

2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by NCG 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

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

In the Access and Participation Plan, NCG's strategic priorities set against Access, Success and Progression of students from underrepresented groups were:

- We aimed to improve access for students from specific underrepresented groups across three of our Colleges. Students who disclose a disability or difficulty at Newcastle College University Centre (NCUC), students from BAME heritage at Kidderminster College and at West Lancashire College access for students from all underrepresented groupings.
- We also had strategic ambitions to improve continuation rates for all students from underrepresented groups, with a particular focus on improving continuation for white British males from low participation backgrounds.
- We aimed to improve award rates for white British males from low participation backgrounds and also students from BAME heritage.

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by NCG 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 NCG'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 part time recruitment utilising vocational Foundation Degrees and working with employers	2014-15	19%	21.4	21.7	Percentage	2019-20	17.1	No progress
T16a_02 (Access)	Maintenance / increase in mature entrants to Higher Education	2013-14	52%	54%	54.5%	Percentage	2019-20	52.8	Limited progress
T16a_03 (Access)	Recruit from low participation neighbourhoods	2013-14	30%	34%	35%	Percentage	2019-20	54.51	Expected progress
T16a_04 (Access)	Increase in recruitment from BME groups	2014-15	12.5%	14.9%	15.1%	Percentage	2019-20	15.21	Expected progress
T16a_05 (Access)	Increased representation from white British men from disadvantaged backgrounds	2014-15	13.9%	16%	16.5%	Percentage	2019-20	20.32	Expected progress
T16a_06 (Student success)	Increase in success from BME groups - to be completed in next years agreement	2016-17	78.05	78.7	79	Percentage	2019-20	81.11	Expected progress
T16a_07 (Student success)	Increase in success from learners from disadvantaged backgrounds - to be completed in next years agreement	2016-17	80	80.4	80.6	Percentage	2019-20	81.12	Expected progress
T16a_08 (Progression)	Increase progression to Level 7 from students from WP backgrounds	2018-19	15%	15%	16%	Percentage	2019-20	47	Expected progress
T16a_09 (Access)	Increase the number of students attending the Achieve more programme	2016-17	40	80	90	Headcount	2019-20	50	No progress

T16a_10 (Access)	Increase the number of students who attended the Achieve more programme who enrol onto HE within NCG	2018-19	5	5	10	Headcount	2019-20	10	No progress
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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)	Provide taster/masterclass days for internal and external students	2013-14	4 taster/masterclass days	6 taster/masterclass days	7 taster/masterclass days	Other	2019-20	4	Expected progress
T16b_02 (Access)	Target secondary and schools within the Group with high proportions of non-traditional students.	2013-14	15 Schools	17 schools	17 schools	Other	2019-20	17	Limited 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	£200,758.00	£224,000.00	12%
Financial Support	£1,608,000.00	£1,296,000.00	-19%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected NCG 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_01	New HE strategy including a review of part-time provision.
T16a_02	Mature student access is not a target in our 2020-25 return. However we will monitor this going forward and intervene if necessary.
T16a_09	We have rebranded this activity as FutureMe and commented on progress within the submission.
T16a_10	We have rebranded this activity as FutureMe and commented on progress within the submission.
T16b_02	This activity will start again post pandemic restrictions

5. Confirmation

NCG 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	
NCG 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	Liz Bromley
Position	CEO of NCG

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

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

Target reference number: T16a_01
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
No

Target reference number: T16a_02
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
No

Target reference number: T16a_09
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
No

Target reference number: T16a_10
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
No

Target reference number: T16b_02
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
Yes
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
Yes

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

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

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	This decline is in line with the sector decline in PT provision
T16a_02	We are still above baseline.
T16a_03	
T16a_04	
T16a_05	
T16a_06	
T16a_07	
T16a_08	
T16a_09	
T16a_10	
T16b_01	
T16b_02	All interactions with schools has been virtual during the pandemic.