

ACCESS AND STUDENT SUCCESS

IMPACT REPORT

2023

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INTRODUCTION

At the University of Manchester, our core values of humanity, courage and pioneering spirit mean that social justice is in our DNA. Our shared vision of equity drives innovations across the institution aiming to increase access, success, and progression for all underrepresented groups.

The University of Manchester offers a range of programmes, services and financial aid to support access, success and progression, notably the Manchester Access Programme, Great Science Share for Schools, and My Learning Essentials. Colleagues across our Faculties, Schools, and Professional Services work to ensure that students at the University of Manchester are well supported. We aim to remove barriers and facilitate the success of students from underrepresented groups; students who might not otherwise access, succeed or progress across the student life cycle.

The University of Manchester has a long-standing commitment to social justice and equity, and this is the foundation of our work. Access and Student Success extends beyond the activity of Access and Student Success (ASESD) in the Division of Student & Academic Services, to include the Library, faculties and cultural institutions, all of whom deliver their own range of interventions whilst supporting the delivery of our central programmes. This whole-provider approach is an essential requirement for the regulator, the Office for Students (OfS), for our new

Access and Participation Plan which will come into effect in 2025-26. We are looking ahead to set our strategic vision which will strengthen existing activity and to innovate new interventions which address risks to students' equality of opportunity.

Our Access and Success team continues to work in a consultancy model across the institution, offering targeted advice, support and guidance to colleagues. In response to the increased focus on impact evaluation by the OfS, our Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team have created a host of resources, available via our new M&E webpages. These resources offer comprehensive guidance from developing a Theory of Change to recording outreach activities in the Higher Education Access Tracker (HEAT).

In line with a renewed focus from the OfS for third sector partnerships, this report has highlighted several strategic collaborations such as those with

the Brilliant Club to aid sixth form students' transition into higher education, and our IntoUniversity centres funded by generous donations from alumni, fundraised by our highly talented colleagues in the Division of Development and Alumni Relations.

In this report, we have highlighted several key programmes and interventions to showcase best practice across the institution. We continue to be impressed by and grateful for the commitment and determination of our colleagues who drive this activity.



Sheree Palmer
Head of Access and
Student Success

Data for our pre-University Access and Student Success activities showed

76%

of the young people we worked with live in high deprivation neighbourhoods (IMD)

50%

of the young people we worked with live in areas of low progression into higher education (POLAR4)

In 2023 we worked with



37,688
students from



799
schools and colleges



of our of schools and colleges reached were 'high priority'¹, including the top 5 schools in Greater Manchester we engaged with the most.

¹ According to the Manchester Prioritisation Model, our in-house targeting tool. Targeting is based upon percentage of students receiving free school meals and an institution's KS2 or KS4 performance.

