

Aiming Higher Together

We are a collaborative network of higher education providers in Greater Manchester who are working together to provide high quality, impartial information, advice and guidance about higher education.

We work with under-represented groups including learners who are care-experienced, disabled, young carers and estranged. Schools are encouraged to include these learners in all of our activities in addition to our programme of activities specifically for targeted learners.

More information about our activities, including how to book, will be available on our website from September:

www.gmhigher.ac.uk

Please get in touch with us to discuss other groups you would like us to work with via gmhigher@mmu.ac.uk

TARGETED LEARNER CPD

These sessions provide an interactive forum for professionals to find out more about HE and explore how best to support learners.

Supporting the Supporters (Care-experienced learners) – Wednesday 21st February 2018

This event is for adults who support looked after children and/or care leavers to ensure you feel confident supporting and advising them. It will answer questions you might have about how to apply to HE, what the benefits are and what support is available.

The event will also contain information about post-16 pathways and a Q&A with current HE students who have been through the care system. It will take place at the University of Salford.

Key Influencer Presentation (Care-experienced learners)

This 20-minute session is suitable for foster carers, social workers and other key influencers of care-experienced young people and gives an overview of HE, including financial and pastoral support and tips on supporting young people make decisions. We are happy to deliver this session as part of any training or information events that may be happening locally.

Breaking Barriers (Disabled Learners) – Wednesday 27th June 2018

Breaking Barriers is aimed at staff in the FE sector who support learners with disabilities in their transition to HE. The event will include networking, workshops and a marketplace with internal and external specialists in disability and student support/guidance. This event will be hosted by The University of Bolton.



Bespoke Campus Visits

We are happy to arrange bespoke visits for learners and their supporters who may require additional support in applying to and studying at university.



CARE-EXPERIENCED LEARNERS

Success4Life (Y8–10)

This project brings together looked after children to take part in interactive sessions that will develop their confidence and skills, and raise their awareness of HE. A 10 week programme is delivered at The University of Manchester in the autumn term for Y8–9 learners and we can deliver a condensed version of the programme in a venue within a target local authority for either Y8–9 or Y9–10 learners. The sessions end with a graduation to mark the students' success.



Step up to Uni (Y11–13) – Wednesday 11th April 2018

This event is a VIP Open Day hosted by Manchester Metropolitan University for learners who are care-experienced and considering applying to HE. It will increase their understanding of the pastoral and financial support available from universities and their local authority. Learners will interact in small groups with care-experienced university students who are able to share their experiences and answer questions.

Presentation or Workshop for Care-experienced learners

Developed in conjunction with care-experienced young people, this 20-minute presentation or 45-minute workshop gives a general overview of HE as well as specific information about the support available and can be delivered in a venue of your choice.

Greater Manchester Care Leaver Awards – Tuesday 17th October 2017

Hosted at the Royal Northern College of Music in conjunction with the Greater Manchester local authorities, the annual Care Leaver Awards celebrates and rewards the achievements and successes of Care Leavers from across Greater Manchester.

Nominations open in July and close in September.

LEARNERS WITH DISABILITIES

The following activities are for learners who may access additional support at university, including learners with disabilities, learning difficulties, long-term health conditions and mental health conditions.

Higher Education Visit Days (Y8–10)

These visit days offer an introduction to HE like all our visits, but also include information about the specific support available. Learners will have the chance to meet disabled university students who will talk about their experiences.

| Event | Host Institution | Date |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Pre-16 Visit for Learners on the Autistic Spectrum | Manchester Metropolitan University | Thursday 26th April 2018 |
| Pre-16 Wellbeing Day (for learners who may need to access counselling and wellbeing support at university) | Manchester Metropolitan University | Friday 27th April 2018 |
| Post-16 Visit for Deaf Learners | University of Salford | Wednesday 20th June 2018 |
| Post-16 Wellbeing Day (for learners who may need to access counselling and wellbeing support at university) | Manchester Metropolitan University | Friday 11th May 2018 |

Prospective Student and Parent/Carer Event (Y10–12) – Thursday 15th February 2018

This early evening event hosted at The University of Manchester will cover the range of pastoral and financial support available including Disabled Student's Allowance.

The highlight will be a Q&A with current HE students who have disabilities. There will be a range of information stands to enable attendees to find out more about support available from HEIs and the third sector.

Higher Education Support Presentation (Y11–13)

We can visit your school/college to deliver a 20-minute presentation that details the kind of support available and how to access it.

