

# Annex I: Plan summary template

## Nottingham College

### Summary of 2025-26 to 2028-29 access and participation plan

#### What is an access and participation plan?

Access and participation plans set out a range of activities that will be meaningful and effective in promoting equality of opportunity in higher education, for those that might be disadvantaged in some way, as determined by the Office for Students.

You can see the full access and participation plan for Nottingham College at <https://www.nottinghamcollege.ac.uk/study/university-centre/welcome-to-the-university-centre-at-nottingham-college/key-information-and-supporting-documents>.

#### Key points

The College has identified six areas that the plan will focus on. These six areas are risks that might mean equal opportunities are not enjoyed by everyone. These are as follows:

A/ Mental Health

B/ Cost Pressures

C/ Progression from higher education for disabled and female students.

D/ Completion gaps between black and white students

E/ Limited choice of course type and delivery mode

F/ Ongoing impacts of coronavirus – Attainment at key stage 4 (GCSE Maths and English)

The college has set out a number of different activities for each of these risks that will effectively offset the risks that exists over the period of the plan, so that there is equality of opportunity.

See pages 3-23 of the access and participation plan for more information.

#### Fees we charge

At Nottingham College, the maximum annual fees charged are:

- £8250 for all full-time higher education students.
- £5500 for part-time Foundation Degree students.
- £4125 for part-time HNC and HND, and BA programmes over 6 years.
- £4950 for part-time BA programmes over 5 years

You can see a full list of higher education course fees at:

<https://www.nottinghamcollege.ac.uk/study/university-centre/welcome-to-the-university-centre-at-nottingham-college/key-information-and-supporting-documents>

See page 27 of the access and participation plan for more information.

## **Financial help available**

The College offers a range of financial support for students. The main bursary scheme is worth up to £1000 and depends on your household income, but there's other schemes available, for those that are carers, or care leavers. There's even grants available for students in genuine financial difficulty.

See pages 26-27 of the access and participation plan for more information.

## **Information for students**

Prospective students receive information on fees and financial support at in-person events, such as our open days, and by email communications for course offers and enquiries. Students also receive information about fees and financial support available through our dedicated student portal, internal communications and emails, and through our pre-enrolment 'Welcome Pack'. We also have information on other websites such as UCAS, Student Finance England and Propel (for care leavers)

See page 26 of the access and participation plan for more information.

## **What we are aiming to achieve**

For each of the six areas identified, we have a clear plan about what we want to achieve.

A/ Mental Health - We want to enhance support for students and introduce a fast-track counselling scheme, so that there are no long delays to students accessing the support they need.

B/ Cost Pressures – We will offer students a range of financial support so that don't leave their course early because of financial reasons.

C/ Progression from higher education for disabled and female students. We want to make sure that disabled students progress as well as non-disabled students, and that progression rates for female students are the same as male students.

D/ Completion gaps between black and white students – We want to make sure that the proportion of black students completing their course is the same as white students.

E/ Limited choice of course type and delivery mode – We want to create new courses that are diverse and flexible to meet the needs of all students.

F/ Ongoing impacts of coronavirus – Attainment at key stage 4 (GCSE Maths and English) - We want to make sure as many students as people can retake and pass their GSCEs so that they are then able to progress to higher education in future.

See pages 6-7 of the access and participation plan for more information.

## **What we are doing to address keys risks to equality of opportunity**

For each risk we've set out a strategy which includes a range of activities to help tackle each risk to ensure equality of opportunity. Some examples of our activities are below for each risk:

A/ Mental Health - Alongside a range of dedicated support, we're adding a new fast-track counselling service so students can get help when they really need it.

B/ Cost Pressures – We're providing a wide range of financial support such as bursaries so that students don't leave the course for financial reasons. We also offer a laptop loan scheme to help students access IT and digital resources.

C/ Progression from higher education for disabled and female students – We're going to use our Careers Team and industry role models to make sure that progression rates are the same for female and disabled students.

D/ Completion gaps between black and white students – We're going to create new data reports so that we can monitor engagement between different students to help identify students at risk so that we can intervene earlier so that completion rates are the same between different groups.

E/ Limited choice of course type and delivery mode – We're going to introduce more courses that are diverse and flexible to meet the needs of all students.

F/ Ongoing impacts of coronavirus – Attainment at key stage 4 (GCSE Maths and English) - We're going to provide more opportunities for students to retake and pass their GCSE Maths and English by introducing homework clubs, introducing revisions sessions during the holidays, and providing special catch-up tutors.

See pages 7-23 of the access and participation plan for more information.

### **How students can get involved**

We worked with current higher education student to get their feedback when we designed our access and participation plan. Current students will be able to contribute to monitoring, evaluation and reviewing this plan through dedicated student meetings and focus groups and help ensure it is delivered with you, in your best interests. To get involved in future development, or to provide feedback on our plan, please contact the Higher Education Team directly using: [he.team@nottinghamcollege.ac.uk](mailto:he.team@nottinghamcollege.ac.uk)

See pages 24-25 of the access and participation plan for more information.

### **Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved**

At the moment we will look at data every year and also ask students themselves if they think the activities we've done have helped them in the way it was intended. We want to make our evaluation as good as possible, so we're always looking for the best practice, to develop our evaluation for the future so that we can be really sure that what we are doing is working in the way we want.

See pages 25-26 of the access and participation plan for more information.

### **Contact details for further information**

Please contact the Nottingham College Higher Education Team directly using [he.team@nottinghamcollege.ac.uk](mailto:he.team@nottinghamcollege.ac.uk) or call 0115 8380610 for more information.