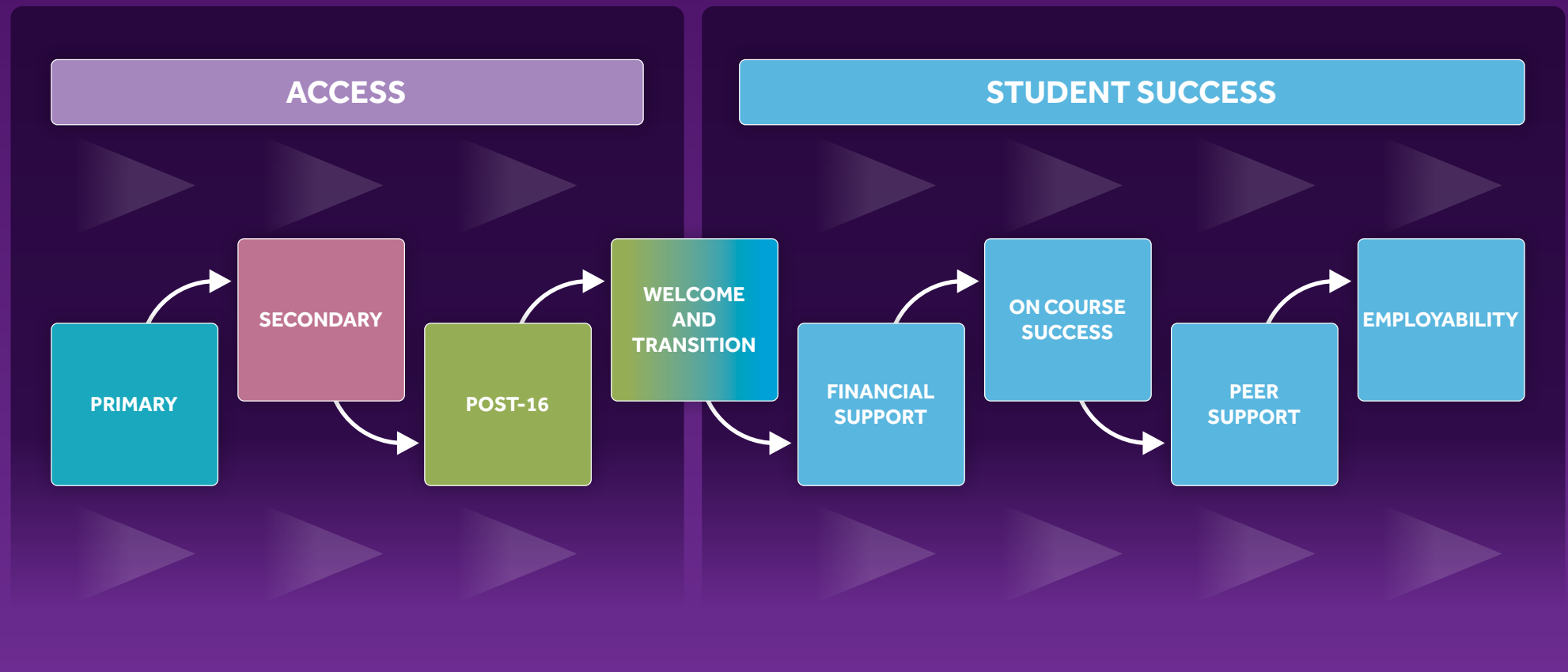


THE STUDENT JOURNEY

Students are all individuals and the support needed for different target groups can vary greatly.

As a student progresses along their education pathway, their needs for support grow with them. From providing a positive introduction to higher education in primary school to facilitating on-course success for our current undergraduates, access and student success at The University of Manchester encompasses a diverse range of initiatives, making education more equitable for all.

Use the buttons below to find out more about the impact of our programmes in 2023



EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

It is paramount that all staff across the University delivering vital Access and Student Success work strive to deliver high quality evaluation. By measuring our impact, we can interrogate the mechanisms driving change and, by sharing our findings, we can support other colleagues to do the same.

In 2023, the Office for Students (OfS) issued guidance for the new Access and Participation Plan (APP) which emphasised the importance of evaluation as a whole provider collective responsibility. To align with this, the Access and Student Success team has enhanced the evaluation support available to colleagues across the University. Our in-house Evaluation Framework contains a host of resources staff can use to design, plan and deliver robust evaluation. The 6 stage, **Design, Deliver, Evaluate, Learn, Share, Review**, framework enables a joined-up approach to evaluation and is regularly updated to incorporate sector best practice. Our support has also extended beyond these resources, with the launch of a training module, delivery of workshops and bespoke consultancy.

With the greater transparency and oversight our Framework offers, we will continue to improve implementation of evaluation, further strengthening the evidence we generate. As the Evaluation Framework is embedded into University practice, we hope that our knowledge bank will grow to incorporate findings from across the University and inform the design of future Access and Student Success Work.

Since the launch of our Evaluation Framework:

- The Evaluation Framework microsite has been accessed over 700 times.
- All activity delivered by the Access and Student Success team has adopted a Theory of Change approach.
- Two Theory of Change student insight sessions were hosted with the Library Student Team.
- The number of tracked participants recorded in HEAT has increased by 140%, to over 5000 students.



Further links: contact Jack.Walker@manchester.ac.uk for more information about our Evaluation Framework | contact HEATSupport@manchester.ac.uk for more information on our institutional use of HEAT



PRIMARY

297

Key stage 1 and
2 activities

We aim to provide a positive introduction to higher education for pupils whilst they are in primary school.

By visiting our historic campus or one of our Cultural Institutions, students are supported to imagine themselves studying at university. Over the past year, our Cultural Institutions delivered **297 outreach activities** to over **8500 Key stage 1 and 2 pupils**.

Here are highlights of some of the activity we delivered across the academic year 2022-23.

Each of our faculties plays an important role in supporting primary school students to broaden their understanding, offering academic enrichment through positive learning experiences. Last year, colleagues across all three faculties worked with 3,299 pupils across Key Stage 1 and 2.

