



ACCESS: STUDENT-EXPERIENCE **MAKING ADMISSIONS MORE ACCESSIBLE**



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UCAS Fair Access Programme: Insights and Opportunities

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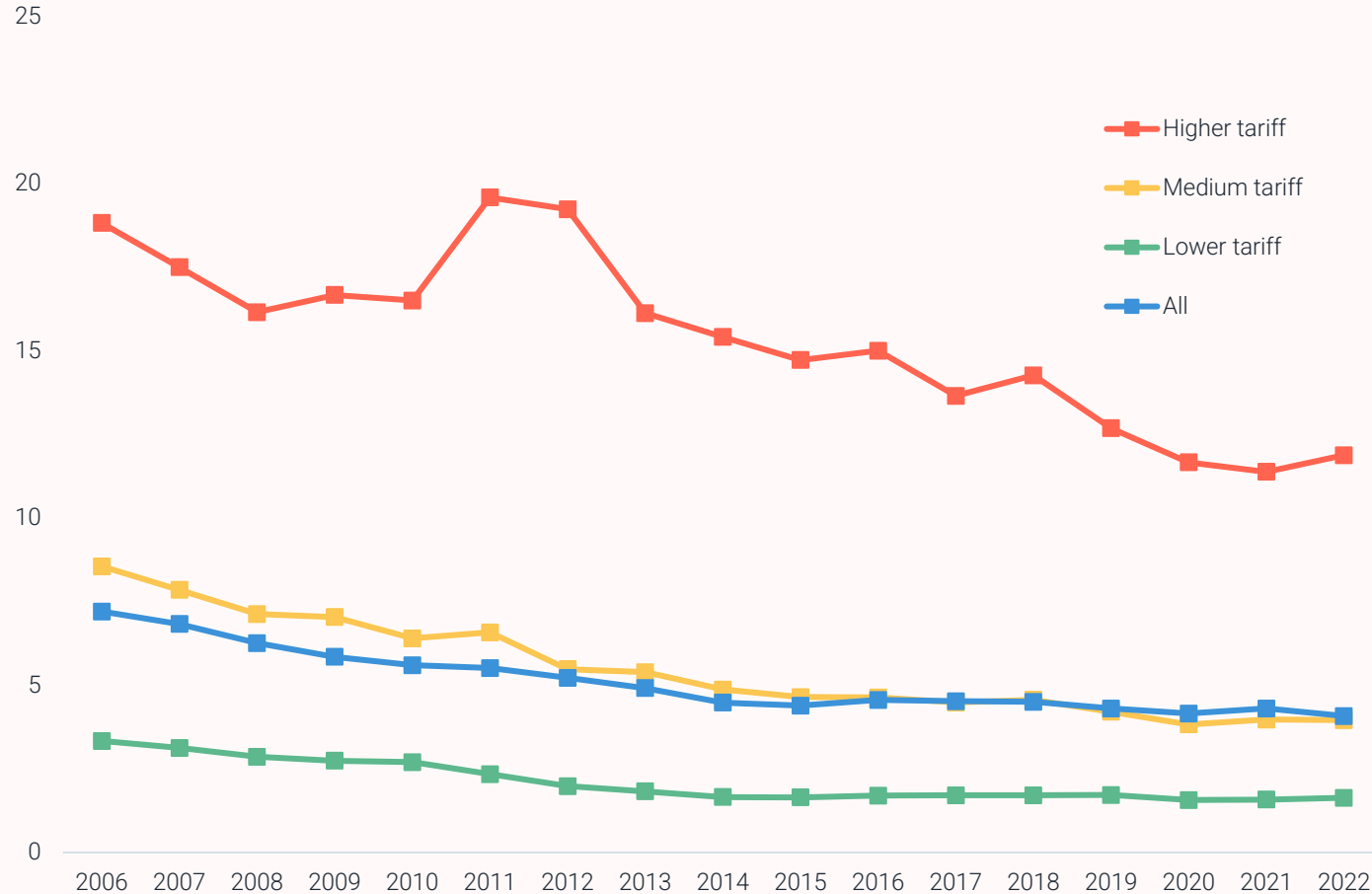
The current landscape

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Challenges persist

MEM entry rate gap (Q5:Q1) by provider tariff group



- **72% increase** from the most disadvantaged areas since 2007
- The most disadvantaged students are now **twice as likely** to progress.

BUT

- The MEM equality gap **narrowed** by an average of **2.0%** each year since 2018.
- Narrowed by **5.2%** year on year in the equivalent period a decade ago.
- In 2021, for the second time in a decade, the MEM gap **widened**.

