

Exeter College

Summary of 2020-21 to 2024-25 access and participation plan

What is an access and participation plan?

Access and participation plans set out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education.

You can see the full access and participation plan for Exeter at [Access-and-Participation-Plan-2020-21-to-2024-24.pdf \(exe-coll.ac.uk\)](#).

Key points

See pages 1 and 15 of the full plan

Exeter College is a further education college based in and around the city of Exeter in Devon. The College has higher education courses for many years, but provision is small with a focus on level 4 and 5 provision.

The College has made a commitment facilitate social mobility by raising aspirations and maximising access and achieve this by increasing participation in University Level study by identified priority groups, in accordance with the College's Access and Participation Plan.

Based on our vision for the access, success and progressions of our HE students our key areas we are seeking to improve are:

- Access – Increasing the proportion of students from identified priority groups accessing HE
- Success – Supporting students to continue their programme and attain their intended qualifications with gaps in success between identified priority groups and other students on HE programmes of study reduced
- Progression - On leaving College, HE students have a secure foundation to realise their ambitions in relation to further academic study, graduate level employment or starting their own enterprise, with gaps in progression between identified priority groups and other students on HE programmes of study reduced

Fees we charge

See page 38 of the full plan

At Exeter College, the maximum fees charged are:

£7,995 for full-time students

£4,997 for part-time students

 You can see a full list of fees for courses at Exeter College at

[Fees and Funding \(exe-coll.ac.uk\)](#)

Financial help available

See pages 29 and 30 of the full plan

We offer financial support to all our HE students and encourage applications from students from underrepresented groups. There are two bursaries available:

- A **hardship bursary** or up to £500, subject to a means testing process based on the balance between income and essential expenditure.
 - Priority groups include:
 - Students with dependent children;
 - Mature undergraduates
 - Final year students
 - Disabled students; and
 - Students from low-income families
- A **care leavers bursary**, a non-means tested bursary of £500 in every year of study. Students will be considered eligible if:
 - They have taken out the full student finance package available to them; and
 - They have been given care leaver status by Student Finance England (SFE)

Information for students

See page 36 of the full plan

- **Prospective students** receive information on fees and financial support at in-person events, such as our open events, or they can contact our Adult Advice Hub via email, phone or in-person meetings with our Adult Advisors (face-to-face and online).
- **Current students** receive information about fees and the financial support available through our student portal, student handbook, internal communications campaigns from the Adult Advice Hub and Student Experience Lead and 1:1 information, advice, and guidance meetings.

Further information on fees and financial support can be found on our [website](#)

What we are aiming to achieve

See pages 15 to 18 of the full plan

Our overall aim is to support students to access higher education leading to skilled employment, with a focus on local skills needs.

Based on assessment of our performance, we have identified the following areas on which to focus our work;

- Diversifying our provision – By developing our provision of Higher Technical Qualifications, part-time and flexible level 4 and 5 provision aimed at supporting local and regional skills needs.
- Care leavers - By 2024-25, we will increase the proportion of care leavers accessing HE to at least 5%
- Mature students (21+) – By 2024-25, we will increase the proportion of mature full and part time students accessing HE by 10%. We will reduce and close the progression gap between full and part time mature and young students.
- Ethnic minority students – By 2024-25, we will increase the proportion of full and part time BAME students accessing HE so that it equals the 6% of the population within Devon according to the 2011 Census.
- Disabled Students – By 2024-25, we will increase the proportion of disabled full and part time students by 10%. We will also reduce the continuation gap between students with mental health related conditions and no known disability by at least 20pp.

What we are doing to achieve our aims

See pages 20 to 29 of the full plan

We have identified the following programmes of activity to support achievement of our aims and targets.

- Promote career change and development opportunities provided by **Higher Technical Qualifications** and **flexible provision** to meet local and regional skills needs to support progression to skilled employment.
- **Engage students** in their own development of personal, social, and professional skills through our online Wrap Around for Adults and Apprentices (WRAAP) platform.
- Enhance **support for successful outcomes** through information, advice, and guidance for prospective and current students through our Adult Advice Hub, Adult Advisors, Disability Support Coordinator and Student Experience Lead, Employability and Enterprise Advisor and Well-being team.
- Offer **financial support**, including bursaries and hardship funding for eligible students, and practical support for students applying to Student Finance England and the Disabled Student Allowance.

How students can get involved

The College consults with students in relation to plans for enhancing access, success and progression using the system of Student Representatives.

Students will be made aware of the outcomes of monitoring, evaluation, and review processes through HE Student Voice activities.

➡ To provide feedback, students can contact our [Student Experience Lead](#)

See page 35 to 36 of the full plan

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

The Adult Quality and Student Experience Manager and Director of Adult and Higher Education will be responsible for monitoring and reporting on progress against delivery of the plan to the Senior Curriculum Group and Senior Leadership Team.

To facilitate monitoring the following will be utilised:

- The quantitative and qualitative outcomes of evaluation activity
- Group and individual student data on access, success, and progression from the College MIS
- External data and information which may add additional insights or context, for example from strategic and collaborative partners

We will monitor the impact of our interventions on our priority groups, to ensure we are addressing our aims. Monitoring will be integrated into the existing College process of producing an annual Self-Assessment Report (SAR) and Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for HE. Where appropriate, we will adjust our interventions in the best interests of our students.

All students will be made aware of the outcomes of monitoring, evaluation and review processes and progress made towards key targets and milestones through HE Student Voice activities.

Contact details for further information

For further information on our Access and Participation Plan you can contact our Adult Quality and Student Experience Manager, Marianne Readman at mariannereadman@exe-coll.ac.uk