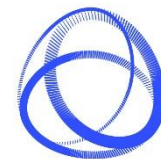


# Summary of Access and Participation Plan

2024-25 to 2025-26



Canterbury  
Christ Church  
University

## 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 Canterbury Christ Church University at [canterbury.ac.uk/about-us/access-and-participation](https://canterbury.ac.uk/about-us/access-and-participation).

## Key points

The focus of our access and participation plan is on improving outcomes for specific groups of students. Data shows that, compared to their peers at Canterbury Christ Church University, outcomes are lower for certain groups of students.

**The following groups of students are less likely to achieve a degree award of 2:1 or above:**

- Students with cognitive or learning difficulties
- Male students
- Asian students
- Black students

**We are thrilled to be the number 1 UK university for graduates going into employment (2023).**

However, we still have further to go for certain student groups. There is a gap in progression to highly skilled employment or further study for the following groups of students:

- Students with a disability
- Male students
- Young students
- Students that were eligible for free school meals

## Fees we charge

**At Canterbury Christ Church University, the maximum fees charged to home students are:**

- £9,250 for full-time students
- £6,165 for part-time students.

## Financial help available

We offer financial support to students from underrepresented groups. This helps students access higher education and continue studying until their course is completed. The support includes:

CCCU Grant (full-time and part-time entrants)	£600 per year for each year of study for students from low-income households
Access to Learning Fund	Varied amounts for students in extreme financial hardship
Disability Support	Variable amounts for students with a disability to support associated costs including disability assessment (incl. dyslexia), IT/specialist equipment and other services
Care Leaver Bursary	£1,200 per annum for statutory care-leavers of the UK who meet the eligibility criteria
Career Development Fund	Up to £500 per student to support work experience opportunities
Partner School Award	£500 per annum for partner school students engaged in outreach activity

Further information is available at [canterbury.ac.uk/study-here/scholarships-and-bursaries](https://canterbury.ac.uk/study-here/scholarships-and-bursaries)

## Information for students

- Prospective students receive information on fees and financial support at in-person events, such as our open days, and by tailored email communications.
- Current students receive information about fees and the financial support available through our student portal, internal communications campaigns and emails.

For the most up-to-date information, see our university website [canterbury.ac.uk](https://canterbury.ac.uk)

## What we are aiming to achieve

Our overall aim is to support students to access higher education and create an environment where students at Canterbury Christ Church University can achieve their full potential.

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

### **Support attainment at school and access to higher education:**

We are working with our partner schools to improve GCSE attainment and expectations to study for a higher education qualification.

### **Care experienced students:**

By 2027-28, we will increase the proportion of students with experience of the care system accessing universities in Kent by 38%

### **Black students:**

By 2027-28, we will reduce the gap between the number of black students gaining a good degree outcome of 2:1 or above compared to the rest of the student population by 28%.

### **Students with a disability:**

By 2027-28, we will reduce the gap in graduate employment between students with and without a disability by 3%.

## What we are doing to achieve our aims

We have developed multiple programmes of activity to support achievement of our aims and targets, including:

Continue to deliver our award winning and highly targeted attainment raising outreach programme to students in years 8 to 10.

1. Take a targeted approach to learning and teaching – this focuses on our target groups and is informed by student representatives on our Learning and Teaching Committee.
2. Enhance the digital capabilities of staff to support students with a disability through Career Professional Development
3. Enhance support for study throughout the institution so all students can access tailored support.
4. Strengthen guidance, support and training for personal academic tutors.
5. Engage students in their own development of personal, social and professional skills.
6. Offer financial support, including bursaries and hardship funding for eligible students, and practical support for students applying to Student Finance England.

## How students can get involved

We worked with the Students' Union and student networks to gather student input into the design of our access and participation plan. Students are represented on our Access and Participation Plan and Closing our Gap Oversight Group which is responsible for overseeing implementation of the plan.

To provide feedback, students can contact the [Students' Union](#).

To become involved in this work, contact our [Access and Participation Lead](#).

## Evaluation: how we will measure what we have achieved

Our programmes of activity are informed by the best available evidence about what works for students. We will collect data and feedback to evaluate:

- the impact of the programme of activity we are doing to achieve our aims
- the actions outlined above
- the impact on achieving our overall aim of improved access, student success and progression.

The Access and Participation Plan and Closing our Gap Oversight Group, chaired by the University's Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education and Student Experience), will monitor and report on these processes to the Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee, Senior Management Team and Governing Body. The Group will also oversee implementation of actions to ensure ongoing progress against yearly milestones in our Access and Participation Plan.

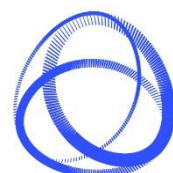
We will monitor impact on our target groups, to ensure we are addressing our aims. Where appropriate, we will adjust our interventions in the best interests of our students. We will publish evidence from our 2024/25 evaluations on our website by June 2026.

## Next Steps

Access and Participation activity to improve outcomes for our students is ongoing and ever evolving. We will be developing an updated Plan in May 2024 for the years 2025-2029 to reflect the growth in the number of partner providers and consider new groups that Office for Students

## Contact Details

You can contact [jayme.stevens@canterbury.ac.uk](mailto:jayme.stevens@canterbury.ac.uk) for further information or read more about our [Access and Participation Plan](#).



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