

2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by Wakefield College 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

Wakefield College's ambition and strategy as detailed in the 2019-20 access and participation plan:

The overall ambition was to grow HE student numbers primarily by engaging those students on Advanced level FE programmes at the college who traditionally are less likely to progress into HE and by providing routes into HE for adults. The College stated the intention to undertake measures to promote access to higher education and the success and progression of higher education students, which will seek to address any significant gaps in performance and sustain areas of good practice.

The overall strategy was to progress the following key objectives in the College's HE strategy 2018-21 and to build on the success of the measures introduced in previous years:

1. Grow student numbers – this will be supported by providing an employment relevant curriculum portfolio and by measures to increase internal progression from Level 3 to Level 4.
2. Widen participation from disadvantaged areas and Polar 4 cold spots – this will be supported by active and successful participation in the National Collaborative Outreach Programme
3. Further develop employability skills for all students – this will be supported by developing further Higher Level and Degree Apprenticeships and by including a work placement opportunity in most programmes.

Key strategic measures included:

1. Engagement in collaborative outreach work as a partner in the National Collaborative Outreach Programme which covered activity as a post-16 provider with 1,000+ students resident in the NCOP wards, and as an HE provider.
2. Activities to raise aspirations amongst College learners including the implementation of an annual internal progression (internal access) plan.
3. Work with employers to increase awareness and identify opportunities for the development of accessible programmes of study to attract work-based learners
4. Extend the range of Access to HE programmes for 19+ students.

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by Wakefield College 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 Wakefield College’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)	We will continue to target and support students from low income backgrounds and aim to steadily increase the number of students from low income backgrounds.	2014-15	32%	35%	36%	Percentage	2019-20	46	Expected progress
T16a_02 (Access)	Increase the number of students declaring a disability. We will review and if possible improve our provision of information and support for disabled students.	2014-15	5%	6%	7%	Percentage	2019-20	15	Expected progress
T16a_03 (Access)	Increase the number of mature students. This will require additional work with the local community and employers to reverse a declining trend, and to attract more mature students onto full-time programmes.	2014-15	28%	28%	28%	Percentage	2019-20	28	Expected progress
T16a_04 (Access)	Increase the current number of part-time students	2014-15	46%	46%	46%	Percentage	2019-20	26	No progress
T16a_05 (Access)	The 2013-14 baseline means that the proportion of students from ethnic minority groups is approximately 2% above the proportion within the local community. Our aim is to increase the number of students from ethnic minority groups	2013-14	9%	10.5%	11%	Percentage	2019-20	14.4	Expected progress

T16a_06 (Access)	The College is actively working with stakeholders to increase awareness and opportunities for young people in care across the region and will continue to develop strategies to support and grow this cohort, with GHWY for example. The target is to increase the number of students who are care leavers	2011-12	1	4	4	Headcount	2019-20	1	No progress
T16a_07 (Access)	Students on full-time undergraduate courses aged under 25 years who are resident in any postcode where a ward uplift is applied as defined in the English Indices of Deprivation (Index of Multiple Deprivation).	2014-15	36%	39%	40%	Percentage	2019-20	53	Expected progress
T16a_08 (Student success)	We will increase the proportion of students who are retained on their programme.	2013-14	85%	89%	90%	Percentage	2019-20	86.3	Limited progress
T16a_09 (Student success)	We will increase the proportion of students who achieve on their programme.	2013-14	91%	96%	97%	Percentage	2019-20	94.3	Limited 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 (Access)	The College will engage with all High Schools / Post-16 providers in Wakefield District with more than 60% of their cohort from the lowest participation wards. The aim is to agree an individual action plan of outreach activities for, and a progression agreement with, each School.	2015-16	No Action Plans or Progression Agreements in place	4	6	Other	2019-20	4	Limited progress
T16b_02 (Multiple)	Working in partnership across the region, Go Higher West Yorkshi will provide bespoke support for young people in public care and care leavers, aged 5-25, through sustained engagement.	2015-16	116	131	136	Headcount	2019-20	146	Expected progress
T16b_03 (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	Headcount	2019-20	94	Expected progress
T16b_04 (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_05 (Access)	We will deliver a minimum of 10 primary school master classes with primary schools and two attainment raising activity days within our ASIC Centre.	2017-18	10	12	14	Other	2019-20	0	No progress

