Access and participation plans set out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education.

You can see the full plan on our access and participation web page

The University is proud of its long-established reputation in widening participation. We provide a diverse range of access pathways and improve student outcomes through the right choice of course designed to prepare students for the world of work. In line with the revised priorities, we plan to develop our partnerships with schools and other organisations to help raise attainment levels, in particular, for pre-16 students. This will include reviewing existing activities as well as the development of new interventions.

The focus of our access and participation plan is on improving outcomes for specific groups of students. We aim to ensure that all students can achieve their potential, and are focusing our efforts on activity we believe will help BAME students, male students from poorer neighbourhoods, and those entering university with BTECs complete their studies and achieve a degree award of 2:1 or above.

This includes

- work on designing and delivering a more flexible and inclusive curriculum
- tailored academic and study support for students
- working with our students to understand their experiences to identify and remove barriers to learning and success
- fees and funding web page

We offer financial support to students from underrepresented groups. This helps students access higher education and continue studying until their course is completed. The support includes:

Student Support Fund: Direct financial support to students who are experiencing hardship. The fund is open to students who are normally resident in the UK, registered for at least 30 credits, eligible for and receiving Student Finance England or NHS funding and experiencing financial difficulties.

Uni Starter Kits: We have redirected the funds within the Community Scholarship scheme to better meet current student needs and are providing personalised "Uni starter kits" to eligible students. These kits provide funding for items such as digital devices, travel and gym subscriptions as part of our transition programme.

Free printing recognising additional costs associated with study can be financially challenging we are endeavouring to make as many processes paper-free but provide free printing for academic purposes for all students

Free eTextbooks: in addition to our library hard copy and electronic collections we provide every student on a taught course with the core book for that module as an eTextbook. This ensures equal access to key resources for students who may not be able to purchase copies themselves.

- 2. Provide tailored academic and study support for students through dedicated support teams working together, using data to identify students at risk of not succeeding, and implementing a revised approach to personal tutors and academic advisors
- 3. Working with our students to understand their experiences to identify and remove barriers to learning and success by conducting joint research with the Students' Union and using our student representation and voice schemes to hear how we can improve