

# ACCESS & PARTICIPATION STATEMENT 2024-25



As a national college group, NCG's mission is to deliver exceptional education to create transformative opportunities for individuals that will also strengthen the prosperity of their local communities. We firmly believe that every individual, regardless of their background, should have equality of opportunity to access, succeed in, and progress beyond higher education to fulfil their potential. This is evident in our guiding principles for higher education, which support every decision we make, and insist that we must widen access to and success in higher education.

It is our belief that education is a powerful tool that breaks down barriers, uplifts communities, and transforms lives. By providing exceptional education we strive to empower individuals from all backgrounds to overcome societal and economic challenges, ultimately enabling social mobility. We understand that education is not just about acquiring knowledge but also about equipping individuals with the skills, confidence, and opportunities to thrive in the world, often through gainful employment.

We understand that ensuring equal opportunities extends beyond admission. It encompasses providing the necessary support and resources to help every student reach their full potential. We are proud of our commitment to provide comprehensive academic and pastoral support services, financial assistance programmes, mentoring, and tailored interventions to address individual needs. By doing so, we strive to bridge the gaps in inequality, ensuring that no student is left behind on their educational journey.

NCG is committed to widening access and participation in higher education, irrespective of background, gender, age, ethnicity, disability, religion, social class, or any other factor. NCG has been delivering higher education for many years, and we continually review our provision to ensure that it remains current and relevant and meets the needs of its student population and the needs of industry and employers.

The portfolio of higher education programmes offered across NCG supports and encourages access and participation through a wide range of study options, including for those who might have previously been excluded from studying higher education courses. NCG provides tailored support for students applying for higher education courses. Whilst on programme, NCG students are supported to maximise opportunities available, and students are supported to complete programmes of study with positive outcomes.

NCG's Access and Participation plan (available at: <https://www.ncgrp.co.uk/guide-to-information/higher-education-at-ncg/>) sets out how we are working to improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education.