Over
8,500

Key stage 1
and 2 pupils



Over
520k

students took part
in GSSfS in 2023

Great Science Share for Schools

The Science and Engineering Education Research and Innovation Hub (SEERIH), based within the Faculty of Science and Engineering, engaged 524,415 students in the Great Science Share for Schools (GSSfS) by asking them to investigate and share their scientific questions relating to sustainability. GSSfS culminated in an on-campus event where local school children were invited to present their findings and receive recognition for their work.

YouTube
Click here to
see highlights
from the GSSfS
2023 event

In addition, a further **260 students** from primary schools with low progression to higher education attended Access and Student Success run campus events in 2023. After participating in these visits, students reported a 13% increase in their ambition to study at university and a 21% increase in their knowledge of post-16 options.

Access All Areas

Local primary school students have also been supported by Access All Areas, a suite of student-led volunteering initiatives coordinated by the Students' Union. One of these initiatives, *Dentists in Primary Schools*, delivered activities introducing oral hygiene and careers in dentistry to over 200 students across Manchester in 2023. These sessions help students to identify the link between higher education and careers.



“

Fantastic session! Children were so engaged and had a great time. We had a chat about the session afterwards and the children had clearly learnt lots.
**Primary School Teacher,
Dentists in Primary Schools**

”

Supporting attainment



155

school pupils
accessed
Academic
Support

IntoUniversity

In primary school, attainment gaps between students from the less advantaged backgrounds and their peers begin to emerge. Through community-based learning centres, IntoUniversity's programme offers longstanding support to students from Key Stage 2 onwards. By attending after-school academic support, students can receive additional assistance alongside their schoolwork to help them succeed. An independent evaluation found students with a high volume of Academic Support at IntoUniversity made the equivalent of **3 months additional progress in Maths**.

In 2022, we celebrated the opening of IntoUniversity Salford Central, in partnership with The University of Salford. Through this expansion, **155 primary school students were supported to attend Academic Support sessions across both Greater Manchester centres over the past year.**

IntoUniversity Impact Report 2023

Whitworth Art Gallery

Manchester Museum

Jodrell Bank



INTRODUCTION

THE STUDENT JOURNEY

EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

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STUDENT SUCCESS

SECONDARY

Our secondary outreach is designed to provide pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds with impartial Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG), improved self-efficacy, academic confidence, and campus capital through a myriad of programmes and partnerships.

This section is a snapshot of some of our secondary outreach work in 2022/23.



Gateways

Gateways

The Gateways Programme has been delivered for nearly 15 years and offers annual campus visits to secondary school pupils from WP backgrounds in high priority schools within Greater Manchester. During these visits, pupils build their knowledge, confidence, and skills, to help enable them to access higher education. In 2022/23, we delivered 25 events to over 1,000 pupils from 30 schools. Feedback data showed 92% of attendees agreed that post-visit, they understood more about university and what it is like to be a student. 71% agreed they would fit in at university.

71%
of Gateways students
agree they would fit
in at university

Supporting attainment raising and working with partners

Many students from less advantaged backgrounds may face barriers to achieving their full academic potential and to progressing into selective higher education institutions (HEIs) or highly competitive degree pathways. To address this challenge, we work closely with partners such as **Into**University, The Brilliant Club, The Tutor Trust and Reach Out on mentoring and tutoring initiatives. Across these partnerships, 241 staff and students from the University supported 2036 pupils through tutoring and mentoring in 2022/23.

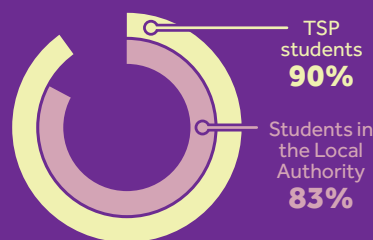
Tutoring and mentoring have a proven impact on pupil attainment, and our partnership with The Brilliant Club, through their Scholars Programme, forms part of our 2020-21 to 2024-25 Access and Participation Plan (APP). Data shows that, nationally participants from this scheme are twice as likely to achieve a 9 to 5 grade in their Maths and English GCSEs compared to students from a similar background in the same Local Authority.

We also continue to collaborate with other local HEIs and Further Education Institutions (FEIs) to provide impartial IAG, industry insights and academic enrichment activities through the Greater Manchester Higher Uni Connect partnership which supports young people from underrepresented groups across the region.

