

Advancing Access update

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Coming up...

- > What is Advancing Access?
- > New interactive CPD modules
- > Virtual conferences
- > Request CPD in your school or college
- > Host a conference at your school or college
- > Your input - blogs, live webinars and more



What is Advancing Access?

- > Advancing Access focuses on teacher and adviser CPD. Our target audience is teachers and careers advisors, not young people themselves
- > As a result of our CPD, we hope that teachers and advisors will be in a stronger position to better support the progression of their students to Russell Group universities
- > We began as a mainly online project, and as such we are able to transcend geographical boundaries. Many schools are not located near a Russell Group university, and may not be able to access their outreach work easily
- > We also deliver CPD “on the ground” in individual schools and FE colleges
- > We are funded by university “Widening Participation” budgets and have a WP focus



The Russell Group

University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
Cardiff University
Durham University
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
Imperial College London
King's College London
University of Leeds
University of Liverpool

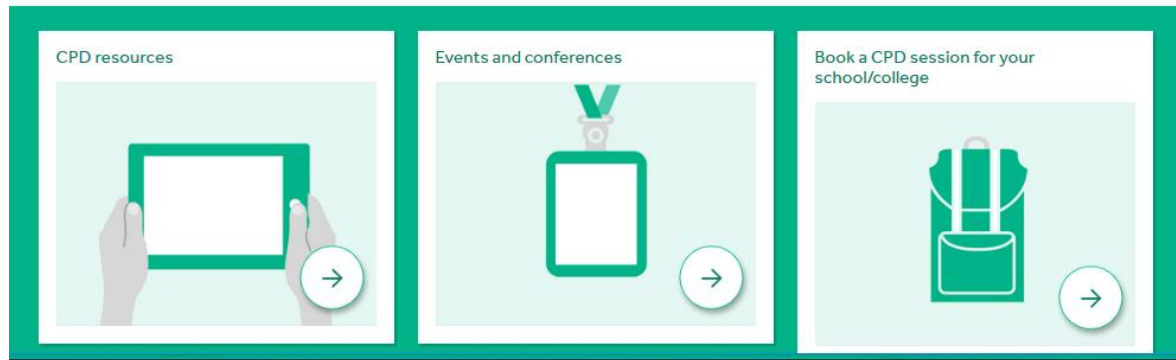
University of Manchester
Newcastle University
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
Queen's University Belfast
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University College London
University of Warwick
University of York
London School of Economics
Queen Mary University of London

The Advancing Access website

Since 2016 we've been continually improving our free website to support teachers and careers advisers.



Advancing Access provides a variety of [CPD resources](#), [online events](#) and [offline conferences](#) for teachers and advisers to help them support students' progression to leading universities. We can deliver [free CPD sessions in your school or college](#). Our information, advice and guidance - developed by our [partnership of 24 leading universities](#) - will help you to support young people making their key stage 4, key stage 5 and university choices.



New interactive CPD modules

- We've recently developed some new, self-directed interactive CPD modules for teachers and advisers. These new, free modules were released on our website in May 2022
- The aim of the modules is to support teachers and advisers as they strive to build a culture of success in their school or college with respect to sending more students to the UK's most competitive universities
- The modules are packed with the most recent data and information and highlight successful strategies teachers are using to support students. You are encouraged to reflect on your practice and develop an action plan



New interactive modules

The modules available are:

- > How do I support more disadvantaged students to progress to HE?
- > How do I embed a culture of aspiration and celebration?
- > How do I enlist alumni for maximum impact?
- > How can I make the most of collaboration with other schools and colleges?
- > How do I gain useful insights from destinations and intentions data?
- > How do I design a programme of impactful encounters with HE?
- > How do I make sure students gain maximum benefit from super-curricular activities?


Interactive modules

How do I support more disadvantaged students to progress to HE? ADVANCING ACCESS

Department for Education data

You have probably seen and heard a lot of references to different underrepresented groups and different ways of measuring disadvantage. Click on the different headings on the right to learn more about the relationship between different student characteristics and the likelihood of progression to HE. We will explore these characteristics further in this module.

The data comes from the 2019/20 cohort and is calculated by the Department for Education tracking all state school pupils in England who finished Year 11 in 2016 to see whether or not they had progressed to Higher Education by the age of 19. You can view the source data [here](#).



