

The benefits of studying at a Russell Group university

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WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK



Durham
University

Coming Up:

- Key Benefits
- Career Progression
- A brief overview of the Access and Participation Plan
- Social Mobility and Inclusion
- Enriching the Student Experience

What is the Russell Group?

- The Russell Group represents 24 leading UK Universities
- 91% of research at the Russell Group is world-leading or international
- accounting for 65% of world-leading research
- We tackle world issues such as:
 - The impact of climate change on plant and animal life (Durham University)
 - Using polymer chemistry to make more sustainable recyclable plastics (University of Warwick)
 - Pioneering single-shot targeted radiotherapy for breast cancer (University College London)



Key Benefits



What do you think?

**Graduate
Prospects**

World-class teaching

Research-led

Reputation

**Career
development**

Higher earnings

**Academically
challenging**

High quality facilities



Key benefits for our students:



Teaching and facilities

- Learn from some of the world's most respected academics
- Access to some of the best teaching facilities
- Research intensive learning environments throughout their degree, not just their final year
- Transferable skills learnt inside and outside of the classroom
- Facilities that support independent learning
- Academically challenging



Key benefits for our students:

Student Satisfaction and Development

- High levels of student satisfaction according to the NSS
- High quality student experience – diverse student populations, academically challenging, diverse WSE



Key benefits for our students:

Wider Student Experience

- Learning beyond the classroom
- Diverse range of co-curricular activities
- Develop critical skills and other wider skills outside of subject expertise
- Programmes/awards to promote wide learning



Career Progressions:



- A great reputation aiding future employment
- Statistically higher success in employment and further study 6 months after graduation
- Excellent graduate prospects – 2018 IFS calculated that graduates from RG unis go on to earn 10-13% more than non-RG contemporaries
- Highly developed skills recognised by employers



1. The Access and Participation Plan

In the last decade, the number of students from under-represented backgrounds going to university has increased – these students are now 61 per cent more likely to go on to higher education than 10 years ago and 30 per cent more likely to study at a Russell Group university than five years ago.

In order to support this, all Russell-group Universities have committed to five principles of good practice which forms part of the APP

- 1. Embedding evaluation across the full range of all access and participation activities, as proportionate and appropriate to each individual activity**
- 2. Building on collaborative work, with each other and other institutions, to share information and reach more people and teachers in areas with lower levels of higher education provision or where fewer students progress to higher education.**
- 3. Ensuring ownership of, and accountability for, efforts to widen access and support student success sits with Presidents, Vice-Chancellors and their senior teams**
- 4. Providing transparent information on admissions policies to all applicants by ensuring this information features prominently on institutional websites and embedding it across outreach activities.**
- 5. Building on work with prospective and current students from under-represented backgrounds as well as their teachers, advisers and/or parents to develop effective access and participation initiatives.**

Social mobility and inclusion

As mentioned previously, social mobility is a key factor in developing effective access systems. RG Universities all have initiatives and departments that focus on social mobility & access, and a good illustrative example of that is the upReach social mobility programme:

£28,000

median salary of our 2018 graduates who secured highly skilled employment, £4,000 higher than the average university graduate.

74

of the Times Top 100 Graduate Employers have made offers to upReach Associates.

72%

of our Associates are from BAME backgrounds. Over half are female.

86.5%

of our 2018 graduates were in highly skilled employment or further study 15 months after graduation.

5x

upReach Associates are typically five times more likely to be successful when applying to one of our partner employers than the average applicant.

918

Professional mentoring relationships in 2020 between Associates and employees at our partners.

Enriching the student experience

The research-intensive environment within Russell Group universities encourages students to develop a 'deep' approach to learning.

This approach emphasises longer-term understanding and meaning, underpinned by the application of concepts and principles. It also encourages the development of a wide range of the skills and attributes which equip graduates to be lifelong learners and effective citizens, and to take on demanding roles and tasks. But transitioning from mainstream education to University is a complex and stressful situation for students.