Greater Manchester Higher



GCSE Score of Year 10 Brilliant Club Scholars Programme Students



Students who scored 9-5 in Maths and English at GCSE with high prior attainment at Key Stage 2

(based on a sample of 880 TSP students)



Students who scored 9-6 in Maths and English with average prior attainment at Key Stage 2

(based on a sample of 160 TSP students)

Students who did The Scholars Programme in Year 10, with average Key Stage 2 prior attainment were twice as likely to achieve a 9-5 in Maths and English at GCSE.



Academic and cultural enrichment

Across all areas of the University, staff and students are delivering academic and cultural enrichment activities that help pupils experience and cultivate a greater understanding of the diverse subjects and learning opportunities available in higher education. Academic and outreach staff across the University's faculties delivered a range of exciting and inspirational activities introducing pupils to subjects like biosciences, engineering, psychology and modern languages, as well as providing an opportunity to improve core skills for their current subjects such as Maths. Over 6,800 pupils benefited from these faculty-led initiatives. Our cultural institutions play a significant or crucial role in supporting our outreach activity and engaged 5,958 pupils from KS3 and 4 in activities that celebrated our historic collections including curriculum-enrichment activities, tours, workshops and masterclasses. As a reflection: The Primary page has highlighted key figures but the Secondary does not. It would be nice to highlight some of the key stats as they make for great reading.

Over
12,500
KS3 pupils engaged
with our faculties
and cultural
institutions



SECONDARY

Supporting learners from OfS strategic outreach communities

We recognise that pupils from specific groups encounter unique risks to their education. For this reason, we have projects in place to provide targeted outreach to those communities, including pupils who are care experienced, who are refugees or who are seeking asylum. This year, through our UniConnect collaboration, we celebrated the 10th year of Success4Life, a multi-week intervention activity designed to support care experienced pupils with academic resilience and confidence, and to nurture their academic aspirations. Twelve KS3 Learners took part and celebrated with a graduation attended by their supporters.

2022/23 also saw the launch of an exciting Sanctuary Scholars project collaboration with The Brilliant Club for local KS4 pupils from migrant and

refugee communities to promote HE, improve skills, and foster a sense of belonging in education through tutorials and study. Twenty-one pupils from three schools participated, and teachers provided positive feedback on the impact of tailoring the program to meet the unique experiences and needs of these pupils. One teacher told us, *"The programme was really well received by students, and it was great for them to experience a range of academic disciplines."* Evaluation showed that participants felt an increased sense of belonging in HE and more confidence that they could progress into HE after the programme was completed.

We also worked with With Insight to deliver 'Foresight' mentoring for Black KS3 students to improve their confidence. 'Foresight' pairs pupils with student mentors from our Healthcare, Science and Engineering degrees in response to an underrepresentation of Black students in these degree programmes. Twenty pupils took part and gave extremely positive feedback regarding their experience, with 83% of students stating they felt the programme motivated them to work harder in school. When asked about the impact of having a Black mentor, 84% agreed it was important to them, with some pupils saying it made the programme more relatable. Talking about the ways in which the programme has benefitted them, one pupil said, *"It has really helped me, with studying tactics and methods, prepped me for later life and just made everything seem a lot less intimidating"*. Teachers highlighted improved self-advocacy, *"They have become more adept at making informed decisions, weighing options, and considering the potential impact of their choices."*

One of our Success for Life Learners explained...



I have learned that some people have experienced certain things that I went through, and they had some of the same struggles... The thing that has inspired me is that university isn't just about sitting about and listening to lectures – it's about adventures and starting new friendships and meeting new people as well as having fun. University is about respect and kindness. My future goals are going to college to get my A-levels then go to university and map the rest of my life out.



Looking forward

In 2023/24, we look forward to continuing with our existing programmes and launching new pilot activities designed to support attainment at Key Stage 4. We are evolving our flagship Gateways Programme in content and structure to include more meta-cognition focused activities and to provide more IAG before pupils begin Key Stage 4. We are also launching a brand new KS4 programme called Manchester

Young Academics (MYA). The MYA programme aims to provide Year 10 and 11 pupils from the most socially deprived areas in Greater Manchester with the skills, resources, and experiences they need to become independent learners and to increase their potential for successful university applications. The MYA programme pilot will run with Year 10 pupils during the 23/24 academic year.