Journey to a million

2030 1,000,000 | +40,000

2029 960,000 | +40,000

2028 920,000 | +30,000

2027 890,000 | +30,000

2026 860,000 | +35,000

2022 vs 2030
there could be:

18 YO
+126,000
International
+90,000

How is UCAS supporting?



UCAS **strategy and product development** reflects widening access/participation goals



Inspires and enables informed decision-making through **personalised information and advice** through the UCAS Hub.



Ensures that admissions services facilitate WP, including **reforming** to support disadvantaged students



Supports providers' goals through data collection, contextual data, and offering targeted marketing services



Publishing high quality **insight and analysis** to inform policy and public debate, and drive improvements



Data services to help providers and WP organisations **evaluate** the effectiveness of interventions

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NEXT STEPS

WHAT IS THE EXPERIENCE
OF DISABLED STUDENTS
IN EDUCATION?

In collaboration with



NEXT STEPS

WHO ARE THE
'FUTURE NURSES'?



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WHERE NEXT?

WHAT INFLUENCES THE
CHOICES INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS MAKE?

CollegeBoard



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NEXT STEPS:

WHAT IS THE EXPERIENCE
OF STUDENTS FROM
A CARE BACKGROUND
IN EDUCATION?

In collaboration with



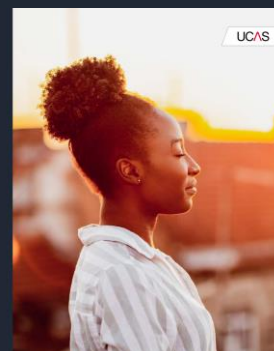
WHERE NEXT?

THE EXPERIENCE OF
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
CONNECTING TO UK
HIGHER EDUCATION



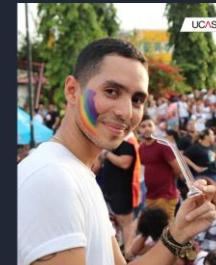
STARTING THE CONVERSATION

UCAS REPORT ON
STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH



NEXT STEPS

WHAT IS THE EXPERIENCE
OF LGBT+ STUDENTS IN
EDUCATION?



WHERE NEXT?

IMPROVING THE
JOURNEY TO
BECOMING AN
APPRENTICE



WHERE NEXT?

What influences
the choices school
leavers make?



WHERE NEXT?

WHO DOESN'T PLAN
TO START A FULL-TIME
UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREE IN AUTUMN?



WHAT HAPPENED TO THE COVID COHORT?

Lessons for levelling up
in 2021 and beyond



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Read all our
reports here:
[www.ucas.com/
about-us/news-
and-
insights/ucas-
reports](http://www.ucas.com/about-us/news-and-insights/ucas-reports)

Fair Access Strategic Objectives

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Transform your understanding of students through new questions, data and insight



Connect HE and outreach providers to the hardest to reach students to you, earlier



Help the sector understand what works in widening participation and access

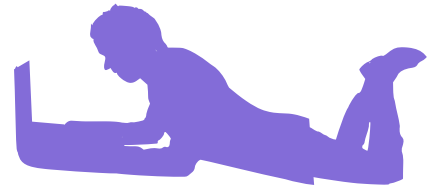


Help bring schools, colleges and universities closer together

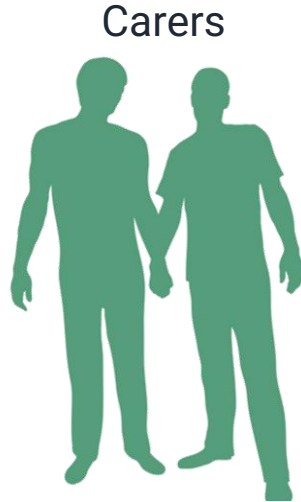


Remove barriers and inspire students

New questions for 2023 cycle to identify:



Students from Armed Forces families



Carers



FSM students



Estranged students



Students with parenting responsibilities



Armed Forces veterans and Service leavers

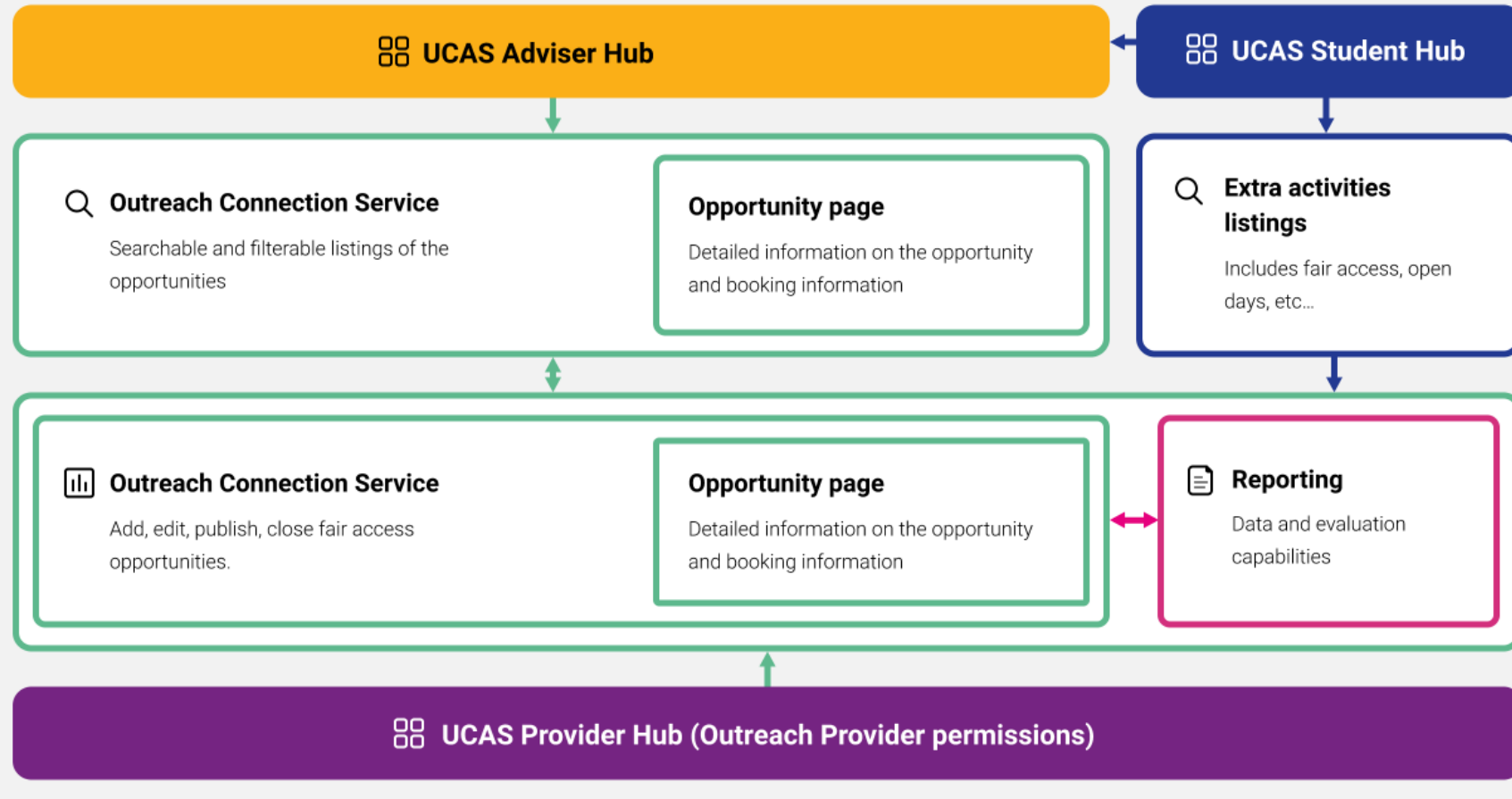
Refugees and asylum seekers



Outreach Connection Service

Outreach Connection Service

Enabling universities, colleges and charities to showcase their opportunities for underrepresented and disadvantaged student groups, to UK schools and colleges.



● Pilot/Phase 1

● Phase 2

● Phase 3

Aiming to raise awareness of the full range of outreach and support available, the Outreach Connection Service will help schools and colleges navigate and connect to opportunities offered by HE providers and third party organisations.