- ▶ Free School Meals (FSM)
- ▶ Region and Free School Meals
- ▶ Ethnic group
- ▶ Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- ▶ English as an additional language (EAL)
- ▶ State/independent sectors
- ▶ POLAR
- ▶ Gender
- ▶ Looked after children
- ▶ Children in need


Navigation icons: back, forward, search, 6/17

How do I support more disadvantaged students to progress to HE? ADVANCING ACCESS

Case studies

Read the case studies and then decide whether you broadly agree or disagree with the judgement given each time.

[Case study 1: Elisha](#)
[Case study 2: Richard](#)
[Case study 3: Donnie](#)



Question 1 of 3
 Elisha's ethnicity and postcode are clear indicators of disadvantage.

Agree
 Disagree
 I'm not sure

Submit Next Restart

Navigation icons: back, forward, search, 9/17

How do I support more disadvantaged students to progress to HE? ADVANCING ACCESS

Match measures of disadvantage

How does the author of the article describe these different measures of disadvantage? Drag and drop each description in the correct place.

Best available marker for childhood poverty

- Free School Meals
- POLAR
- First in Family
- Index of Multiple Deprivation
- BAME

Submit

Navigation icons: back, forward, search, 8/17

How do I support more disadvantaged students to progress to HE? ADVANCING ACCESS

Create an action plan

Now create an action plan to map out your next steps.

Think of three different groups who might benefit from additional focus in your school or college and complete the table below. One row has been provided as an example. Once you've finished, use the download button to save a copy of your action plan.

Which group(s) requires additional focus?	What barriers are these students facing?	What current provision do you have in place?	How could this be strengthened?	What new strategies could help?
Students with low household income	Engaging in super-curricular experiences when they have extensive part-time jobs	Enrichment sessions within curriculum time	Cross-reference course intentions for these students to make sure they have relevant opportunities in school time	Identify flexible (e.g. online) or funded super-curricular opportunities and support targeted students to engage.

Click the download button to save a copy of your answers

Navigation icons: back, forward, search, 14/17

Interactive modules



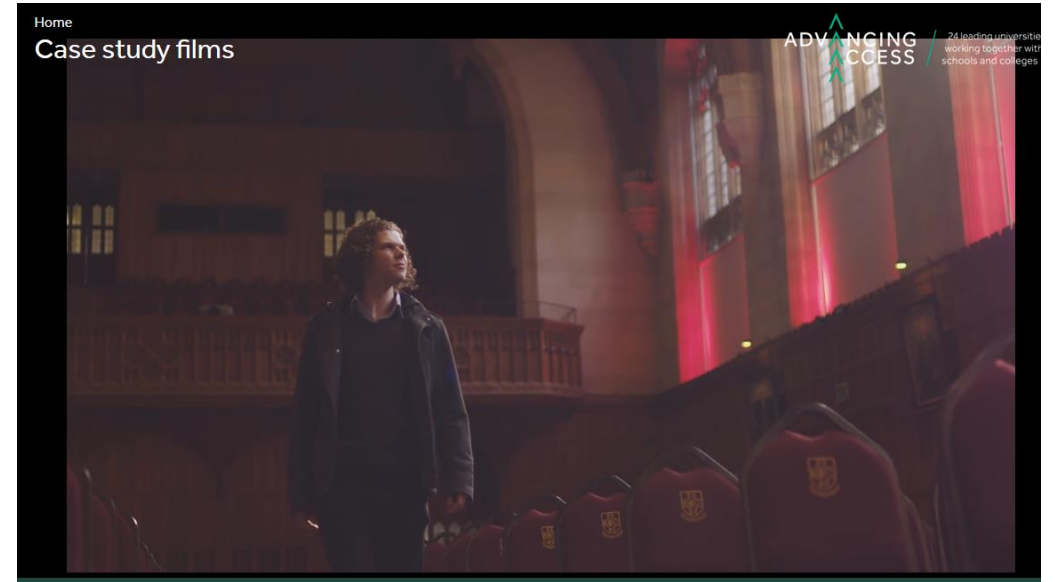
24 leading universities
working together with
schools and colleges

Strands of CPD

- > How do I help my students choose a university and course?
- > How do I help my students apply to university?
- > How do admissions processes work?
- > How do I help my students make the right choices for post-16 study?