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	£5,800.00	£5,800.00	0%
Financial Support	£58,000.00	£67,434.00	16%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected Wakefield College 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_04	We will continue to explore opportunities to provide progression from Advanced to Higher Level Apprenticeships.
T16a_06	The College will support the key finding from the Care to Go Higher report iethat 'local authorities are encouraged to work with partnerships of higher education providers to ensure their corporate parenting workforce has high expectations for young people's futures, exposure to a broad range of HE provision, and is well-equipped to support their informed choices.'
T16a_08	We have committed to targetting disabled students and young students on full-time programmes in the 2020-21 onwards A&PP to improve non-continuation rates
T16a_09	The measures we have committed to in our 2020-21 plan will support achievement.
T16b_01	Take advantage of the resources developed to support on-line outreach activity during the pandemic along with a return to face-to-face activities particulalry within the College's University Centre.
T16b_05	We are planning to run the HE Taster Day during Easter 2022.

5. Confirmation

Wakefield College confirms that:

Student engagement	
Have you worked with your students to help them complete the access and participation plan monitoring student submission?	
Yes	
Have you engaged with your student body in the design, evaluation, and monitoring of the plan?	
Yes	
Verification and sign off	
Wakefield College 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	Sam Wright
Position	Principal

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

Wakefield College's commentary where progress against targets was less than expected.

Target reference number: T16a_04
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
We have continued to work closely with employers on course design and development leading to the introduction of 2 new degree programmes in computer science and criminology and law in September 2020.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
No

Target reference number: T16a_06
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes. We have contributed to the work of Go Higher West Yorkshire for this target group including the Care to Go Higher CPD project.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
The College has re-established contact with Wakefield Council regarding Children in Care and has put in place various measures to support CiC who are students at the College.

Target reference number: T16a_08
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes and these have had a positive impact. The retention of BAME students increased in 2019-20 (+1% for Black to 93%, +2% for Asian to 82% and +37% for mixed to 100%). We have continued to invest in training for staff to support students with specific disabilities and the retention of students declaring a disability was 100% for physical disabilities, 90% for specific learning difficulties and 91% for mental ill health of 93% for the whole cohort.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
We introduced a September school in 2019 to better prepare students for the transition from FE to HE.

Target reference number: T16a_09
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes. Targeted interventions have predominantly centred on student wellbeing due to the pandemic, with the focus on supporting mental health and within that wider focus, the specific

impacts on under-represented groups such as estranged students, care leavers and care givers and those students with disabilities.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

We have introduced a range of measures in response to the Covid pandemic as reported in our provider submission.

Target reference number: T16b_01

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

Covid has impacted on our approach to outreach activity however prior to the first lockdown events including Uni-Connect collaborative tasters and an HE Roadshow took place involving students from at least 4 Post-16 providers in Wakefield.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

We have taken a recent opportunity to target students on vocational study programmes at the Sixth Form College in Wakefield who are not engaged with HE progression.

Target reference number: T16b_05

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

A HE Taster day for Childrens' University participants was planned for Easter 2021 but had to be cancelled due to Covid.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

No.

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

Wakefield College's commentary on any of the targets listed in [Section 2](#).

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	Exceeded expectations. Growth in full-time student numbers in the University Centre has been primarily through engaging those from disadvantaged backgrounds
T16a_02	Exceeded expectations. We believe that more students are encouraged to declare a disability; there has been an increase in the proportion of students with mental health issues (from 1.2% in 2018-19 to 2.0%) and the increase in for those with specific learning difficulties seen in 2018-19 has been maintained (at almost 6%).
T16a_03	Met expectations. The relatively high proportion of students aged 25+ has been maintained as full-time student numbers have grown.
T16a_04	Not met expectations. During the period of growth in full-time numbers part-time numbers have fallen in line with the National trend.
T16a_05	Exceeded expectations. The University Centre community has become more diverse and is well above that in the local community.
T16a_06	Not met expectations. Engaging more care experienced students with the University Centre is an objective of the 2020-21 onwards A&PP.
T16a_07	Exceeded expectations. Growth in full-time student numbers in the University Centre has been primarily through engaging those from disadvantaged backgrounds
T16a_08	Overall retention dipped slightly in 2019-20 having increased for the 3 previous years.
T16a_09	Not met expectations although overall pass rates have remained close to 95% for 5 years.
T16b_01	None
T16b_02	Figures reported are those confirmed as 'sustained engagement' with no risk of double-counting.
T16b_03	As in previous years, this percentage represents where data has been able to be collected.
T16b_04	The proxy for this measure has in the past been participation in residential activity however, due to the C19 lockdown situation, most planned residential activity was cancelled. Instead, as approved by the GHWY BOARD an alternative approach was used.
T16b_05	None