City & off-city campuses

Student Societies

Dedicated wellbeing & mental health support systems

Staff and student-led measures dedicated to improving the student experience and supporting students from underrepresented backgrounds

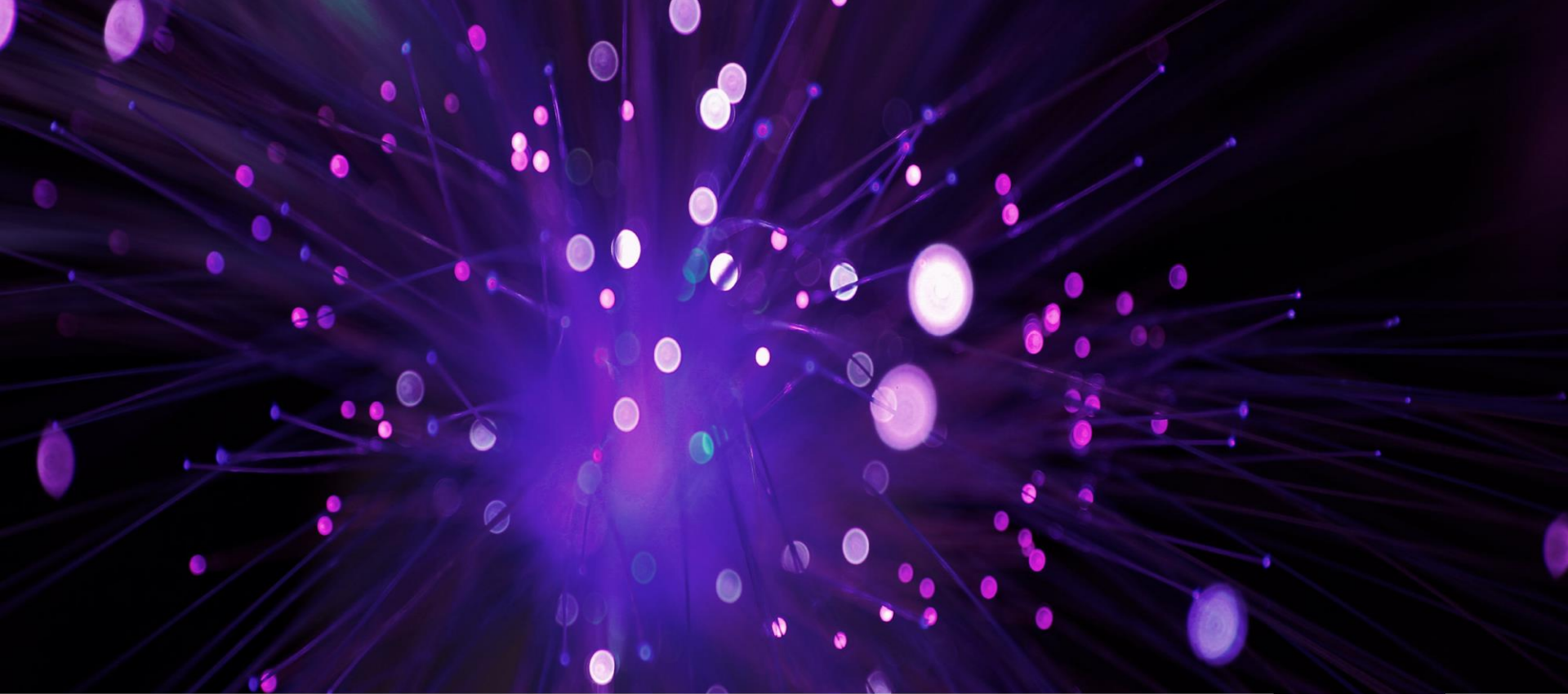
Responsive & dynamic attitudes to student satisfaction

Target groups

- State Schools
- Low income background
- Low Participation Neighbourhoods (LPN)- Q1
- Applications/entrants from the lowest performing schools and colleges
- Local authority care
- Other barriers (young carer, teacher recommendation)

Barriers to participation

- Finance
- Social/cultural capital
- Educational achievement
- Underperforming schools
- Preparedness, confidence, role models



Thank you!

Questions?



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