Ravensbourne University London

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

What is an access and participation plan?

An access and participation sets out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education. They detail the interventions that providers will make to challenge risks to equality of opportunity, and how they will measure and evaluate their impact. Providers review and rewrite their plans every four years.

Here is the full 2025-26 to 2028-29 access and participation plan for Ravensbourne University London (RUL) and here you can find out more about our access and participation work (*please note these links will be added when the OfS has agreed our plan*)

What we are aiming to achieve

From analysing our data, we are aware that certain groups of students do not access, succeed in or progress from our University into employment of further study in the same rate as other groups of students. In our access and participation plan we aim to reduce what our data shows to be our biggest gaps. Our data shows 6 key risks:

- There are lower proportions of students from geographical areas of the highest deprivation applying and studying at RUL, using IMD Q1 as a measure. We aim to increase enrolment rates of this group of students
- Students are less likely to access the University if they meet a combination of different characteristics (to identify this group of students we use a measure known as 'associations between characteristics of students')
- Students from Asian Black Minority Other backgrounds are less likely to continue their studies, so we aim to increase continuation rates for these student groups.
- Students with a declared disability are less likely to complete their degrees than other student groups, so we aim to increase completion rates for this group.
- Students from Asian black Minority Other backgrounds are less likely to obtain a good degree (a 1st or 2.1) than other student groups, so we aim to increase attainment rates for these student groups.
- Students from Asian black Minority Other backgrounds are less likely to progress into employment and/or further study, so we aim to increase attainment rates for these student groups.

We have expressed these objectives in targets with yearly milestones. See pages 2-4 of the access and participation plan for more information.

What we are doing to achieve our objectives

To address our key risks, we have produced four intervention strategies. An intervention strategy is a group of activities that we will undertake to directly address each risk. By addressing – or mitigating – these risks we aim to address the issues that are causing the gaps. By doing this we aim to achieve our objectives.

Intervention Strategy 1:

This strategy covers our work to support and encourage students from underrepresented groups to access STEAM and FUTURE careers in creative, technology and business. It includes work to develop our information, advice and guidance, to develop knowledge and skills, develop diverse and accessible pathways into higher education, as well as work to improve the success rates of applications.

Intervention Strategy 2:

This strategy covers our work to support students from underrepresented backgrounds to continue and complete their studies and achieve a good degree outcome through creating a sense of belonging and mattering. It includes work to develop and maintain a safe campus, continually develop an inclusive curriculum, embed mental health and wellbeing in the learning journey, and establish a co-ordinated approach to implementing disability and learning plans.

Intervention Strategy 3:

This strategy covers our work to support students from underrepresented backgrounds to continue and complete their studies and achieve a good degree outcome through addressing barriers to engagement. It includes providing financial support packages to students most in need, using assistive technology and AI driven study skills tools as well as developing data systems and learning analytics to provide enhanced academic support, and providing enhanced transition support for learners from target groups.

Intervention Strategy 4:

This strategy covers our work to support students from underrepresented backgrounds to progress to good graduate employment and/or further study by providing enhanced progression and careers activity. It includes work to embed employability in our curriculum, our Rave LATE programme of industry events, advocacy with industry, the work of Creative Lab – our in-house agency, and providing enhanced and specialist careers information, advice and guidance to learners from target groups.

See pages 5-27 of the access and participation plan for more information.

Fees we charge
From academic year 2025/26 onwards the maximum fees we charge at Ravensbourne University London are £9,535 for first degree courses and non-classroom-based foundation year/year 0 courses and £5,760 for classroom-based foundation year/year 0 courses. This is subject to change and Ravensbourne will highlight this uplift in fees in a timely manner via our website.

Financial help available
The aim of our financial support is to enable our students with the greatest needs to engage with their course and wider university experience and options, Please see the bursary page of website for more information.

Information for students
The website and offer-making process that the University follows both provide clear information on the cost of each course and how these fees can be paid. The website includes information on the range of financial support packages available to students and how these can be accessed, including eligibility criteria.

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

How students can get involved
Students are represented in our access and participation plan work and governance at Ravensbourne university London, through the Students' Union and also through our APP Student Advisory Panel. We have consulted with students to discuss and understand the risks to the equality of opportunity posed to our most 'at-risk' students and this has informed the intervention strategies in this plan, as well as our monitoring and evaluation plan. The Students' Union and/or

Student representatives sit on our APP Steering Group and APP Operations Group to ensure our work remains relevant.

See page 29 of the access and participation plan for more information

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

We have an evaluation plan in place to ensure we robustly measure the impact of our access and participation activity. Our processes adopt best practice from the sector to make sure our work is evidence-based, and we share our learning within the university and externally. In our access and participation plan we have:

- Set out our processes for monitoring and evaluation of activities (which includes embedding evaluation at the activity design stage)
- Explained how we plan to upskill our colleagues and strengthen evaluation
- Committed to publishing our evaluation of four key projects

See pages 5-27 of the access and participation plan for more information

Contact details for further information

Please contact our access and participation manager on l.slater@rave.ac.uk for more information.