

## 2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

### Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by University of York 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

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

Our overarching ambitions from our 19/20 Access and Participation Plan are summarised as:

- To remain an inclusive institution in accordance with York's original mission
- To contribute to the local, regional and national agenda for widening participation and social mobility.
- To maintain an appropriate balance between activities linked to the profile of our own students and their success and future opportunities, and those which raise aspiration and support attainment more widely through our collaborative and other work.
- To ensure that our students are supported to achieve their best throughout their studies and beyond
- To continue to work towards stretching targets for our main areas of activity
- To develop further our understanding of our own position and the progress of our students through the access, success and progression life-cycle in order to identify areas for targeted action.

The strategic approach to our 19/20 Access and Participation Plan was to ensure that all activity was informed by the following principles:

- Evidence-based, so that we ensure that interventions have clear aims and are addressing genuine areas of concern;
- Targeted, taking into account a variety of indicators so that we directly reach those who can benefit most from our interventions;
- Sustained, so that measures and investment are given appropriate time to show a return
- Monitored and evaluated, so that activity can be adjusted and developed depending on our assessments of impact;
- Collaborative where appropriate and beneficial, so that the reach of our activities is extended as far as possible.

## 2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by University of York 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 University of York'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)	To at least maintain and if possible increase the proportion of young, full-time first degree entrants from Low participation neighbourhoods (POLAR 3)	2011-12	6.2	7.5	8	Percentage	2019-20	9.5	Expected progress
T16a_02 (Access)	To increase the proportion of BME entrants to full time first degree study	2012-13	8.7	13	13.4	Percentage	2019-20	24.4	Expected progress
T16a_03 (Student success)	The difference between the continuation rate at York for young and mature full time UK first degree students will be reduced to within six percentage points, measured using HESA PI Table T3a data.	2013-14	7.7	6.8	6.4	Percentage points	2018-19	5.5	Expected progress
T16a_04 (Student success)	To exceed the national average rate of disclosure for students with disabilities, as published by the ECU, by at least one percentage point.	2014-15	1.2% above national average	At least one percentage point above national average	At least one percentage point above national average	Percentage	2018-19	13.8	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 (Other/Multiple stages)	Appropriately targeted schools and colleges for outreach and access activities, including those in the University of York Schools and Colleges Network.	2011-12	28	60	64	Other	2019-20	104	Expected progress
T16b_02 (Access)	"Shine": Outreach work in a progressive programme with Years 6-11 from targeted schools across the region.	2012-13	1303	2200	2200	Headcount	2019-20	2632	Expected progress
T16b_03 (Access)	Realising Opportunities (RO) targets for progression of RO participants to a research intensive university.	Other (please give details in Description column)	n/a	38% (cohort 8)	39% (cohort 9)	Percentage	2019-20	52	Expected progress
T16b_04 (Access)	Realising Opportunities (RO) targets for progression of RO participants to an RO partner university.	Other (please give details in Description column)	n/a	25% (cohort 8)	25% (cohort 9)	Percentage	2019-20	38	Expected progress
T16b_05 (Access)	Excellence Hub: a partnership between the Universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York which targets high achieving students from currently under-represented groups from across the region to encourage and facilitate progression of the 'most able, least likely' group of students to selective HEIs, through subject specific taster events and IAG events, workshops and conferences.	2011-12	800	2150	2200	Headcount	2019-20	781	Limited progress

T16b_06 (Access)	Green Apples: a successful innovative partnership involving all local FE and HE partners as well as the Local Authority, the North Yorkshire Business and Education Partnership, Higher York and local primary and secondary schools. This is a progressive programme of interventions, mainly focused on Year 9-11 but also involving pupils from year 6 upwards.	2013-14	433	730	740	Headcount	2019-20	837	Expected progress
T16b_07 (Access)	Next Step York: this is a programme for talented Year 12 and 13 students from targeted schools and colleges where students participate in a series of activities, including ementoring and a residential that will support their application to university and in particular to research intensive universities.	2012-13	51	200	200	Headcount	2019-20	238	Expected progress
T16b_08 (Access)	We will develop a tutoring programme in collaboration with school partners and with York's Department of Education. This will include a training programme for selected University of York students who will then work on a 1:2:1 or a very small group basis with targetted pupils from 2 local schools in year 1.	2016-17	0	60	n/a	Headcount	2019-20	60	Expected 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	£3,026,942.34	£1,707,000.00	-44%
Financial Support	£6,156,684.47	£6,805,000.00	11%

