



## 2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

### Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by The Trafford College Group 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

The Trafford College Group's ambition and strategy as detailed in the 2019-20 access and participation plan:

The college celebrates the diversity of its higher education provision and this is reflected in the demographic of our student body. Our HE students are predominately mature, with non-traditional entry qualifications and often working or with caring responsibilities. Additionally, the majority of students are consistently drawn from areas of low participation in higher education and a large proportion of students are also drawn from areas of low income. Our ethnic profile of students largely mirrors our local and regional community and 22% of students declare a disability.

Our Access and Participation ambitions for 2019-20 set out how we would improve the educational experience where access and participation highlights gaps between those from the most and least advantaged backgrounds. We created a series of 9 ambition targets to eliminate such gaps where these exist.

#### Access

- Increase the participation rate of care leavers
- Increase the participation of young people from underrepresented groups
- Increase internal progression from further education
- Increase the participation rates of BME students

#### Success

- Increase the success of BME students
- Increase the continuation and achievement rates of students with disabilities
- Increase the continuation rate of students from low income backgrounds
- Increase the success of students from low participation neighbourhoods

#### Progression

- Increase the proportion of students progressing to highly skilled employment

## 2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by The Trafford College Group 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 The Trafford College Group'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 the number of HE new entrant students at Trafford College Group defined as 'Care Leaver' in Stockport and Trafford	2017-18	3	5	6	Headcount	2019-20	0	No progress
T16a_02 (Access)	Increase proportion of student population from low-income	2017-18	26%	26%	26%	Percentage	2019-20	26	Expected progress
T16a_03 (Access)	Increase proportion of BME students	2017-18	20%	20%	22%	Percentage	2019-20	23	Expected progress
T16a_04 (Access)	Increase internal progression from Further Education - Higher Education	2017-18	3%	5%	15%	Percentage	2019-20	16	Expected progress
T16a_05 (Access)	Increase the number of part time students (new entrants)	2017-18	132	150	175	Headcount	2019-20	100	Limited progress
T16a_06 (Access)	To maintain the number of students from low participating neighbourhoods (POLAR 1&2)	2017-18	42%	42%	42%	Percentage	2019-20	45	Expected progress
T16a_07 (Access)	Increase NCOP-related activities to target groups	2018-19	5	5	25	Headcount	2019-20	34	Expected progress
T16a_08 (Success)	Increase continuation of students from Low Participating Neighbourhoods	2017-18	74%	80%	82%	Percentage	2019-20	82	Expected progress
T16a_09 (Success)	Increase continuation of students from BME background	2017-18	77%	80%	80%	Percentage	2019-20	81	Expected progress
T16a_10 (Success)	Increase the continuation rate of students from a low income background	2017-18	77%	81%	83%	Percentage	2019-20	84	Expected progress

T16a_11 (Success)	Increase the attainment rate of mature students achieving a high grade on other UG programmes	2017-18	58%	60%	60%	Percentage	2019-20	74	Expected progress
T16a_12 (Success)	Increase the attainment rate of BME students achieving a high grade on other UG programmes	2017-18	39%	45%	55%	Percentage	2019-20	55	Expected progress
T16a_13 (Progression)	Increase the proportion of students progressing to highly skilled employment	2016-17	60%	62%	65%	Percentage	2016-17	62	Expected progress

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)	Increase engagement with secondary schools to raise participation of LPN students	Other (please give details in Description column)	NEW	0	3	Headcount	2019-20	16	Expected progress
T16b_02 (Multiple)	Increase the number of HE students participating in our HE Study+ sessions to support academic progress.	2017-18	120	150	170	Headcount	2019-20	200	Expected progress
T16b_03 (Access)	Introduce Student Mentoring programme with year 12 and 13	Other (please give details in Description column)	NEW	0	15	Headcount	2019-20	20	Expected 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	£15,000.00	£12,000.00	-20%
Financial Support	£50,000.00	£47,518.00	-5%

### 4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected The Trafford College Group 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	For the College to achieve this target in the future, we will take the following steps. 1. improve our IAG during application and enrolment stage, encouraging care leavers to self-declare. 2. Develop a personalised approach for this underrepresented group, whilst working more closely with local authorities and previous institutions to fully understand needs. 3. Targeted community intervention and collaboration with local third sector organisations, ensuring practitioners are fully up to date with College offer and support for care leavers. 4 Review and implement recommendations from DFE 'Keep on Caring Strategy.' 5. Become a member of NNECL, enabling us to engage with sector practices while demonstrating our commitment to the care experienced agenda.
T16a_05	0

## 5. Confirmation

The Trafford College Group confirms that:

Student engagement	
Have you worked with your students to help them complete the access and participation plan monitoring student submission?	
No	
Have you engaged with your student body in the design, evaluation, and monitoring of the plan?	
No	
Verification and sign off	
The Trafford College Group 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	James Scott
Position	Prinicpal and CEO

## Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

The Trafford College Group's commentary where progress against targets was less than expected.

<b>Target reference number: T16a_01</b>
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
<p>We did not achieve our strategic target set out in this plan in relation to the increase of care leavers in higher education. While we are confident we have care leavers within our HE provision, there is a clear reluctance for students to self declare; this is an area of development. We met our commitments in fostering new relationships with our local authorities and held 2 events; one with care leavers themselves and another with key agents to enhance their knowledge of higher education and supporting students in HE. We had further followed up sessions scheduled for 2019-20 however these were cancelled due to covid-19 and moved to remote, but engagement was low. Although we did not meet our target commitment in terms of access, a number of care leavers that attended our events have commenced studying in FE within the College as a starting point. It is hoped that we can now support these learners with transition to HE.</p>
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
We have not taken any additional steps during 2019-20

<b>Target reference number: T16a_05</b>
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
<p>We did not achieve the target of '175' part time students. However overall recruitment for both full and part time were less than expected in 2019-20. Despite the recruitment challenges part time students represent 34% of our total new entrance for 2019-20 against the national indicator of 18%. We have also seen an increased number of students from low participation neighbourhoods and IMD accessing our part time provision. The commitment within the plan was to "continue to provide an accessible offer for part time students. 72% of all current higher education students are mature, our ambition is to maintain or exceed the proportion of students who are 21 years old or older" we achieved this commitment in 2019-20 highlighting a change of +2% from 2018-19 to 2019-20 and +7% change between 2015-16 and 2019-20.</p>
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
We have not taken any additional steps during 2019-20



## Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

The Trafford College Group's commentary on any of the targets listed in [Section 2](#).

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	
T16a_02	
T16a_03	
T16a_04	
T16a_05	
T16a_06	
T16a_07	
T16a_08	
T16a_09	
T16a_10	
T16a_11	
T16a_12	
T16a_13	
T16b_01	
T16b_02	
T16b_03	