The service will significantly enhance our understanding of 'what works' in outreach and also inform sector wide evaluation and impact measurement and the service continues to develop after launch.



making admissions more accessible

2023

what are we covering

- Setting the scene, the Bradford story
- Admissions journeys of students from widening participation backgrounds
 - Pre entry support
 - Transition activities
 - Current student support
- How we work together across the university
- Hear from two of our students



the bradford story

2023

the bradford story



We are renowned for social mobility

70% of students are from BAME backgrounds

Over 50% come from the UK's most socially deprived economic areas



Our students:

- 9,960 students in the 2020/21 academic year
 - 7,793 undergraduate
 - 1,875 postgraduate taught
 - 292 postgraduate research
 - 8,809 full-time, 932 part-time, 219 distance learners
 - 8,413 UK residence and EU, 1,547 non-EU
- Over 145,000 alumni across 175 countries

bradford students

| | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 | 2022/2023 |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Care Leaver | 21 | 20 | 24 |
| Young Carer | 43 | 74 | 153 |
| Caring responsibility | 45 | 79 | 186 |
| Estranged | 60 | 34 | 39 |
| GTRSB | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Parental responsibility | 257 | 315 | 319 |
| Refugee | 17 | 20 | 20 |
| Indefinite leave re remain | 31 | 55 | 41 |
| Limited leave to remain | 12 | 14 | 3 |



new WP groups January 2023 deadline

| | Bradford | Competitors |
|---------------------------|----------|-------------|
| Caring Responsibilities | 8.2% | 4% |
| Parental Responsibilities | 9% | 2.2% |
| Estranged | 3% | 1.9% |
| Parent Armed Forces | 1.8% | 3.7% |
| Served Armed Forces | 0.2% | 0.1% |
| Free School Meals | 25% | 14.3% |

Competitors

University of Huddersfield

University of Leeds

Leeds Beckett University

University of Manchester

Manchester Metropolitan University

Sheffield Hallam University





pre-entry support



- The University of Bradford Progression Scheme is designed to benefit undergraduate applicants whose personal and educational circumstances mean they could be less likely to receive an offer based on our standard entry criteria
 - Who do we support?
 - How does it work?
 - What do participants say?
 - What are the benefits?

progression scheme – who do we support?

- Adult Learners (over 21 at the start of the course)
- Refugee and Asylum seekers
- Care experienced students
- Estranged students
- Young Carers
- Children of service personnel
- Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities
- Low participation neighbourhood (polar 4 quintile 1 or 2)



progression scheme- how does it work?

- Automatic 8-point reduction if students meet one of the criteria
- Students gain another 8 points for attending 1 x Open Day and 1 x Outreach webinar
- Students complete a short task after attending webinars



other pre-entry support

- Named contact for one-to-one application and information support
- Email address for our team so they can access wider support as well
- Campus visits to meet our student ambassadors, academics and other support services
- Support from our Student Life team to find out about student finance, bursaries and how to apply



benefits to students

- They feel a sense of belonging already at Bradford, as they get to know staff and students
- Confidence that they have 16 points, especially for the higher tariff courses
- Encourages them to attend Open Days, not just at Bradford, but at other universities as well, to help with decision making
- They find out useful information from the webinars for example
 - Student Finance
 - Personal Statements
 - Interview Tips



student comment about the progression scheme

“The webinars were interesting and informative and helped guide me apply, this included drafting my personal statement and interview tips. I was able to find out about student finance, so I knew what to do when applying. The staff are friendly and approachable, the on-campus events and webinars were relaxed and informal and it was great to hear from the student ambassadors.

It made it all seem possible, and the future is so bright as I achieve my dream. The support made a huge difference to my mind-set as it relieved some of the pressure and anxiety about the results I needed to achieve”

Julia – Adult Learner



transition support

- The Outreach team will introduce students to the Student Life team once students have received an offer
- The 2 teams work closely to support students
- Our Step Up to Higher Education programme
 - Great opportunity for students to attend sessions and meet other students
 - It includes self-access online resources and activities as well as a live programme of workshops



current student support

- Arranging to meet with you within your first few weeks at Bradford to answer any of your questions and to produce a bespoke support plan if required
- Liaise with Student Finance England and other funding bodies to help apply for financial support and apply for bursaries e.g., Care Experienced Bursary or Estranged Student Bursary
- Being a central point of contact throughout studies, supporting with questions or concerns
- Liaising with Local Authority or other support staff to ensure you receive all the support students are entitled to
- Signposting to the wide range of Student Support teams available for example Academic Skills advice



how do we work together across the university?

- Collaborative Outreach
- Care Champions
- City of Sanctuary
- Student Ambassadors
- Peer Mentors
- Money advice
- Year-round accommodation



post degree support



Careers
support

Further study

Applications
and interviews

■ meet our students



Ella and Sabrina

- What support did you get before you started?
- How important was this?
- What support did you get when you first moved to Bradford?
- What support have you had during your studies?





thank you

Any questions?



Keep in touch

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