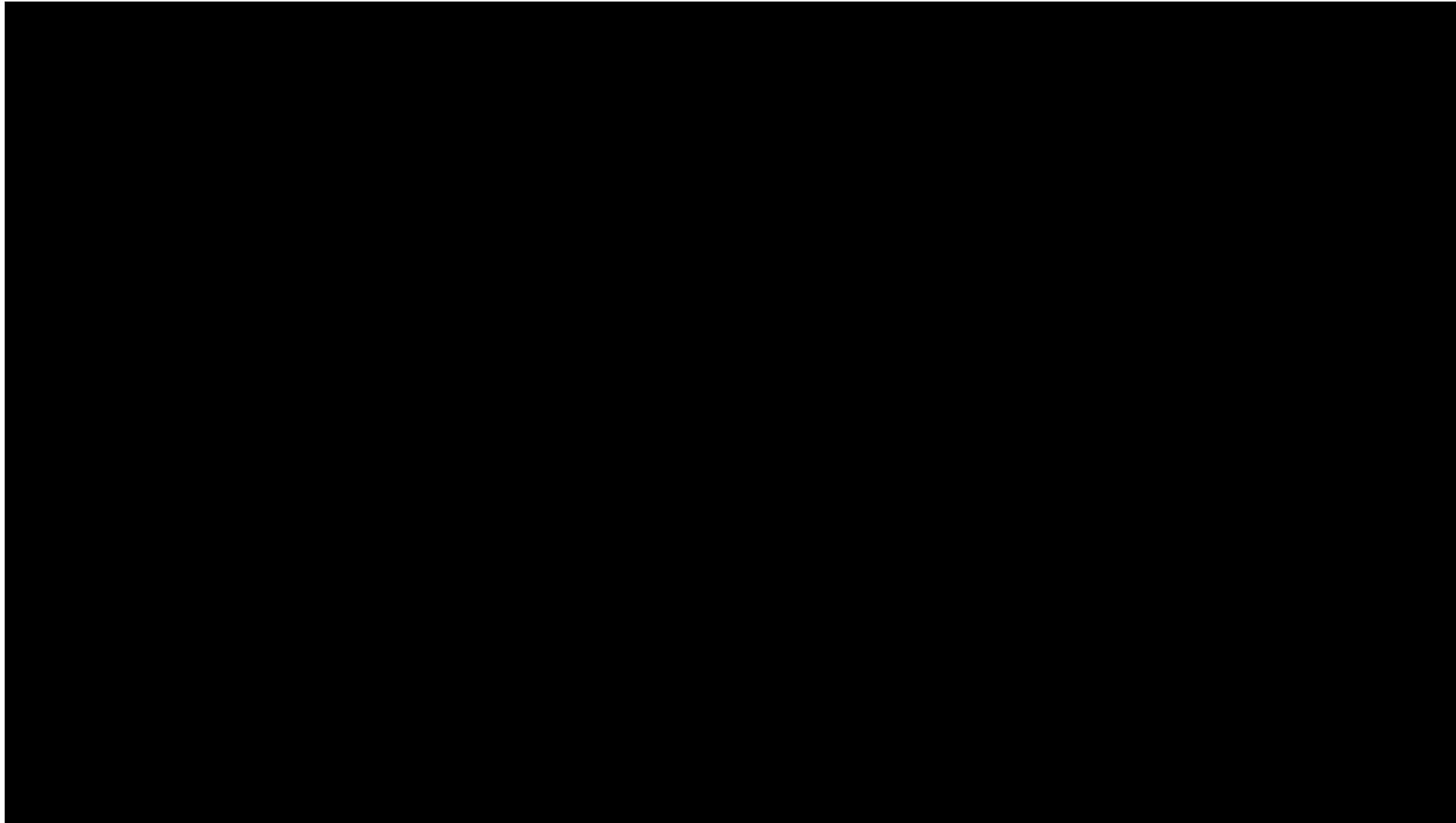


Case study videos



We have over 60 short case study films featuring current students and recent graduates talking through their journey to and experiences at university. They're great for sparking a conversation with your students about their future.

Case study videos





Making effective use of destinations data

Information, advice and guidance

Published on 2 February, 2022

⌚ 6 minutes



How should we be measuring disadvantage?



Contextual admissions



Writing Effective UCAS References



Information, advice and guidance

Contextual admissions guide

Contextual admissions processes at Russell Group universities

Content type
University admissions policies

Audience
Teacher training resource

Rate this resource
[5 icons]


Save to your favourites
[Heart icon]

Description
This page contains a downloadable guide to contextual admissions processes at leading universities.

The guide explores some of the factors which may result in an application being flagged as contextual and also lists some of the ways in which flagged applicants may be treated differently in the admissions process. Advice is provided on how to best support students through contextual admissions processes.


