

Annex I: Plan summary template

Cornwall College Group

Summary of 2026-27 to 2029-30 access and participation plan

What is an access and participation plan?

An access and participation 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 Cornwall College at [Access and Participation Plan - Cornwall College](#).

Key points

The Cornwall College Group (TCCG) is an Ofsted Outstanding provider of post-16 further education, adult education, apprenticeship training and higher education.

The College has a specific focus on excellence in professional and technical education alongside specialist higher education provision. We have developed partnerships with other higher education providers in the region.

The College's access and participation strategic aims are to:

- Develop a curriculum that promotes social mobility through increasing participation at Level 4 and reengaging adult learners qualified below Level 4 to gain the higher-level skills needed to impact the economy.
- Address gaps within access, continuation, completion, attainment and progression for target groups.
- Evaluate the success of our interventions to ensure a culture of continuous improvement is established and maintained

See pages 1-3 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Fees we charge

Fees for the academic year 2026-27 are under review and any increase will be in line with UK Government policy. For academic year 2025-26 our fees range from:

- £7,423 – 9,535 per year for full time undergraduate students
- £3,712 - £6,357 per year for part time undergraduate students

See pages 36-37 of the access and participation plan for more information. Detailed information about our fees is published on our website: [University Financial Support - Cornwall College](#)

Financial help available

We offer financial support to Higher Education students via bursaries and hardship funds. Eligible students can apply for the following financial support:

- HE bursary of £800 (pro-rata for part time students). Awards are made in two instalments: first in the autumn term and second in the spring term.
- Up to 20 accommodation bursaries of £1000 available to eligible students in their first year of study at Cornwall College.
- Hardship funding is flexible and assessed on need, with no minimum award. Awards will not normally exceed £600 per student, per academic year.

More details of the financial support available to Higher Education students, including details about the eligibility criteria, can be found on the financial support pages of the Cornwall College website: [University Financial Support - Cornwall College](#)

See pages 37-38 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Information for students

Tuition fees and financial support information is communicated at all stages of the recruitment process including before application at open events and advice-giving events and via the financial support pages on our public-facing website, on receipt of an application via the admissions team, when making an offer, on confirming a place, with joining instructions and on enrolment.

During induction we include detailed information about financial support available via in-person presentations and as printed materials. Our public facing website provides comprehensive information for prospective and current students about fees and financial support available, either provided by us or from other sources.

All programme pages link to a central fees and financial support webpage on our public website with summary and detailed information in written and video format.

Information about and links to other sources of financial support including eligibility criteria for our bursaries and hardship funds, postgraduate loans, online DSA application form and explanatory video and links to Student Finance England is available on our website: [University Financial Support - Cornwall College](#).

Further guidance is given 'in year' via the Student Support team, Student Finance Team and HE Operations Team, and also via academic staff tutors as part of the wider pastoral care provided to all higher education students on a weekly tutorial basis.

See pages 36-38 of the access and participation plan for more information.

What we are aiming to achieve

Cornwall College's Access and Participation Plan responds to the specific socio-geographical and economic inequalities of Cornwall and Devon. Our approach is informed by the understanding that barriers to higher education are not only structural, but also cultural and practical, particularly in the rural, coastal, dispersed and economically polarised communities we serve.

Our overarching aim is to address persistent inequalities in access to, success in and progression from higher education by developing a coherent programme of activity across the student lifecycle.

Our Access and Participation Plan is aligned to the College's values, and reflects our ongoing commitment to inclusion, equity and equality of opportunity in designing interventions that are relevant, proportionate and targeted. To achieve this, we have seven objectives:

Objective 1: Increase the proportion of students entering higher education at Cornwall College from deprived socio-economic backgrounds (Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2019) from a baseline value of 11.7% to 16.0% and for students in receipt of free school meals from a baseline value of 8.4% to 13% by 2029.

Objective 2: Reduce the difference in continuation for those who reported a mental health condition in comparison to those with no disability reported from 7.2pp to 3.6pp by 2029.

Objective 3: Reduce the difference in continuation for students from deprived socio-economic backgrounds (IMD 2019) Quintile 1 in comparison to those from all other quintiles and for students eligible for free school meals in comparison to non-eligible students from a difference of 13.2pp and 12.6pp respectively, to 6.6pp and 6.3pp by 2029.

Objective 4: Reduce the difference in completion rates for mature students (21 and over) in comparison to young students (under 21) from 11.0pp to 7.0pp by 2029.

Objective 5: Reduce the difference in completion rates for students from deprived socio-economic backgrounds (IMD 2019) Quintile 1 in comparison to Quintile 5 from 10.9pp to 6.9pp by 2029.

Objective 6: Reduce the difference in attainment rates for students reporting a disability in comparison to students without a reported disability from 8.0pp to 4.0pp by 2029.

Objective 7: Reduce the progression gap for male students in comparison to female students from -18.4pp to -9.2pp by 2029.

See pages 1-3 and Annex A of the access and participation plan for more information.

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

We have outlined five intervention strategies to address key risks to equality of opportunity identified in our Access and Participation Plan. Each intervention strategy comprises a range of initiatives that we plan to deliver over the next four years, which includes activities such as:

- Course development activities to ensure our HE portfolio reflects our place-based strategy.
- Develop our offer of pre-access, tailored learning and short courses for people in the local area who may be considering returning to education.
- Breaking down barriers marketing initiatives and advice and guidance events.
- Creation of online resources that answer questions for parents / carers / adults.
- Development of Peer Assisted Learning Scheme (PALS)
- Financial Management Workshops designed to support students in budgeting and managing their finances.
- What Next? Workshops to encourage students from target groups to plan their progression after graduation.

See pages 4-33 and Annex B of the access and participation plan for more information.

How students can get involved

We will work with students through our committee and sub-committee structure, course representatives and Student Union in monitoring and evaluating the ongoing impact of our Access and Participation Plan.

Student voice is embedded across all stages of the student lifecycle and is a central component of how we evaluate and improve higher education. Activities run throughout the year, which offer all HE students regular opportunities to share feedback and influence the development of their academic and wider student experience.

See page 35 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

The College has a strong focus on self-evaluation in its pursuit of continuous improvement. We have developed a mixed methods approach to data collection and analysis, which will provide a comprehensive set of data with which to evaluate the impact of the intervention strategies outlined in this plan.

See pages 35-36 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Contact details for further information

Please contact Dr Jennie Jordan (jennie.jordan@cornwall.ac.uk) for more information.