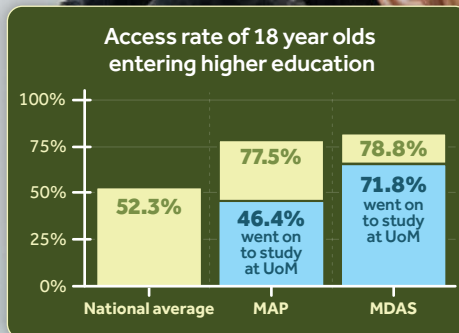
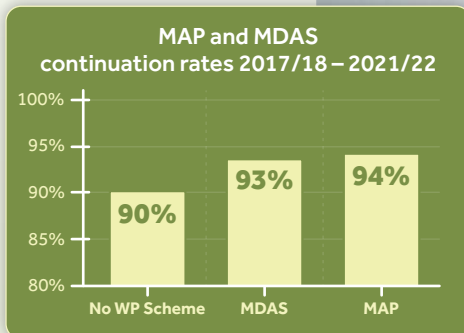


We want to make sure that talented, capable students can benefit from a university education, regardless of their background and demographic profile.

Our post-16 programmes and activities provide support with university applications, information about courses and university life, and development of a wide range of skills in preparation for students to arrive at university more confident and well-equipped. During 2022/23, our institution supported 7,465 KS5 pupils through our outreach and access activities.

The graph below demonstrates these programmes have a positive influence on participants who go on to study at the University of Manchester, as their continuation rates are higher than students from a similar demographic who did not participate in any access schemes.

In this report we'd like to highlight some of our Post 16 Access schemes, which support students with HE preparedness and study skills.



Over
600
participants
annually

Manchester Access Programme

Our Manchester Access Programme (MAP) is the University's flagship access scheme for local Year 12 students. MAP has over 600 participants annually, with students taking part in online and on-campus events, ranging from workshops focused on study skills, life skills, and developing campus capital. Students are also asked to complete an academic assignment to demonstrate their academic and research skills and in preparation for HE-level academic assessment. Students who successfully complete all aspects of MAP benefit from a two-grade reduction to any University of Manchester degree offer they receive.

In response to student feedback and to foster a sense of belonging as part of our University community, we increased the number of compulsory modules being delivered on campus. We added new modules focused on improving students' confidence and understanding of how to succeed in HE to support their transition to and success on degree programmes. Going forward, we will continue to improve and develop content to support students with their digital literacy.

“

When I was doing my personal statement, I was like, well, I've read academic books for my MAP assignment, I can talk about those in my personal statement. I can talk about the skills I gained from an academic assignment and how this will help me into getting into university. (...) [MAP] gave me a perspective on what I can actually do.

Isha, MAP 2022 student

”



Manchester Distance Access Scheme

The Manchester Distance Access Scheme (MDAS) is the University of Manchester's national student access programme for our Y13 contextual offer holders. Participants from across the UK get a real taste of what learning and assessment will look like when they become university students, while increasing their confidence and sense of familiarity with higher education. Across 2022/23, 315 students successfully completed the programme, including a study skills module and an academic assignment, with a completion rate increase of 2% on the previous year. Of those students, 198 went on to register and secure their place at the University of Manchester on A Level results day.

Data shows that these two access programmes are highly impactful on participants. Students who complete either programme progress to HE at a rate over 25% higher than the national average.

Supporting offer holders through mentoring

Across the University, we offer mentoring schemes to offer holders to boost resilience, inform decision making and increase confidence ahead of their Y13 assessments and examination results. For example, our Faculty of Science of Engineering (FSE) provides online mentoring for all their contextual offer holders and female offer holders, a total of 1,241 offer holders in 2022/23. In this scheme and elsewhere across our university, current undergraduate students are helping younger students by sharing their experience.

1,241
students supported
through
FSE mentoring

Contextual Admissions

Alongside our outreach interventions, we have a contextual offer policy in place to support progression into HE for students from underrepresented communities in higher education. The postcode and school and college performance of every undergraduate degree applicant is reviewed, and applicants may be eligible for a lower grade offer due to this data. We also offer similar consideration for applicants who are care experienced or who have refugee status.

