

Access and Participation Plan - Summary

Farnborough College of Technology

Summary of 2025-26 to 2028-29 access and participation plan

What is an access and participation plan?

An access and participation plan sets out provisions that will be meaningful and effective in promoting equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups, as determined by the Office for Students.

You can see the full access and participation plan for Farnborough College of Technology at: [Quality, Governance and Policies - University Centre Farnborough](#)

Key points

Our mission is to evolve as a Technical Community University, promoting social mobility, sustainable industries, and inclusive lifelong learning. We aim to advance through the richness of diversity by widening access and participation in Higher Education including intervention strategies to ensure equality of access, outcomes, and experience for all students.

See pages [01-04] of the access and participation plan for more information.

Fees we charge

Higher Education course fees are published annually on the University Centre Farnborough (UCF) website and in advance of the UCAS application cycle. Additional guidance and signposting is provided, via the university centre admissions team and again on the UCF website, with external links to Student Finance England, Student Finance Calculator and various Grants and Allowances specific to Higher Education students.

See pages [43-44] of the access and participation plan for more information.

Financial help available

We offer financial support, in the form of bursaries, to underrepresented groups to access higher education courses and to support with continuation and completion while on programme. All higher education students, belonging to groups identified within the plan, will be eligible for a bursary of £500 per year of study. In addition, a bursary for exceptional hardship further supports all students facing financial difficulty. Bursary information including application, eligibility and the level of support are available here www.ucfarnborough.ac.uk

See page [30] of the access and participation plan for more information.

Information for students

Further information, guidance and support is available via Learner Services or through the aforementioned University website.

See pages [30] of the access and participation plan for more information.

What we are aiming to achieve

Objective 1: University Centre Farnborough (UCF) will increase the proportion of Farnborough College of Technology students entering Higher Education (all providers) from deprived socio-economic backgrounds (IMD Q1 & Q2) by 2029 to 25% through increased information, advice and guidance (in partnership with targeted schools and with our own Further Education

cohorts), the development of new programmes to extend choice and additional financial support.

Objective 2: UCF will increase the continuation rates of black students by 2029 to 72% through targeted transition and support initiatives specific to continuation, including the development of new programmes to extend choice, increased academic support, and additional financial support.

Objective 3: UCF will increase the completion rates of students eligible for free school meals by 2029 to 60% through targeted support initiatives specific to completion, including the development of new programmes to extend choice, increased academic support, and additional financial support.

Objective 4: UCF will increase the attainment rates of students from deprived socio-economic backgrounds (IMD Q1 & Q2) by 2029 to 64% through targeted support initiatives specific to attainment, including increased academic support and additional financial support.

Objective 5: UCF will increase the attainment rates of students with a reported disability by 2029 to 70% through targeted support initiatives specific to attainment, including increased academic support and additional financial support.

See pages [4] of the access and participation plan for more information.

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

University Centre Farnborough have employed numerous strategies to address risks to equality including the use of bursaries for learners, advice and guidance, academic support and curriculum design.

See pages [05-30] of the access and participation plan for more information.

How students can get involved

Students can get involved in shaping equality for all including opportunities to feedback through student surveys, boards of study, course representation, periodic enhancement, student council and HE governor representation.

See pages [30] of the access and participation plan for more information.

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

The Access and Participation Plan and associated activities are monitored regularly, via the Vice Principal and through the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion committee, to assess the progress of interventions and impact upon objectives. The committee meets termly to receive progress reports and to challenge and support findings. Reports will be further shared across the University Centre via the Higher Education Working Group to ensure that all staff and students are actively engaged with both the plan and any further refinement of the plan. Evaluative reporting will be included at weekly Senior Management Team meetings, termly Subcommittee / Committee meetings of Governors and as a standing item within the Annual Higher Education Review which is shared with our validating partner and published here www.ucfarnborough.ac.uk

See pages [30] of the access and participation plan for more information.

Contact details for further information

Please contact Vice Principal Ian Graham / i.graham@farn-ct.ac.uk for more information.