

2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by Wirral Metropolitan 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

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

The College continues to operate its Higher Education Strategy. The Strategy focuses on improving performance and outcomes for Higher Education students, it outlines the College's current position and how it address's and responds to the needs of the wider Liverpool City Region. The College is positioned on a peninsular with very low rates of participation and poor social mobility movement. The area surrounding the College has 12 postcodes featuring on quintile 1 of the POLAR4 data maps and some of the very lowest levels of participation.

With this in mind the College's challenging strategy aims to address barriers to higher education by offering affordable, relevant and inclusive opportunities for further and higher study within this community.

The college is part of the Merseyside Collaboration Outreach Programme (MCOP), Shaping Futures consortium and works closely with its partner HEIs and local Colleges to meet targets for participation rates set by the consortium. A number of projects and aspirational events have been actioned to inspire students within the college and potential students in the wider community to consider higher education as part of their progression.

The College's Higher Education Strategy (May 2018) is underpinned by three strategic themes, namely:

- Theme 1 – Ensuring we are responsive.
- Theme 2 – Ensure we set and meet high quality standards.
- Theme 3 – Ensure we are efficient and financially viable.

Access: The College has set a target to increase access for young, full time, undergraduate entrants from LPN to 55% by 2021.

Success: The College has set a target to reduce non-continuation rates for all full-time students from LPN (POLAR3, quintile 1) from 14% to 6% by 2021.

Progression: The College has set a target to increase progression onto further study or graduate level employment for those young, full-time, first degree achievers from LPN (POLAR3, quintile 1) from 84% to 90% by 2021

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by Wirral Metropolitan 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 Wirral Metropolitan 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)	The College is setting this target to increase access for young, full time, undergraduate entrants from Low Participation Neighbourhoods (LPN) quintile 1, by 22% by 2020-21. The college is part of a MNCO consortium and MCOP consortium bid, which is focused on visiting schools in LPN in the Liverpool City Region over a two year programme.	2013-14	33%	To be confirmed	To be confirmed	Percentage	2019-20	35	Expected progress
T16a_02 (Student success)	To reduce Completion/non-continuation rates for students from under-represented and disadvantaged groups by 8% by 2020-21	2013-14	14%	10%	8%	Percentage	2018-19	8	Expected progress
T16a_03 (Progression)	To increase progression onto further study or graduate level employment for young, full-time, first degree achievers from LPN (POLAR3, quintile 1) to 90% by 2020-21.	2013-14	84%	86%	na	Percentage	2016-17	80	Expected 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)	This college plans to engage with local schools to include pupils from LPN quintile 1.	2016-17	1 school, 15 pupils	4 schools to include 40 pupils	4 schools to include 50 pupils	Headcount	2019-20	55	Expected progress
T16b_02 (Access)	Outreach events working in collaboration with Community Action Wirral Agents and MCOP to promote access to Higher Education	2016-17	2 events	4 events	5 events	N/A (see description / commentary)	2019-20	5	Expected progress
T16b_03 (Access)	College wide Participate Project to promote and engage current level 2 and 3 learners from LPN to consider HE	2016-17	10 participants	30 participants	40 participants	Headcount	2019-20	62	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	£28,192.00	£41,639.02	48%
Financial Support	£99,500.00	£146,632.21	47%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected Wirral Metropolitan College has made the following commitments to increase the rate of progress against their targets.

No data was returned for this section in Wirral Metropolitan College's monitoring return submission.

5. Confirmation

Wirral Metropolitan 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	
Wirral Metropolitan 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	Sue Higginson
Position	CEO Principal

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

Wirral Metropolitan College's commentary where progress against targets was less than expected.
No data was returned for this section in Wirral Metropolitan College's monitoring return submission.

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

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

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	35% Q1
T16a_02	continuation rates for 18/19 is 90% POLAR4 data Q1. numbers are too low to dissect further for this group. However, overall continuation rates for deprivation quintile (IMD 2015) is 90%
T16a_03	DHEL data set used for 16/17
T16b_01	
T16b_02	
T16b_03	all based online