



## 2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

### Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by The University of Cumbria 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

ambition and strategy as detailed in the 2019-20 access and participation plan:

Our 2019-20 access and participation plan sets out the following: "Since its inception, UoC has been committed to the provision of higher education underrepresented groups. The UoC Strategic Plan 2017-2020 confirms the University's commitment to accessible higher education through outreach activity, distributed learning and a course portfolio which raises and broadens students' career aspirations.

For the vast majority of our students, financial hardship is a barrier to continuation and attainment. To attend to this, we adopt financial support as one of our approaches to access and participation.

The University promotes strong, sustainable and collaborative working, as outlined in its Corporate Strategy 2017-2020. The University is the lead institution for the Cumbria National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP) consortium and is a member of the Lancashire NCOP. The institution is committed to working closely with other HE providers within Lancashire and Cumbria to share best practice and aspirations around engagement with schools.

The University remains committed to improving equality and diversity as part of giving all students the opportunity to fulfil their potential in HE."



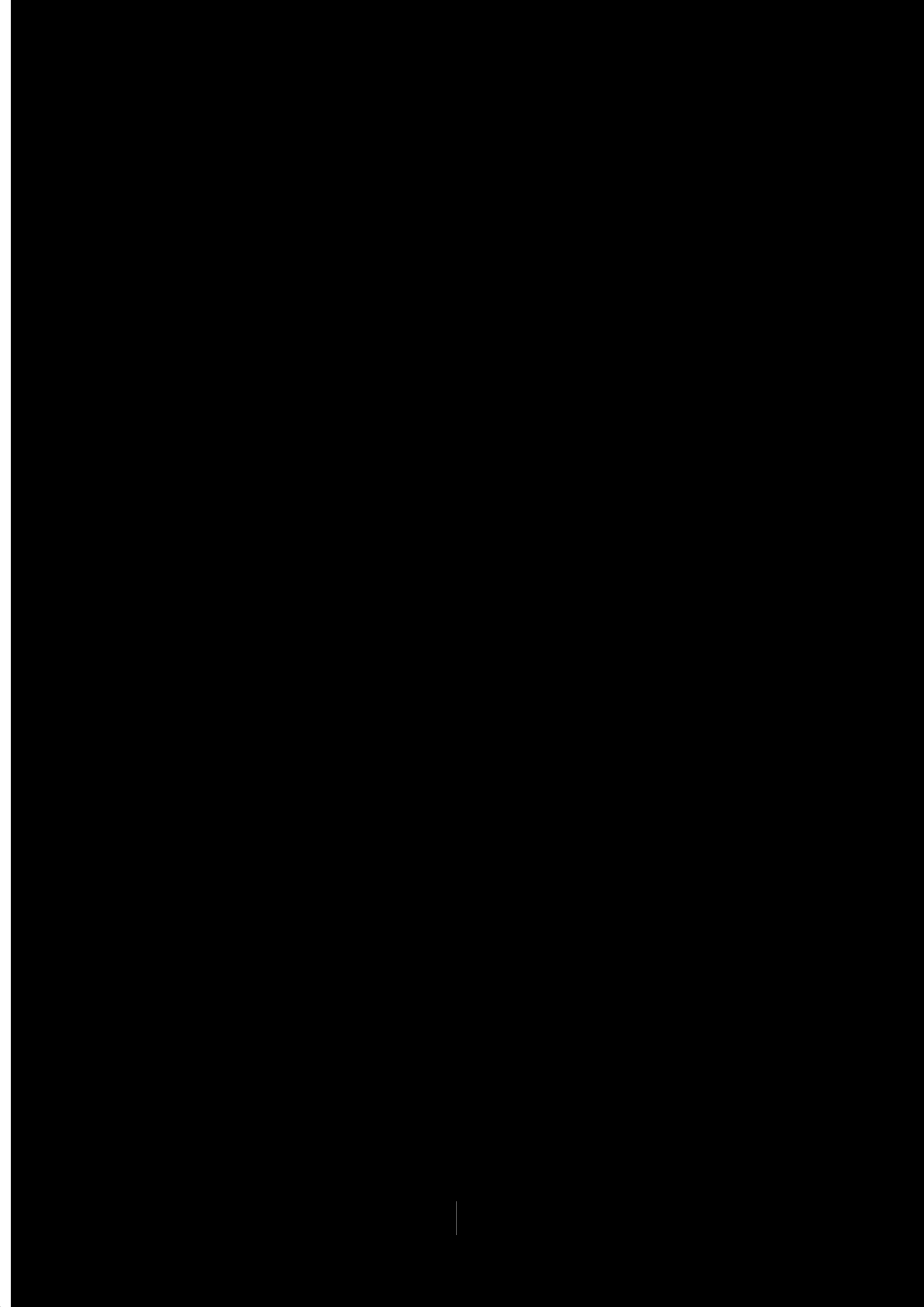


**Other milestones and targets**

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
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## 5. Confirmation

The University of Cumbria 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	
The University of Cumbria 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	Professor Julie Mennell
Position	Vice Chancellor

## Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

**Target reference number: T16a\_02**

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

Yes. We committed significant resource to outreach work with a wide range of relevant groups in pursuit of this target. Recruitment for this group is largely drawn from the Northwest of

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

<b>Target reference number: T16b_21</b>
<b>How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?</b>
We met our commitments for these students through equivalent activity in the 2019/20 year. We chose to scale down our Peer mentoring scheme for the main student population, in order to conduct a review of the model (we have found the model depended on an unsustainable level of engagement from students volunteering as mentors). In all cases the target groups received equivalent alternative interventions.
<b>Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?</b>
This target has been pursued through alternative activities which seek to harness the benefits of peer-to-peer support, while eliminating the need to rely on a large number of volunteer peer mentors. We ran the Get Ahead peer-group programme to support transition for students in the priority groups. Peer-to-peer support was delivered through the "Help is at Hand" interventions by trained student assistants throughout the year. Support for transition was offered through networked student groups (led by staff and with a focus on students supporting each other) throughout the year.



T16b_10	
T16b_11	
T16b_12	
T16b_13	
T16b_14	
T16b_15	
T16b_16	
T16b_17	12 events.
T16b_18	
T16b_19	We provided equivalent support through one-to-one contact with 104 students in receipt of the Cumbria Bursary, which is awarded on the basis of an income assessment to students with low incomes.
T16b_20	
T16b_21	
T16b_22	
T16b_23	
T16b_24	
T16b_25	
T16b_26	
T16b_27	
T16b_28	
T16b_29	
T16b_30	