



2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT) 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

North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT)'s ambition and strategy as detailed in the 2019-20 access and participation plan:

NESCOT's strategic vision is to be "the college of choice". NESCOT's main Higher Education priority was increasing non-continuation rates in general and with a specific focus on under-represented groups.

NESCOT had a strategy to develop new pathways with Year 8 upwards onto vocational pathways, in conjunction of working with the National Collaborative Outreach Project, which is now called the Higher Education Outreach Network (HEON).

The college was to monitor the following activities:

- 1) Growth in HE Students at the college
- 2) Growth in Higher Apprenticeships
- 3) Increase the number of internal progressors from Level 3 to HE Provision.
- 4) Increase the number of School Liaison visits by IAG & related teams
- 5) Raising GCSE English and Maths achievement rates for students

The overall aims of the strategies with the Access and Participation Plan were to develop employability skills and improve progression to employment and further studies.

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT) 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 North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT)'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 (Access)	Maintain the number of students drawn from disadvantaged post codes forming ILR data returns from (2013-2014 baseline of 20%)	2013-14	20%	20%	20%	Percentage	2019-20	17	Limited progress
T16a_02 (Other/Multiple stages)	Maintain the percentage of HE students entering from ethnic minority backgrounds and retain this proportion throughout the student lifecycle.(20-25%)	2013-14	23%	20-25%	20-25%	Percentage	2016-17	28	Expected progress
T16a_03 (Access)	Increase the percentage of students with disability/learning difficulties entering on HE courses (2014-2015 baseline of 9%)	2014-15	9%	14%	15%	Percentage	2019-20	7	No progress
T16a_04 (Access)	Increase the number of internal Level 3 students progressing to HE to 70 in 2016/17 (2014-2015 baseline of 64) and to 100 by 2019-20.	2013-14	64	90	100	Headcount	2019-20	313	Expected progress
T16a_05 (Other/Multiple stages)	Increase the number of male students entering HE programmes by 6% in 2016-17 (2015-16 baseline 42%) and maintain a balanced gender profile throughout the student lifecycle	2015-16	42%	48-52%	48-52%	Percentage	2019-20	69	Limited progress
T16a_06 (Student success)	Improve retention of students from disadvantaged post codes from 70% (2013-14 baseline) to 85% by 2019-20	2013-14	70%	82%	85%	Percentage	2018-19	80	Limited progress

T16a_07 (Progression)	Increase the percentage of students entering graduate level employment or higher level study (including progression to Degree top-up) from 71.2% to 75% by 2019/20.	2015-16	71.2%	74%	75%	Percentage	2016-17	63	No progress
T16a_08 (Progression)	Increase the number of students increasing their GCSE English and Maths resit attainment by one grade to 50% by 2019/19 thus providing access to Level 3/HE progression from a baseline of 27% English and 31% Maths)	2017-18	27%/31%	50%	50%	Percentage	2019-20	43	Limited 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 (Progression)	We will deliver at least two collaborative outreach events focusing on higher level apprenticeships with employers and the partner institutions in the HEON NCOP project in 2017/18 academic year.	2017-18	2	n/a	n/a	Headcount	2019-20	2	Expected progress
T16b_02 (Access)	We will work as close partners in the University of Surrey-led HEON NCOP project.	2017-18	n/a	n/a	n/a	Other	2019-20	50	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	£22,701.25	£22,700.00	0%
Financial Support	£4,500.00	£1,179.00	-74%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT) 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_01	Now our 3 satellite campuses are established, there is potential to run more HE Programmes at these sites which will recruit more students who typically do not participate in Higher Education or live in areas of deprivation (based on POLAR4 data). The College's strategy is to also embed a Weekend HE Provision and increase blending learning therefore could increase student participation again whereby there are significantly low areas of HE Participation.
T16a_03	Through the application and enrolment stage there will be further signposting of all student support, NESCOT would like to remove any stigma of disability at the college. A number of students are identified at the Continuation stage of the student lifecycle once teaching staff engage with learners and when formative assessments are completed. To make further progress hitting the target "Keep warm" information for students who have applied at NESCOT will not just solely focus on HE Programmes but also signpost student support further so we can capture and action students' needs within the "Access" stage and not just merely the "Success" stage.
T16a_05	Intensive care meeting will continue as continuation rates in HE for males has improved from 70% in 2017/18 to 82% in 2018/19, a 12% increase. This is significant with the number of males enrolling onto a HE programme increasing from 120 to 230 in those respective years.

T16a_06	Intensive care meeting will continue as continuation rates in HE for all students irrespective of course or characteristics are improving wholly.
T16a_07	NESCOT are continuously looking at expanding HE Provision to Level 6 and 7 where possible. We have also developed our HE Tutorial and PDP forms so students can track their success and ensure that by the time they complete their programme of studies, they are graduate ready.
T16a_08	In 2018/19 increasing attainment by one grade increased in 35% and 43% in 2019/20. Since the Coronavirus pandemic, more students are using online learning resources. One example of this includes, encouraging the use of Khan Academy. This is an additional tool in allowing learners completing tasks independently but at their own pace. Now schools and colleges are allowed to return since the pandemic, face to face learning has now resumed and tutorials and small group learning has been additionally available to learners to achieve a grade 4 or above. When FE students are enrolling onto a Level 3 programme of study but has not achieved a Grade 4 or above in the two subject areas, staff may enrol learners onto Functional Skills initially (in year 1 of their studies) so students achieve a basic level of English and Maths before undertaking the GCSE element in Year 2. This intervention has successfully helped in increasing grade attainment.