Looking forward

We're delighted to announce The University of Manchester as the northern partner for the mA*ths Online Programme for the 2023/24 academic year. We have worked with colleagues at Imperial College London to create 50 places for Y12 pupils from Greater Manchester to participate in The University of Manchester strand of this programme. Selected pupils will visit the University of Manchester campus for masterclasses to receive study support from undergraduates and postgraduates and

take part in the mA*ths Online Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) designed to directly enhance their understanding of the A Level Maths curriculum. This initiative runs in collaboration with Mathematics in Education and Industry (MEI) and Imperial College London. The project intends to support students with the academic ability to achieve A* / A at A Level to reach their full academic potential. The programme is targeted at pupils from communities underrepresented in higher education.


Click here
for further details
about the
**mA*ths Online
Programme**



STUDENT SUCCESS

Welcome, induction and transition

A successful transition into higher education (HE) study is pivotal for all students, and an essential part of the journey towards personal and academic success during their degree programme.

Welcome, induction and transition focused initiatives are key to providing students an opportunity to garner a sense of belonging, gain campus capital, and to understand how to access support.

- > Welcome, induction and transition
- > Financial support
- > On-course success
- > Peer Support
- > Employability

Transitioning to life at University

The University of Manchester Library service has worked with our students and expert colleagues to provide the best advice we can offer to help get students ready for university. This pre-arrival resource suggests tasks prospective students can complete ahead of their enrolment. The content covers several facets of student experience from academic life to peer support, to volunteering and maintaining personal relationships. Although accessible to all students, this resource is of particular importance to students who may not be able to answer these questions using familial experience of higher education. In 2022/23 this page was viewed over 5'000 times by over 3,000 active users.

Welcome and Induction

Our welcome and induction programme is wide reaching and designed to assist all students transition into HE and to feel a part of our community. In this report, we would like to focus in particular on our welcome offer for Care Experienced and Estranged students and students with experience of the refugee process or seeking asylum. We recognise that for those student communities, confidence in their abilities and a

sense of belonging can feel harder to achieve, and they may have additional support needs. As part of our welcome, we hosted specific welcome events for students who advised us at application or registration that they are part of those communities. Following these events, we held follow up informal catchups with students, to continue fostering a sense of belonging at our institution. During these sessions, colleagues from the Access and Success team and the Student Support team provided a safe space for students to share their achievements and concerns and seek additional support or direction to our range of support services. We enhanced our Welcome for 23/24, with 'Welcome to University' packs containing food, household and self-care items to ease students' transition into the HE environment.

Academic schools and courses have also taken a pro-active approach to supporting the transition of WP pupils into HE study – as an example, our Medical School have developed 'Thrive'. The Thrive Scheme is open to all WP flag holding year one UG students and provides them with mentoring support from WP flag students further on in their degree. The programme has 180 mentors and mentees in action, and some of the mentors have successfully acquired HEA awards.

Join the Dots

During 2022/23, we worked with the Brilliant Club to deliver their pilot transition project Join The Dots (JTD). The Programme was designed for new students from underrepresented communities in HE and aimed to promote a sense of belonging, increase academic self-efficacy and equip students with study strategies. As part of the pilot, postgraduate students from the University hosted themed group sessions with 24 new undergraduate students, which were supplemented with one-to-one peer coaching.

At the start of the programme 58% of participants reported confidence in academic self-efficacy and by the end of the programme this proportion rose significantly to 71%. At the beginning of their second term of university, most respondents felt a strong sense of belonging (74% agree or strongly agree) and felt confident in their ability to succeed academically at university (72% agree or strongly agree).

72%
felt confident in their
ability to succeed
academically at
university



STUDENT SUCCESS

Financial support

The University of Manchester has a range of scholarships and bursaries which provide financial support for students from low-income backgrounds and our targeted communities, including care experienced and estranged students, students of black heritage and those with refugee status.

Our Manchester Bursary and Undergraduate Access Bursary are currently distributed to over 6,000 students (26% of our home undergraduate student body), representing an investment of over £11 million annually. The following scholarships and bursaries aim to support students with retention, success and progression by alleviating finance related stress, allowing students to take advantage of the opportunities available to them to maximise their student experience. In doing so, we aim to foster a stronger sense of belonging in HE for students receiving financial support.