Every university has its own admissions policy, therefore our guide refers to some general principles of contextual admissions. Below you can find links to the particular admissions policies at each of the 24 Russell Group universities. If you have any questions about a particular university's admissions policy, please contact that university directly.

View in browser





University of Birmingham 


Guidebook

How do admissions processes work? 


Information sheets

Admissions glossary 


Admissions processes - myth-busting 


Top tips for supporting students who do not have a confirmed place 

Teacher and adviser reflection sheets


Teacher and adviser reflection - understanding admissions processes 

Presentations

Presentation notes - Supporting students through the application process 

Presentation slides - supporting students through the application process 

University admissions policies

Contextual admissions processes at Russell 

Advancing Access Bursary Directory

Russell Group bursary guide

Content type

Contextual admissions policies

Audience

Resource for teachers and their learners

Rate this resource



Save to your favourites



Description

This guide contains links to some of the bursaries and scholarships which may be currently on offer at the Russell Group universities. We have focussed on support for UK applicants for undergraduate courses in this guide.

Be sure to click the links so that you can find the latest information directly from the University's website. Some bursaries might be available to all students who meet certain criteria, in other cases it is a competitive process and not all students who apply for the bursary or scholarship will be successful.

We aim to keep this information as up to date as possible but with the ever changing availability of funding, some of this information could be out of date when you are viewing it so we recommend always checking the university's website for the bursary you are researching to ensure you are accessing the most accurate information.

If you have any questions about any of the bursaries, please get in contact with the universities directly.

University of Birmingham



University of Bristol



University of Cambridge



Cardiff University



Durham University



Contextual admissions policies



Russell Group bursary guide



Comment on this resource



Create Comment

Your comments

Request Advancing Access CPD

www.advancingaccess.ac.uk/request-cpd

We may be able to deliver a free CPD session for your school or college, either in person or online. Sessions we offer include:

- > Writing effective UCAS references
- > Supporting students with personal statements
- > Post-16 and post-18 choices
- > Helping students with interviews and additional admissions tests
- > Understanding contextual admissions policies

Request CPD here:



Virtual conferences

Our last Virtual conference took place on Wednesday 2nd March with 240 teacher and careers advisers in attendance.

We host at least one virtual conference per year for teachers and careers advisers. Our events feature:

- > Interactive webinars
- > A virtual stall for all 24 Russell Group universities
- > Staff room chat

Add yourself to our mailing list to be informed when the next event takes place.

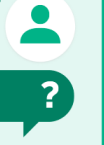


Lobby | Webinar Hall | Exhibition Hall | Staff Room | Help

Welcome to the Exhibition Hall

Each of the 24 universities in the Russell Group has a virtual stand staffed by one or two representatives. This means you have access to staff from all 24 universities right now. Visit the individual stands and ask your questions using the text-based chat boxes. More than 30 members of staff are waiting to answer your questions.


There is also a range of materials to download on topics such as entry requirements, summer schools, outreach programmes, scholarships and bursaries. If the resource you're looking for is not available, use the text-based chat box to ask the university representative for more information.

01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08
24	<div style="border: 1px solid #ccc; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>Each university has a representative who will be able to answer your questions</p>  </div>						09
23							10
22							11
21							12
20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13

Information stands

[Advancing Access](#)

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WARWICK

The ability to think in an agile way is at the heart of our approach to teaching and learning. Our community of curiosity provides the intellectual space for your students to ask the questions that will help tackle the 21st century's biggest challenges. Your students will also have the freedom to answer those questions by searching beyond the subject they choose to study.

We want your students to be proud of what they achieve while enjoying the experience along the way. A warm and welcoming campus with a

[Read more](#)




Ask a question

[SEND](#)

Here to answer your questions

Emily Cannon
Widening Participation Officer
University of Warwick



Lobby | Webinar Hall | Exhibition Hall | Staff Room | Help

Alternative routes in to Russell Group universities

16:20 > 16:45

Speakers MH PW

The webinar has now ended but you can still join in the discussion


Description

Delivered collaboratively by two members of staff from the University of Nottingham. The first part of the session will look at alternative routes in to competitive Medicine courses such as foundation years, graduate entry and UCAS adjustment and clearing.

[Expand](#)

Participants

Participants



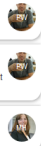
Links

- > [UCAS Adjustment](#)
- > [UCAS Clearing](#)

Ask a question

[SEND](#)

Though Sheffield is only one example!



