



2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by Wigan and Leigh 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

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

This access and participation plan seeks to build the College's reputation and experience to ensure that students from a widening participation background continue to have access to a high quality, diverse curriculum offer which reflects the needs of both students and the labour market, whilst providing value for money to students and enhanced outreach and support.

The College's commitment to widening participation is embedded in its vision 'to be a centre of educational excellence which transforms the lives of individuals and the communities we serve.'

The College is committed to building further on its strong record of inclusivity. Our key goals for higher education are:

- To widen participation in Higher Education and ensure the programmes work to meet the needs of both learners and employer including increasing progression to HE from level 3, embedding the GM Higher Wigan Hub and expanding the higher and degree apprenticeship offer.
- To develop a vibrant learning experience and community in the University Centre for all staff and students. This will include implementing the HE transition strategy and developing course enhancements.
- To improve the quality of the student experience improving the outcomes for our students.

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by Wigan and Leigh 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 Wigan and Leigh 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)	increase by 4% the numbers of full-time students recruited from low participation neighbourhoods	2016-17	45%	47	48	Percentage	2019-20	50	Expected progress
T16a_02 (Access)	increase mature student numbers	2014-15	57%	58%	59%	Percentage	2019-20	54	Limited progress
T16a_03 (Access)	increase part-time student numbers	2014-15	301	399	412	Headcount	2019-20	408	Limited progress
T16a_04 (Student success)	increase cohort retention	2014-15	82.4%	85	85	Percentage	2019-20	83.5	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)	develop and hold an internal HE progression event	2014-15	0	3	3	Other	2019-20	24	Expected progress
T16b_02 (Student success)	develop a range of on-line academic study skills materials for HE students. Up to 200 students per year utilise this material	2014-15	0	300	300	Headcount	2019-20	300	Expected progress
T16b_03 (Progression)	develop and hold an HE careers/employer event	2014-15	0	2	2	Headcount	2019-20	2	Expected progress
T16b_04 (Access)	Greater Manchester Higher is a collaboration of universities and further education colleges from Greater Manchester working together to provide high quality outreach activities for local schools and colleges.	2014-15	87 secondary schools engaged with	106	114	Headcount	2019-20	176	Expected progress
T16b_05 (Progression)	increase the number of employers offering higher and degree apprenticeships	2016-17	4	8	10	Headcount	2019-20	23	Expected progress
T16b_06 (Student success)	provide a range of specific course enhancements that will improve student engagement and work skills	2016-17	0	20	25	Headcount	2019-20	30	Expected progress
T16b_07 (Student success)	provide a range of activities that supports the transition of students between levels	2016-17	200	250	280	Headcount	2019-20	300	Expected progress
T16b_08 (Access)	provide interventions to raise attainment in schools	2016-17	1	3	4	Headcount	2019-20	15	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	£7,500.00	£25,450.00	239%
Financial Support	£10,000.00	£1,400.00	-86%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected Wigan and Leigh 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_02	Highlight local offer, progression routes to top-up degrees and open events. Introduce some microcredential courses in engineering.
T16a_03	A task group has been set up to target this market. This includes a new approach to employer engagement for the HE offer and higher and degree apprenticeships.
T16a_04	Close monitoring of student engagement and transition plans into level 4 and level 5

5. Confirmation

Wigan and Leigh College 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	
Wigan and Leigh 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	Anna Dawe
Position	Accountable Officer

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

Wigan and Leigh College'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?
Yes - transition activities supported progression of mature students to HE. FE career events including apprenticeship events supported adult progression.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
Access to HE offer reviewed and progression talks held with level 3 students

Target reference number: T16a_03
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes - more employers engaged with the college to offer higher and degree apprenticeships
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
The range of higher apprenticeship standards has increased especially at level 4

Target reference number: T16a_04
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes - transition activities supported progression of students into and through HE. University Centre Advantage offer provided opportunities to enhance the student experience with additional vocational courses and trips and visits.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
New posts have been put introduced to provide specific interventions to increase student retention. Support measures included embedding additional learning support and close monitoring of students 'at risk' at an individual level

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

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

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	
T16a_02	
T16a_03	
T16a_04	
T16b_01	
T16b_02	
T16b_03	
T16b_04	
T16b_05	
T16b_06	
T16b_07	
T16b_08	