

University Academy 92

Summary of access and participation plan 2026-27 to 2029-30

What is an access and participation plan?

An access and participation plan sets out provisions that will be meaningful and effective in promoting equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups, as determined by the Office for Students.

You can see the full access and participation plan for [University Academy 92 in the Access and Participation document](#).

Key points

University Academy 92 (UA92) was co-founded by the Manchester United legends known as the Class of 92, in partnership with Lancaster University. The institution welcomed its first students to the Old Trafford, Manchester campus in September 2019. All UA92 degrees are awarded by Lancaster University, ensuring that graduates receive a prestigious Lancaster University qualification.

“At UA92 we believe that success is down to more than luck and talent. It’s about working hard to be your best self, striving to achieve your dreams, and never giving up.” – Gary Neville, UA92 Co-Founder.

UA92 was established as a widening participation institution, with a mission to serve Greater Manchester and beyond by making higher education accessible to individuals with untapped potential; particularly those who may not yet recognise the benefits of pursuing a university education. Over 50% of UA92’s UK students come from within Greater Manchester, and nearly 75% from across the North-West of England.

Unbound by the tradition, UA92 has a “deliberately different” model, designed around the needs of its learners.

See pages 1 and 2 of the Access and Participation Plan for more information.

Fees we charge

Details of UA92’s fee levels are detailed below. UA92’s current annual fee levels for Home students in 2025/26 are £9535 for Cert HE’s and 3-year degree programmes. For the latest fee levels please see [online](#)

UA92’s current fee levels for Accelerated Degrees in 2025/26 are £11,440.

UA92 will review tuition fees each year. As agreed with the OfS for UK students if Parliament permits an increase in tuition fees, UA92, along with other HEIs in England, may increase fees each year using RPI-X, subject to the maximum fee limits set out in regulations.

See page 31 of the Access and Participation Plan for more information.

Financial help available

Details of UA92’s financial support packages available detailed below.

Make It For Real and Make it For Real Accelerated – For students who were in receipt of Free School Meals in last year of school or college and/or are Care Experienced are worth a minimum of £5000.

Accelerated Bursary “Go For it” – For students on Accelerated courses from [IMD2019 Q1 or Q2](#).

Care Leaver Transition Bursary “Beat the Odds” – For Care Leavers. Worth £1000.

Disability Transition Bursary – For students with a declared disability from [IMD2019 Q1](#). Worth £200.

Greatness Unlocked Scholarship – A full fee waiver for the length of course. Only two students awarded this each year. Worth the full cost of fees.

UA92 also has both general and dedicated hardship funds available for students to apply to.

See pages 31-33 of the Access and Participation Plan for full information.

Information for students

UA92 has published our Access and Participation Plan on our website along with the Provider Fee Information. UA92's website displays all the courses and modes of study along with fees, course details and pre-entry requirements. At UA92 Open Days we deliver a finance talks to prospective students and their families and provide them with the opportunity to ask questions.

See page 31 of the Access and Participation Plan for full information.

What we are aiming to achieve

UA92 was established to address the inequity that exists in higher education throughout all stages of the student journey. We want to make sure that these challenges and risks are addressed through a series of targeted interventions.

See pages 2 - 27 of the Access and Participation Plan for more information.

What we are doing to address keys risks to equality of opportunity

UA92 was established to address the inequity that exists in higher education throughout all stages of the student journey.

This plan was produced in partnership with our staff and students to understand what they thought were the key risks for different groups and intersections.

This consultation process allowed us to identify the 10 most significant risks to equality of opportunity for UA92, and we are aiming to address each of these;

- There are lower proportions of students from underrepresented areas on Accelerated Courses at UA92.
- There is a 20.8% gap between the participation levels of FSM and non-FSM learners in the Higher Education sector as a whole.
- At UA92 there are lower levels of Black students than the proportion of the Manchester population who are Black.
- There are lower levels of Female learners enrolling on Sports and Exercise Science courses at UA92 than the sector average.
- At UA92 a lower proportion of our Computer Science students are female than the sector average.
- The attrition rate from firm acceptance to enrolment is higher for learners with a declared disability than it is for those without a declared disability at UA92.
- At UA92 the completion rate of our Cert HE learners is lower than the % of our degree level students who complete level 4.
- There is a gap between the continuation rates of learners from low participation neighbourhoods and those from other areas at UA92.

- At UA92 the continuation rates for Black and Mixed learners are lower than they are for White learners.
- There is an awarding gap at UA92 between the % of our Asian learners who receive “Good Honours” and the % of White students who are awarded a 1st or 2:1.

See pages 2 - 27 of the Access and Participation Plan for more information.

How students can get involved

UA92 is deeply committed to meaningful student engagement in the development, implementation and monitoring of our Access and Participation Plan. Formal student representation is embedded within our governance structures, including Academic Committee, which approved the strategic focus of this plan and will oversee progress against its objectives.

For students wanting to get involved we would urge them to stand for elections as a “World of Rep” and/or “Identity Rep”.

See pages 29-30 of the Access and Participation Plan for more information.

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

UA92’s evaluation strategy is embedded within our whole-provider approach to both access and participation, and student success. It is designed to;

- Measure impact across access, success, and progression.
- Inform continuous improvement of interventions.
- Support transparency and accountability to students, staff, and stakeholders.
- Contribute to sector-wide learning and innovation, particularly in under-researched areas such as accelerated degrees.

Evaluation is led by the Chief of Strategy and Student Life, in collaboration with the Registrar, Head of Student Success and the Data and Strategic Insights Manager and delivered in partnership with academics across all four worlds, professional services teams and our students.

UA92’s Theory of Change is structured around the following logic model:

Inputs: Financial support (e.g. MIFR), staff time, outreach resources, partnerships.

Activities: Targeted outreach, financial support schemes, mentoring, curriculum reform.

Outputs: Increased awareness, improved application rates, enhanced student engagement.

Outcomes: Improved access, continuation, completion, attainment and graduate outcomes for target groups.

Impact: Reduced gaps in both HE participation and success; enhancing social mobility.

Contact details for further information

Please contact Gareth Smith, Chief of Strategy and Student Life, at Gareth.smith@ua92.ac.uk for more information.