The University is grateful to our friends and supporters, who through generous donations to the University's Access & Success Fund and a range of other programmes, are enabling us to maintain and grow this support still further

- > Welcome, induction and transition
- > Financial support
- > On-course success
- > Peer Support
- > Employability

The Cowrie Foundation Scholarship

In the 2022/23 academic year, we continued our collaboration with the Cowrie Foundation to support Black undergraduate students with a living costs bursary and a fee waiver. Alongside our existing scholarship open to all Black Home Undergraduate offer holders, our Faculty of Science and Engineering (FSE) have provided additional funding for a further four students enrolling on FSE courses. This decision was made as the faculty were so impressed by the quality of applicants that they received. A new collaboration agreement has been established to provide eight more scholarships over the next 4 years, co-funded by the Cowrie Foundation and the University, offering financial support and access to the Cowrie mentoring scheme.

Manchester Master's Bursary

Forty seven percent of graduates from The University of Manchester currently progress onto further study. However, this figure is 16% lower for graduates from areas of high socioeconomic deprivation, partially due to the financial implications of entering postgraduate education. The Manchester Master's Bursary provides £4000 financial support for students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are looking to progress into postgraduate taught (PGT) study. Seventy five bursaries were issued to PGT students for 2022 Entry and, thanks to a legacy gift from the estate of Aline Egan, the scheme will be able to increase the number of bursaries on offer to 100 per year for four years (2023 Entry to 2026 Entry).

Article 26 Scholarship

Our Article 26 Sanctuary Scholarships support applicants who face barriers to higher education because of their immigration status. We offer up to five scholarships for undergraduate study each September providing financial, accommodation and pastoral support. In September 2022, we welcomed 4 new scholars to add to an existing community of over 12 scholars already on programme.

The Raheem Sterling Scholarship

This year we were delighted to launch a new scholarship for Black undergraduate students with the Raheem Sterling Foundation and King's College London. Over the next decade, the Raheem Sterling Foundation has committed to providing financial support and a full fee waiver for over a dozen Black home undergraduates from Greater Manchester and Greater London over the next three academic years, with the first places available to those starting their studies in the 2023/24 academic year.

Our Manchester Bursary and Undergraduate Access Bursary are currently distributed to over

6,000 students

(26% of our home undergraduate student body), representing an investment of over

£11 million annually



STUDENT SUCCESS

On-course success

Inequality of opportunity impacts every stage of the student lifecycle, affecting various aspects of their lives and learning experiences.

At The University of Manchester there remain consistent degree awarding gaps between students from different ethnic groups. Utilising student partnership, the University has launched several initiatives to address our current degree awarding gaps, most notably between Black and White students.

In 2023/24, Manchester 10/10 is **expanding** across all three University faculties.

- > Welcome, induction and transition
- > Financial support
- > On-course success
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- > Employability

Manchester 10/10

Manchester 10/10 is a bespoke suite of activities and opportunities for Black undergraduate students at The University of Manchester. Developed and run in partnership with Senior Diversity and Inclusion Ambassadors, Jesy and Ambar, the programme is part of the University's commitment to addressing degree awarding gaps between Black and White students.

In Ambar's words, Manchester 10/10 is 'an open and comfortable space for students to talk about what their big dreams are for their careers (and) for their academic development'. Ambar believes the confidence Manchester 10/10 helps to inspire is the biggest impact of the programme 'by the time semester one comes to a close, you already see that they are so much more confident in engaging with new people and being able to articulate their dreams.'



Jesy believes that 'without student partnership, Manchester 10/10 wouldn't be as successful' adding that the programme is 'supporting students the way that they wish to be supported and the only way that this is done is through student partnership'. 'When I first got to the university in 2018, I didn't really see many people that kind of looked like me. It was really difficult for me to feel that I belonged.' 'Now we're in a space where the university comes to Black students. We quite literally are in their inboxes during freshers, (saying) I know you may be feeling anxious because you've come to a new place'.

As the programme enters its third year, Ambar wants Manchester 10/10 to reach a broader audience, 'I would like to see more visibility of the project on campus. I think it should be something that everyone is really proud of.' For Jesy, he also hopes a wider platform for Manchester 10/10 could reach prospective students too. 'I want it to be something that students look forward to when they join The University of Manchester and are excited to be a part of. So, it ends up being like a reason prospective talented students picked The University of Manchester over other universities.'

...by the time semester one comes to a close, you already see that they are so much more confident in engaging with new people and being able to articulate their dreams. Ambar, Senior Diversity and Inclusion Ambassador

Students who took part in Manchester 10/10 reported **increased confidence** in study strategies, critical engagement with information and metacognition.

