



2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by Truro and Penwith College against targets, objectives and written commitments set out in its 2019-20 access and participation plan. This document is a summary of information submitted by the provider to the OfS. This document is a self-report by the provider only and does not indicate any OfS assessment of compliance.

1. Ambition and strategy

Truro and Penwith College's ambition and strategy as detailed in the 2019-20 access and participation plan:

The purpose of our 2019-20 Access agreement is to support students from the most deprived areas across the county and, in particular, the POLAR quintile areas 1, 2 and 3 to aspire to HE and to the achieve to the best of their ability. Truro and Penwith College aims to sustain and improve access, student success and progression among all of our students and in particular those from 'under-represented groups'. Our main focus for this agreement was to inspire students from low participation areas and under-represented groups and improve achievement and retention. Many areas across Cornwall have high levels of unemployment and predominantly seasonal and part-time employment. High levels of deprivation result from low basic household incomes and low aspirations for higher education.

The College has maintained a low entry requirement of 24 UCAS points or above to encourage as wide an application as possible from students (currently over 80% of our students are from within county). The wide entry 'gate' coupled with smaller group sizes enables the College to cater for a range of students from very different backgrounds. Between 2012/13 and 2014/15, low tariff students comprised 25% of our full-time (FT) student cohort and no tariff students 30%, with similar numbers for part-time (PT) students. Feedback on retention and achievement is monitored at the autumn programme committee meetings for individual programmes.

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by Truro and Penwith College of progress against the targets approved in its 2019-20 access and participation plan.

Please note the tables contain only a summary of target milestones approved in 2019-20 access and participation plans. Full information can be found in **Table 8a – statistical targets and milestones** and **Table 8b – Other milestones and targets** of Truro and Penwith College’s 2019-20 [access and participation plan](#).

Any optional commentary provided against the targets is given in [Annex B](#).

Statistical targets and milestones

Reference Number (lifecycle stage)	Description	Baseline year	Baseline data	2018-19 milestone	2019-20 milestone	Units of target	Comparison year	Actual performance in comparison year	Target self-assessment
T16a_01 (Student success)	Improve annual retention rates for 1st year intake	2014-15	75%	78%	79%	Percentage	2019-20	87	Expected progress
T16a_02 (Access)	Increase internal progression from Truro and Penwith College level 3 to Truro and Penwith College Higher Education courses	2014-15	51%	56%	57%	Percentage	2019-20	66	Expected progress
T16a_03 (Progression)	Improve the annual internal progression rate from foundation degree completers onto articulating honours degree programmes at Truro and Penwith College	2013-14	29%	42%	44%	Percentage	2019-20	83	Expected progress
T16a_04 (Student success)	Cornwall SCITT provision: Improved retention	2014-15	94%	93%	94%	Percentage	2019-20	91	Limited progress
T16a_05 (Student success)	Cornwall SCITT provision: Improved employment rates	2014-15	94%	93%	94%	Percentage	2019-20	91	Limited progress
T16a_06 (Access)	Increase participation of students from POLAR quintiles 1, 2 and 3 areas	2016-17	70%	71%	71%	Percentage	2019-20	75	Expected progress

Other milestones and targets

Reference Number (lifecycle stage)	Description	Baseline year	Baseline data	2018-19 milestone	2019-20 milestone	Units of target	Comparison year	Actual performance in comparison year	Target self-assessment
T16b_01 (Access)	Saturday Art Club - participants	2015-16	20	23	25	Headcount	2019-20	1176	Expected progress
T16b_02 (Access)	Maths Masterclasses -participants	2015-16	50	55	58	Headcount	2019-20	48	Limited progress
T16b_03 (Access)	IAG - number of school visits /career fairs /progress evenings	2015-16	70	75	77	Other	2019-20	96	Expected progress
T16b_04 (Access)	Subject taster sessions for internal students	2015-16	8	11	12	Other	2019-20	13	Expected progress

3. Investment commitments

3.1. Access and participation investment for the last audited year

Please note that some differences in predicted vs actual spend may be due to reporting differences between academic and financial years.

Financial year	2019-20		
	Predicted spend (£)	Actual spend (£)	Difference (ppt)
Access investment	£174,885.00	£202,531.00	16%
Financial Support	£183,835.00	£204,269.00	11%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected Truro and Penwith College has made the following commitments to increase the rate of progress against their targets.

Reference Number	Steps that will be taken in the future to make expected progress against target
T16a_04	The level of 94% retention is proving to be a challenging target. We will review our tutorial support and the speed of intervention activity.
T16a_05	fewer vacancies were available during last year's first lockdown with the pandemic impacting the main recruitment term.
T16b_02	in 2020-21 the masterclasses will be impacted in a similar manner but the college will aim to return to face to face delivery in 2021-22

5. Confirmation

Truro and Penwith College confirms that:

Student engagement	
Have you worked with your students to help them complete the access and participation plan monitoring student submission?	
Yes	
Have you engaged with your student body in the design, evaluation, and monitoring of the plan?	
Yes	
Verification and sign off	
Truro and Penwith College has confirmed that the information included in this impact report is accurate, that it has been compiled in line with OfS guidance, and that it is being submitted on behalf of the governing body of the provider.	
Yes	
Accountable officer sign off	
Name	Martin Tucker
Position	Principal, Truro & Penwith College

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

Truro and Penwith College's commentary where progress against targets was less than expected.

Target reference number: T16a_04
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
retention has improved over the last year from a poor year in 2018-19 (87%) up to 91% last year
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
We continue to apply clear advice and guidance and interviews to assess the likelihood of a candidate succeeding and have support systems in place to identify and intervene when students are facing particular challenges

Target reference number: T16a_05
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
having achieved 94.5% in 2018-19 our rate dropped to 91% in 2019-20
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
We continue to work with employers throughout the county to generate opportunities for our graduates

Target reference number: T16b_02
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
numbers on maths masterclasses were limited by the impact of Covid lockdown - we only met 83% of our target number
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
The option of continuing masterclasses online was made available to students but fewer engaged

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

Truro and Penwith College's commentary on any of the targets listed in [Section 2](#).

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	no additional comments
T16a_02	As the number of enrolments has been variable over the last three years and we are unclear what impact Covid will have, we have been recording the actual number of students recruited from our level 3 programmes to ensure this increase isn't an artefact of a reduction of overall recruited numbers from other colleges or VIth forms. We have recorded 124 individuals in 2018/19 and 137 in 2019/20..
T16a_03	A decline in recruitment at level 4 has reduced our level 6 numbers with fewer individuals recruited in 2019-20 than 2018-19. The percentage of our level 5 cohort transferring up with in 15 months of completion is 69% (2019-20) compared to 71% in 2018-19. This is a more valuable metric as it reflects the opportunity we provide for our level 4/5 learners.
T16a_04	no additional comments
T16a_05	no additional comments
T16a_06	POLAR Q1 was 9% (18-19) and 12% (19-20), Q2: 35% and 34% respectively. Our combined level 1 and 2 recruitment in the last two years has exceeded 44%
T16b_01	no additional comments
T16b_02	no additional comments
T16b_03	no additional comments
T16b_04	no additional comments