5. Confirmation

North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT) confirms that:

Student engagement	
Have you worked with your students to help them complete the access and participation plan monitoring student submission?	
No	
Have you engaged with your student body in the design, evaluation, and monitoring of the plan?	
Yes	
Verification and sign off	
North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT) 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	Frances Rutter
Position	CEO & Principal

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOLT)'s commentary where progress against targets was less than expected.

Target reference number: T16a_01
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
There is limited progress within this target due to the increased number of students who enrolled in 19/20 compared to 18/19
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
When developing and expanding our HE provision at NESCOLT, we have expanded to 3 satellite campus outside of the main Surrey campus: Hounslow, Oldham and Aldgate East. This has increase our access to POLAR4 Quintile 1&2 areas.

Target reference number: T16a_03
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
We have increased the number of students who have declared a disability over a 5 year period and more importantly in the 2019/20 academic year. Unfortunately with the cohort size increasing by 175% (in 19/20 a total of 810 students, compared to 450 in 18/19) this means that proportionately we have not identified all disabled students at the access stage of the lifecycle.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
In 2019/20 academic year we have made subtle changes in the access stage (i.e. application and enrolment stage) so students have the opportunity to declare a disability through a closed question. This has captured more students (via headcount) and enabled students to receive the correct support before start their programme of study however we are capturing more students identified to have a disability throughout the "Success" stage of the student lifecycle.

Target reference number: T16a_05
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
There are indicators to show that the rates of continuation and progression is increasing throughout the academic years from 2015-16. However the percentage of male students enrolling onto a Higher Education programme has decreased from 60% to 49% (in 19/20) which is false decrease as the number of male students has increased from 80 (in 15-16) to 400 (in 19-20) which is a 400% increase.
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
Intensive Care meetings are established at the start of the academic year to identify programmes were closer monitoring is needed due to the cohort needing extra academic or

pastoral support. Programmes can additionally be added into intensive care if retention and attendance issues are present so underlying issues can be found.

Target reference number: T16a_06

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

Due to data suppression it is not possible to state if the target was met in 2018-19 or 2019-20. A 5 year aggregate has been stated by the end of 2018-19 academic year.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

Investigating the IMD2019 Data continuation rates for Quintile 1 & 2 was at 60% in 2017-18 and improved to 78% & 93% in 2018-19. The gap between Quintile 5 to 1 was 23% in 2017-18 but reduced to 8% in 2018-19. Based on this information we would expect to see similarities with the POLAR4 data.

Target reference number: T16a_07

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

This target has not been met by the college and according to the APP Data Dashboard in 2016-17 we have decreased.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

Since 2016-17 a number of HND and Foundation Degree programmes have had a Top-Up degree designed and validated by our existing validating HEI Partners to improve the percentage of further studies and subsequently graduate level employment. This includes: BSc (Hons) Sports Therapy; BSc (Hons) Animal Management; BA (Hons) Collaborative Theatre; BA (Hons) Counselling Studies and BA (Hons) Business and Entrepreneurship.

Target reference number: T16a_08

How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?

This target was very ambitious for the college however in 2019-20 we were short of this target by 7%.

Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?

Students at NESCOLT who have to undertake Maths and/or English adhere to a learning agreement which stipulates about attendance in class and Progression Coaches (tutors) are responsible to identify and support further why students are not engaging in these subject areas. Leading into exam weeks, intensive revision blocks have also been designed to help support students to achieve a grade 4 or above (equivalent of a "C" grade), attendance has been high since the intervention was implemented from 2018/19.

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

North East Surrey College of Technology (NESCOT)'s commentary on any of the targets listed in [Section 2](#).

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	The total number of students enrolled on a HE provision was 840 in 19/20 and 480 in 18/19 (75% increase).
T16a_02	Based on 2016/17 full data set. 52% of students at the "Access" stage were from BAME communities and at the end of the "Progression" stage 28% of total students had successfully completed a HE Programme. In 2019/20 at the "Access" stage, 42% of the cohort are from the BAME community which is a slight decrease from 16/17 hence the direction of target stating "decreasing". However, retention rates from 2016/17 onwards are higher from this population (61% in 16/17 to 81% in 18/19) therefore direction of target should be "increasing".
T16a_03	
T16a_04	Now our 3 satellite campuses are established, we have been able to provide an FE and HE provision within business; this has created us to exceed our target of internal progressors at NESCOT.
T16a_05	69% in 2019-20 is the "Progression/Achievement" for males in Higher Education, based on internal data obtained.
T16a_06	The APP Resource data provided an aggregated 5 year average of 80% as data is suppressed up to 2018/19.
T16a_07	
T16a_08	
T16b_01	
T16b_02	NESCOT has a new Careers Education Information And Guidance Strategy which focusses on students engaging on and participating in further and higher education (i.e. "Access" stage of the student lifecycle).