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| C. Governance | |
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D. Introduction

Strategic Context

The University Widening Access Strategy is part of a suite of strategies all designed to serve and deliver

- Students domiciled in the lower two quintiles of the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD, 2014), and UK low participation neighbourhoods – POLAR quintiles 1 and 2;
- Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority (BAME) students;
- Students facing financial hardship;
- Students studying part-time;
- Mature students;
- Disabled students and those in receipt of Disabled Student's Allowance (DSA);
- Students with a mental health condition;
- Students who are estranged from their parents/carers;

- 2.6. To enable a unique student learning experience that works holistically to seek to remove barriers to progression and attainment, including enhanced academic support to ensure students with complex support needs are equipped to reach their potential.
- 2.7. To develop the strategic contribution of Student Support & Wellbeing to the delivery and enhancement of welfare support to underrepresented groups;
- 2.8. To demonstrate best practice in student support and take a co-productive approach to service design and delivery ensuring that they are responsive to the needs of widening access students

3. To enable widening access students to progress to successful careers beyond higher education

The University makes the following commitments:

- 3.1. To take a tailored approach to the development of resources, support and opportunities for widening access students;
- 3.2. To boost aspirations and confidence, along with developing skills and experience;
- 3.3. To proactively develop programmes to support widening access students, such as: Bangor's Go Wales programme, which provides bespoke work placements specifically for widening access students, enabling them to develop work ready skills;
- 3.4. To promote tailored resources to widening access students via campus wide promotion campaigns and the use of case studies and student success stories to help students identify how others like them have been supported to succeed;
- 3.5. To actively work with employers to support them in understanding the value and contribution of students with a widening access background. We also work to support them in developing recruitment and employment practices to ensure that these don't create barriers to widening access students

Our Partners in Widening Access

To support is in delivering our Widening Access Strategy we recognise that we need to and benefit from, working with a range of students. Here we detail partners we are currently working with and have identified potential future partners. As these partnerships are often tailored to the point in the student lifecycle these are detailed against each of our aims.

Objective 1 Partners

- HEFCW
- UCAS
- Carers Trust Wales
- Action for Children
- CREDU-connecting Carers
- Warwickshire Young Carers
- Reaching Wider Partnerships (3)
- Gwynedd Young Carers
- Carers Outreach Services
- CLASS Cymru
- SCiP Alliance - Hub Cymru
- Careers Wales
- GwE
- CBAC/WJEC
- BCUHB
- Grwp Llandrillo Menai
- Coleg Cambria

Future potential partners:

We are committed to actively seeking to expand the range of partners we work with. We have identified the following potential future partners:

- Universities of Sanctuary
- NNECL
- Stand Alone
- Welsh Refugee Council
- Shelter Cymru
- Carers Wales
- WCVA

Objective 2 Partners

- Grwp Llandrillo Menai
- Coleg Cambria
- Engagement with a distance learning provider
- Stand Alone
- Welsh Refugee Council
- HEFCW
- BCUHB
- Shelter Cymru

Future potential partners:

- Universities of Sanctuary
- NNECL
- Local employers

Objective 3 Partners

- AGCAS – specifically the Social Mobility and Widening Participation working group
- My Plus Club – careers advice, support and training for student and graduates with disabilities
- Identifying and working with employers that we know are disability positive, shared learning with sharing case studies – ways in which you could adapt your recruitment processes.
- North Wales Economic Ambitions Board, and the Regional Skills Partnership
- M-Sparc
- Careers Wales
- Deeside Business Forum
- DWP
- The Federation of Small Businesses
- North Wales Business Academy

F. Key Performance IndicatorsMeasuring Impact

In order to ensure that our strategy has real positive impact and that it is dynamic, adapting as and when required in a pro-active way, a key element is measuring impact and using this to inform future development. For each objective, we have identified a number of measures which will be monitored regularly.

The impact measures detailed here, for all three objectives, will be reviewed as part of the revision of the University's Fee and Access Plan, the next review being in 2023. This will be an ongoing process throughout the life of the strategy ensuring that it always remains linked to and supportive of our commitments within our Fee and Access Plan. The initial impact measures are directly related to our current Fee and Access Plan.

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