increased number of students by 10% plus additional summer school provision. A5.2 Student Ambassador scheme - 100 students involved. A5.3 Towns Like Us strategic developments in Oldham and Barnsley	Patrick Stewart Campaign including event for local schools Good practice :- Summer schools offered by SA&D and SHHS
Set up an Effective Student Record and Tracking System		
Activity	Outcomes by 04	Comments
B1. To ensure that the student record is robust and reliable	B1.1 Student Record system robust and reliable data available.	Plans for tracking WP activities underway with ASIS Director
B2. To continue development of a database which facilitates useful statistical analysis, ease of access and regular reporting	B2.1 Tracking system - system maintained, expanded training programme and undertaken user satisfaction review.	ASIS staff in Schools spreading info
B3. To track students on a day to day basis	B3.1 Attendance recording linked to personal tutoring/viable system in place.	Good practice : positive reports on attendance monitoring coming from Schools
Theme B : Improve the Retention of		

Students from Under-represented groups and Enable them to Succeed		
Activity	Outcomes by 04	Comments
C1 To improve the induction process for Students	C1.1 General induction/monitor with best practice disseminated amongst schools. C1.2 Student Services induction - maintained improvements. C1.3 Quick Start Days delivered in 3 Schools C1.4 Maths Bridging Course for 60 pre-entry students C1.5 Student Services Reception area – improved provision	Approx 3% improvement across Uni with some problem areas
C2. Reduce the burden of assessment	C2.1 Assessment strategy/reviewed in all areas	Good practice for WP – formative feedback
C3. Improve access to learning resources	C3.1 Learning Centre: improved access to electronic resources plus front of house guide posts. C3.2 Special needs co-ordinator in library appointed. C3.3 Learning progress files project developed by LIC	Good practice:- excellent action plan for continuous improvement
C4. To strengthen support mechanisms for Students	C4.1 'At Risk' students identified by diagnostic testing C4.2 Enhanced tutor training support in schools	Good practice : evaluation report from Academic Skills Tutors
C5. To place special emphasis on support for disabled students.	C5.1 Improved physical resources/progressed Estates plan C5.2 Improved website - dedicated website completed by Student Services	
C7. To provide more opportunities for identification of needs/study skills	C7.1 Provided via academic skills tutors who are embedded across schools. C7.2 Produce tutorial handbook/materials available in book form and on web.	
C8. To help students with managing their Finances	C8.1 Student Finance Office/continued development with 7000 enquiries. Ran more financial advice workshops. C8.2 Student support funds/marketing to encourage student to seek help quickly -800 students supported plus 50 new student bursaries of £500 for WP students from W Yorks	Good practice ;- Student Finance Office service and literature

C9.To establish why students leave	C9.1 Review of exit interviews in some schools	
Theme D :Develop Effective Partnerships		
Activity	Outcomes by 04	Comments
D1.To identify key partners and seek and articulate mutually beneficial outcomes	D1.1 CUSP worked to build new partnerships which are established with an identified link person D1.2 Foundation Degrees/ 2 new degrees have been validated for Sept 04 delivery.	Major expansion in CUSP plus Towns Like Us initiative
D2. To develop progression routes and closer links	D2.1 P4P project plus on-going access to HE, Zero year provision.	WITS – 20 years old
D3. Work with other Universities in West Yorkshire to raise Aspiration.	D3.1 Collaboration via West Yorks WP strategy group, and HEARWY (HE Aspiration Raising in West Yorks) D3.2 New HEIF bid successful	Hosting HEARWY
D4. To build on the work of the Widening Participation Projects	D4.1 10 WP projects are being undertaken with external partners and increased involvement from Schools and Services.	Good practice :- Summer Schools run by SHHS and SA&D Hosting W.Yorks Aim higher Office
Theme E :Improve Communication and Dissemination about WP Policies		
Activity	Outcomes by 04	Comments
E1. Ensure that good practice is disseminated	E1.1 T&LC seminar and VCO seminars on WP issues. E1.2 Staff Development - new programme of role based training has been introduced for personal tutors and admission tutors with WP dimension. E1.3 Equal opportunities and diversity training continued. E1.4 Ongoing work of academic skills tutor group E1.5 Admission tutors Forum, Retention Forum, Foundation Degree Forum all meeting regularly	Increased focus on identifying and spreading good practice on retention