

# Activate Learning

## Summary of 2026-27 to 2029-30 access and participation plan

### What is an access and participation plan?

An Access and Participation Plan explains how a university or college will support students from underrepresented groups to access, succeed in, and progress from higher education.

You can see the full Access and Participation Plan ('our plan') for Activate Learning on our [website](#). In each section below, you'll find the relevant page numbers from the full plan.

### Key points

At Activate Learning, we want every student to feel welcome, supported, and able to succeed. To help every student succeed, we offer flexible study options, expert advice, and personalised support. Our goal is to help each student find the right course and give them the best chance to thrive. This is supported by our unique approach to [Educational Gains](#): which helps students grow personally, academically, and professionally, and was recognised as a key strength in our most recent Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) assessment.

See pages 2-4 of the access and participation plan for more information.

### Fees we charge

Depending on the qualification and mode of study, our fees from 2026 will range as follows:

- **Full-time students:** between £6,900 to £8,240 per year
- **Part-time students:** between £3,450 to £4,120 per year

Fees may increase slightly each year for new entrants in line with inflation.

You can find full information about our course fees on our [website](#).

### Financial help available

We offer a range of bursaries to support students facing financial challenges. These include support for students from low-income households (earning £25,000 or less), unpaid carers, care-experienced or estranged students under 25, and, from 2026–27, second degree holders and single parents with dependent children. Eligible students can receive up to £1,000 per year (full-time) or £500 (part-time), with a maximum of £3,000 per year across all bursaries. We also offer a Study Support Fund for unexpected costs, with students able to apply for up to £500 per application.

See pages 55-57 of the access and participation plan for more information.

### Information for students

Details on fees and financial support for both prospective and current students are available on our website in the [Support and Fees section](#) (see **Bursaries – Higher Education**). We provide clear guidance before enrolment, at induction, and throughout your course. You can speak to an advisor at open events, book a one-to-one call online, or access help through your local Advice Centre or

by contacting the finance team. Updates are regularly shared via the student portal and displayed across campus.

See page 58 of the access and participation plan for more information.

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

We want every student to have an equal chance to succeed — from starting a course to completing it with strong outcomes. Our focus is on key areas where students may face extra challenges:

- **Mature students (aged 21+):** Some students returning to study after time away may face additional challenges. We're working to ensure mature students are just as likely to stay on their course as younger students.
- **Students from lower-income areas:** We want to reduce the gap in outcomes between students from less advantaged areas and those from other parts of the country.
- **Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic students:** We're aiming to increase completion rates so that success is fair and consistent for all students.
- **Students with disabilities:** These students are currently achieving the same — or better — outcomes than their peers. We're proud of this and committed to sustaining their success.

See pages 11-12 of the access and participation plan for more information.

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

We're focused on removing barriers, providing timely support, and creating an inclusive learning environment. Our support includes:

- **Tailored support** from the start — including early assessments, personalised plans, regular check-ins, and flexible study options
- **Financial help** through bursaries and hardship funds to ease pressures and enable learning
- **Academic and wellbeing support** including digital skills development, access to mental health services, peer networks, and staff equipped to provide the right support
- **Inclusive teaching and learning** designed to reflect the needs of our diverse student community
- **Opportunities for students to lead and shape initiatives**, including wellbeing projects and student success campaigns

These actions are part of our wider mission to create a learning environment that is equitable, inclusive, and supportive for all.

See pages 12-51 of the access and participation plan for more information.

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

We work closely with students to ensure their voices shape decisions and drive real improvements. Our Student Leadership Team (SLT), with representatives from each course, meets regularly to share feedback, support planning, and lead initiatives. Their input helped shape this Plan and continues to guide how we communicate and offer support. From 2026, we'll introduce a paid

Student Engagement Leader role to help more students get involved, especially those unable to volunteer. Our 'Your Voice Matters' programme also gathers regular feedback through surveys and focus groups, leading to changes like new bursaries, clearer wellbeing information, and the launch of our Careers Hub in 2025. Students can also share views through course evaluations, learning walks, and the National Student Survey.

See pages 53-54 of the access and participation plan for more information.

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

We want to make sure our Access and Participation Plan is making a real difference. Each year, we review how we're doing by looking at key data – such as who joins, who stays, how students perform, and what they go on to do next. This helps us identify any gaps and take action to support everyone fairly.

We also listen to student feedback through surveys, focus groups, and our Student Leadership Team. This insight helps us understand what's working and where we need to improve.

Our staff work together to track progress and share what we've learned. We combine student feedback and data to keep improving and make sure every student has the support they need to succeed.

We follow the Office for Students' '[Standards of Evidence](#)' and are creating a clear way to check how well our actions are working. Our Access and Participation Group reviews our progress each year and uses the findings to help plan for the future.

See pages 54-55 of the access and participation plan for more information.

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

If you have any questions about this Access and Participation Plan or the support available:

**Email:** [adminHE@activatelearning.ac.uk](mailto:adminHE@activatelearning.ac.uk)

**Call:** 0800 612 6008

**Website:** <https://he.activatelearning.ac.uk/> – see the *Higher Education Support and Fees* section for more details.

You can also read our full Access and Participation Plan (2026–27 to 2029–30) on our [website](#).