### 4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected University of York 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 have not carried this target forward to our 20/21 - 24/25 APP however we will continue to build on our current activity in this area and going forward we will look to work more closely with our colleagues in Communications to ensure that messaging is delivered in the most appropriate and impactful way to prospective and current students.
T16b_05	Our 20/21 - 24/25 APP no longer includes activity specific targets and as such, this target has been superseded.  The Excellence Hub partnership will continue to support schools and colleges in the Yorkshire and Humber region. We will work with schools and colleges to ensure the programme meets the needs of our target audience. We will also continue to monitor and evaluate the Hub and develop the programme accordingly.

## 5. Confirmation

University of York 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	
University of York 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	Charlie Jeffery
Position	Vice Chancellor and President

## Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

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

<b>Target reference number: T16a_04</b>
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes - Our Open Door and Disability Services Team have continued to offer support for our students, both moving to a remote service from March 2020 as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and associated restrictions.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
Our Disability Services team has worked closely with Admissions colleagues to ensure that all students who have declared a disability are aware of the services offered for disabled students and how to get in touch. The Disability Services team have also attended all Open Day events, as well as Departmental Visit Days, to provide information about our services to offer-holders and prospective students and to deliver talks to encourage students to disclose disabilities. We have also added a video to the University's Disability webpages to encourage disclosure, as well as screen displays around campus to encourage students to contact Disability Services. Our teams also works closely with our Disabled Students' Network who work directly with our students to encourage disclosure.

<b>Target reference number: T16b_05</b>
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
No - due to the hands-on, practical nature of Excellence Hub activity the majority of events had to be cancelled from March 2020 onwards as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
Before the Covid-19 restrictions began, we delivered 29 collaborative events, engaging 781 students from across 71 schools. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, many of our Excellence Hub events were cancelled. We continued to support schools and colleges through a monthly newsletter featuring online provision delivered by individual partner institutions. At York, we developed two online hubs of provision for pre-16 and post-16 pupils which engaged over 1600 students from schools and colleges across the region.

## Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

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

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	This target now reflects POLAR4 from the academic year 18/19 onwards in line with the reporting of HESA T1a. In the last year of POLAR3 we had comfortably exceeded our target.
T16a_02	We are performing well above this target which is reflected in our 20/21 - 24/25 APP having more specific ethnicity targets.
T16a_03	We are currently ahead of expected progress against this target. Both our young and mature non-continuation rates remain below the benchmark published in HESA PI Table T3. As such this target has not been carried forward to our 20/21 - 24/25 APP.
T16a_04	For the year in question we are 1.3% behind our target however it should be noted that in the subsequent years we have seen a significant rise in declarations with figures of 15.7% in 19/20 and 16.5% in 2021. As such we have not carried this target forward to our 20/21 - 24/25 APP.
T16b_01	
T16b_02	
T16b_03	The RO collaborative target is reframed within 2020 – 2025 APPs to ensure a robust reporting of the impact RO is having on access to research-intensive universities (RIUs). For 2020 – 2025 APPs RO will demonstrate maximum ambition for RO students and track two years of access to RIUs using HEAT data, rather than UCAS end of cycle data. UCAS data has been used for all RO collaborative targets prior to 2020 – 2021. UCAS data reported here is for the 2020 UCAS cycle. Data used for reporting against the first milestone in 2020 – 2025 APPs will include those who accessed HE in the 2020 UCAS cycle but will include students from the 2021 UCAS cycle and will be confirmed entrants via HESA.
T16b_04	Please see above
T16b_05	
T16b_06	Green Apples has been renamed 'Roots to Success'
T16b_07	
T16b_08	In 18/19 we worked with 80 school students, the figure for 19/20 was reduced (60 students) as we worked with one less school and focused on refining the programme rather than expanding. The 19/20 programme started but was cut short by the Covid-19 pandemic. We recruited tutors for 20/21 but were unable to go ahead with tutoring due to the third national lockdown.