

Moulton College: Summary of 2025-2026 to 2028-2029 Access and Participation Plan

What is an access and participation plan?

Access and participation plans set out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education. You can see our full access and participation plan at: [Policies and Data Reports](#)

Key points

Moulton College is located within Northamptonshire and is one of the UK's leading land-based colleges providing education and training from pre-entry to postgraduate degree level. The college enjoys superb facilities within a rural environment to offer the best chance for students and professionals to develop their skills and expertise.

Currently, approximately 85 students access our Higher Education provision for Animal Welfare, Sport, and Construction based courses each year. We are committed to widening participation from students from disadvantaged communities, and to improve continuation and completion.

As part of our initiatives to further our inclusivity, we strive to reduce attainment gaps of all key measures throughout our student's journey. Due to our low student numbers, it can be difficult to gain statistical significance for a true comparison but, our current insights tell us that:

- We currently face Lower Proportions of Students from the Most Deprived Quintiles
- Our current recruitment shows a Lack of Ethnic Diversity.
- We have lower Representation of Free School Meal Eligible Students
- We see Lower Continuation Rates for Students from Deprived Backgrounds, and Lower Continuation and Completion Rates for Young Students

Fees we charge

At Moulton College, the maximum fees charged are:

- £9,000 for full-time undergraduate course, for example a *BSc (Hons)*
- £7,200 for full time HNC/D courses
- £2,400 to £3,600 for part-time HNC/D students (depending on year of entry)

Please see our full list of the fees that we charge for courses at Moulton College at <https://www.moulton.ac.uk/he/fees-and-financial-support>.

Please note that these fees are based on courses starting in September 2025. Fees may be subject to change for courses starting in September 2026.

Financial help available

In its agreement with the Office for Students, Moulton College is committed to offering a range of bursaries dependent upon entry qualifications and/or assessed on income:

- **Moulton College Bursary** - available to full-time students based on a household income assessment. Students with residual household income of less than £25,000 will be eligible for £1,000 towards study costs. Students with a household income of less than £42,600, but more than £25,000 will be eligible for £500 towards study costs.

- **Hardship Fund Bursary** - A limited discretionary fund has been created to help if students find themselves in dire financial need which could impact on their ability to continue their course. Eligibility will be based on an assessment of household income and outgoings. To be eligible to apply for a hardship award applicants must have a residual income of under £25,000 per annum. Those who have left care recently can apply under this Bursary for support to enable continuation or completion of their studies.

Information for students

- **Prospective students** receive information on fees and financial support at in-person events, such as our open day events, and by email communications.
- **Current students** receive information about fees and the financial support available through our student portal, internal communications campaigns, and emails.
- **Student support** is available through our student wellbeing and welfare team and can be found at open day events or through direct contact via the college email.

For the most up-to-date information, see our website: <https://moulton.ac.uk>

What we are aiming to achieve

Our overall aim is to support more people to access Higher Education. Based on assessment of our performance, we have identified the following areas on which to focus our work:

- **Objective 1: Increase Representation of Students from Deprived Backgrounds**
Moulton College increase Deprived IMDQ1 and IMDQ2 students to access HE at rates equal to sector average, thus by up to 18% (PTA-02). Develop strategies to increase the number of entrants from IMDQ1 and IMDQ2, addressing barriers such as insufficient outreach and limited access to information.
- **Objective 2: Enhance Ethnic Diversity**
Moulton College will aim to increase ethnicity numbers by up to 20% of the cohort within its programmes in order to represent specific sector norms across our programmes. (PTA_3). Implement initiatives to attract and support students from minority ethnic backgrounds to address the lack of diversity.
- **Objective 3: Targeted Support for FSM-Eligible Students**
Moulton College will increase the proportion of students eligible for FSM by 4% by 2028 (PTA_01). Increase efforts to attract and support FSM-eligible students to ensure equitable access and support.
- **Objective 4: Focus on Young Students**
Moulton College will increase the continuation rates for young students under age of 21 to 89% (up by 31%) (PTS_1). Implement strategies to improve continuation and completion rates for young students, particularly those under 21.
- **Objective 5: Improve Data Collection**
Ensure comprehensive data collection for all categories to better understand and address gaps in access, continuation, completion, and progression rates. (PTS_2)
- **Objective 6: Ambitious curriculum to meet the needs of our students**
Review the curriculum offer to establish that it offers widened participation, and where it falls short, consider other delivery models.

What we are doing to achieve our aims

We have identified the following activity to support achievement of our aims and targets.

- Offer dedicated support and bursaries for specific student groups during the application process, including help with personal statements, interviews and financial barriers.
- Implement targeted outreach activities in deprived areas. This includes school visits, workshops, and partners such as Aspire Higher. Strengthen partnerships with schools that have high percentages of FSM-eligible students to encourage applications to Moulton College.
- Provide cultural competence training for staff to create a more inclusive and welcoming environment for students from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Promote inclusive teaching practices that cater to diverse learning needs, ensuring all students can thrive academically.
- Support the formation of student council, societies and online networks that celebrate diversity, providing peer support and increase engagement to help students build a sense of community. Provide robust mental health support to help students cope with the pressures of HE.
- Develop early warning systems to identify and support students at risk of dropping out, providing timely interventions such as regular progress monitoring. Develop mentorship schemes where current students or alumni from similar backgrounds can guide students through college life.
- Create personalised support plans for students from deprived backgrounds, addressing their specific needs and challenges.
- Develop transition programmes to help young students adjust to higher education, including orientation sessions and first-year experience courses.
- Offer career guidance and support to help students with no known disability plan their future and stay motivated in their studies.

How students can get involved

We are committed to working with student leaders to gather input into the design and success of our access and participation plan. Students will be asked to attend our *Higher Education Quality and Performance meetings* which is responsible for overseeing implementation of the plan.

To provide feedback or to become involved in this work, students can contact the *Assistant Principal Data and Standards* at HE@moulton.ac.uk

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

Our programmes of activity are informed by the best available evidence about what works for students. We will collect data, and the voice of our stakeholders, to evaluate:

- Our annual curriculum planning process
- The outcome data for all groups of students, to ensure we are reducing achievement gaps
- The success of our programmes in assisting students to progress
- The success of our action plan, containing the five points listed above.

Staff and students are committed to monitoring the progress of the Access and Participation Plan, and report on these processes to the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee. They oversee implementation of actions to ensure ongoing progress and impact against yearly milestones, to ensure we are addressing our aims. Where appropriate, we will adjust our interventions in the best interests of our students. We will publish annual progress findings from our evaluations on our website (<https://moulton.ac.uk>).

Contact details for further information

You can contact our *Assistant Principal Data and Standards*, using the HE@moulton.ac.uk email address for further information.