Definitions of 'mature students' vary, but this will typically be 21+ as a minimum. You could explore the University of Sheffield's foundation year pages if you have students who might be interested in this kind of return to education route. Even where we are looking for level 3 qualifications (as we do for our Foundation Year courses at UoN) we consider a wide range of alternative qualifications.


Hi Sonyia At Nottingham we do not have a target or quota for A100 /A10L Medicine. We have 27 places on our A108 Foundation Medicine course and 15 places on our A19L Foundation Medicine course at Lincoln for 2020 entry.

Welcome to the Q&A discussion forum

Use this forum to ask questions on any subject to our panel of university staff.

Feel free to respond to questions from others too!

Staff will be available to answer questions until 5.30pm.



Ask a question

Type your question below!

[SEND](#)

Covid-19 has had an impact on everyone but some students have been affected more. Should they be mentioning this in their personal statement? How do you want the school to relate this information to you on the reference? Is this being taken into account?


[REPLY](#) 8
LH

Hi, will universities be confirming their places on the same day as students receive results as is usual practice? I wondered if there might be a delay due to the different nature of the appeals process this year. Thanks.


[REPLY](#) 10
JD

Discussion Moderators

Paul Martin
Advancing Access Project Manager
Advancing Access



Fiona Grundy
Advancing Access Project Assistant
Advancing Access



Threads

There are no current threads. Hit reply on a message to create a new thread.

Host a conference in your school or college this autumn

We're planning on hosting an Advancing Access CPD conference in a school or college this autumn. Could your school or college host the event?

Staff from your own school would attend, along with those from other local schools and colleges too (which can be a great networking opportunity!)

These would be a similar set up to the conference today but on a smaller scale; with CPD breakout sessions and a selection of Russell Group universities in attendance.

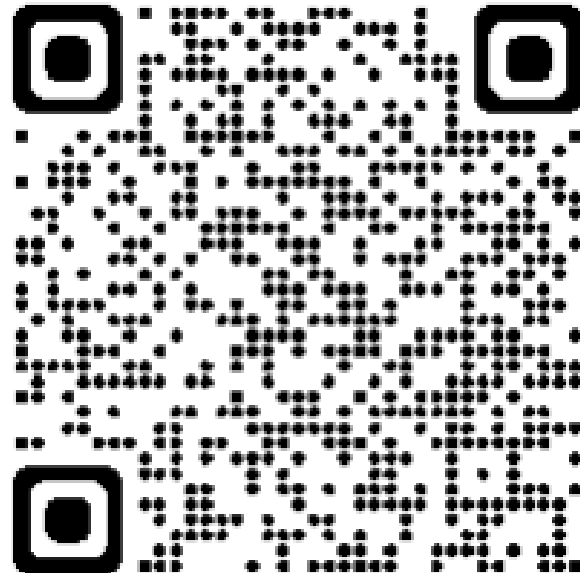
If you would be interested in hosting a conference, come and talk to us more today or you can email us at enquiries@advancingaccess.ac.uk

Talk to us!

Advancing Access is a dialogue between universities and teachers and advisers. Please let us know..

- > If there are new resources you'd like which we don't currently offer
- > If you'd be interested in writing a blog post for us
- > If you'd like to contribute to a webinar at a Virtual Conference
- > If you'd like us to do a talk or session at a networking group which you're a member of

Sign up to our mailing list:



We need you!

The best way to provide for teachers in their educational settings is to collaborate with them! We want to form an advisory group so that teachers and careers advisers are central to the direction of the project. We hope this partnership will make Advancing Access more accessible, relevant and impactful.

We hope to meet 3 or 4 times a year in a mixture of online and offline settings to discuss the direction of Advancing Access. We know that teachers are incredibly busy and we are considering beneficial ways we can reward your time.

At this point we are looking for an expression of interest. So if you would like to find out more, speak to us today or fill in the form using the QR code and we will be in touch with further details!



Questions?
enquiries@advancingaccess.ac.uk



@AdvancingAccess



24 leading universities
working together with
schools and colleges

University of Birmingham / University of Bristol / University of Cambridge / Cardiff University
Durham University / University of Edinburgh / University of Exeter / University of Glasgow / Imperial College London
King's College London / University of Leeds / University of Liverpool
London School of Economics and Political Science / University of Manchester / Newcastle University
University of Nottingham / University of Oxford / Queen Mary University of London / Queen's University Belfast
University of Sheffield / University of Southampton / University College London / University of Warwick / University of York