10 events

were delivered to participants by Manchester 10/10 staff and partners from the Library, Careers Service, Black Excellence Network and Student Wellbeing Team.

Follow Manchester 10/10 @UOM_M1010



STUDENT SUCCESS

Peer Support

Peer Support offers all first-year undergraduate students the opportunity to gain guidance, advice and help with their studies from students in higher years who have been in the same position as them.

In 2022/23, 1,740 students from The University of Manchester volunteered 57,740 hours through our Peer Assisted Study Scheme (PASS) and Peer Mentoring scheme, providing revision and study sessions as well as vital pastoral care to every undergraduate student transitioning into the University in their first year.

Our 822 PASS Leaders provide students with a forum to consolidate their study skills and capacity for academic success, in an environment outside of their formal teaching. Working with their PASS Leaders, students are supported to further interrogate their



I think when [first years] enter university they have so many fears and doubts about fitting into the environment and you can be the person who they can look up to and guide them.
PASS Leader, 2023



knowledge and understanding within new contexts. Our 770 Peer Mentors provide students with a safe space to settle into the University, giving them the opportunity to engage with others on their course and supporting them pastorally to thrive during their time here. For both Peer Mentors and PASS Leaders this experience helps build transferable skills for postgraduate study or employment, by using their knowledge, skills, and time to aid other members of our student community. Enhancing the quality, quantity, and diversity of students' learning within a discipline is important for all students but of significant importance to those already facing disadvantage. Every year we celebrate the outstanding work our leaders and mentors do with our Peer Support Awards Evening, recognising their invaluable contribution to supporting 1st year undergraduates at The University of Manchester.



The PASS scheme attracted me to the university because it's not just tutorials and you could speak to students who have been through the same things before you and help transition into university life.
PASS attendee, 2023



If you would like more information on Peer Support at The University of Manchester, please contact gabriele.wegner@manchester.ac.uk

PEER
SUPPORT

- > Welcome, induction and transition
- > Financial support
- > On-course success
- > Peer Support
- > Employability



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STUDENT SUCCESS

Employability

The University supports access to employment opportunities which align with our students' personal interests and career aspirations.

For less advantaged students, this can include the provision of additional funding and bespoke work experience opportunities, to ensure that progression from university is more equitable for all. Below is a selection of highlights of some of the packages of support the University provided in 2023.

- > Welcome, induction and transition
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The Work Experience Bursary

Financial constraints are significant barriers to less advantaged students in gaining work experience. Helping to provide the financial freedom for these students to take work experience opportunities can provide long-term benefits for on-course success and progression. The Work Experience bursary provides up to £1,000 in financial support to assist students with travel, accommodation and dependent care costs, allowing students to engage in career-enhancing work experiences. Seventy six percent of bursary awards were given to students from areas of high socioeconomic disadvantage in 2023.

upReach

Through our partnership with the national charity upReach, we have supported 111 students from underrepresented backgrounds to access top-flight careers in sectors including technology, finance, law, and professional services. The University's Careers Service partners with upReach to give students access to opportunities and activities

including mock interview support, on-campus workshops, and career-focused mentoring, which enables them to make informed decisions about their future. Thanks to donor funding, we have expanded our partnership to support more than 150 students to date.

Manchester Global Graduates

Students from disadvantaged backgrounds face additional barriers when building networks with career professionals around the world. Manchester Global Graduates provides an opportunity for 37 widening participation students to travel to one of eight global cities, fully funded, where they engage with alumni from diverse business sectors.

“

It has given me a boost that I am worthy of progressing, something which I didn't believe I could do before due to the lack of people who were empowering and helpful around me.
Manchester Global Graduates Student, 2023

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Freshfields Stephen Lawrence Scholarship

Two students from The University of Manchester were awarded Freshfields Stephen Lawrence Scholarships in 2023. The scheme is an incredible opportunity open to exceptionally talented Black men from less advantaged backgrounds who show potential to succeed in a career in law or another related field. This scholarship is open to first-year students at participating UK universities and offers a remarkable chance for students to showcase their potential beyond academic achievement.

Recipients of this scholarship work with professionals of all seniorities at Freshfields and other city firms. The expert support given includes career guidance, skills development, mentoring, interview coaching and, if they wish, an alternative route to a guaranteed training contract interview at Freshfields.

