

Access and Participation Statement

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AMBITION AND STRATEGY

UK Business College (UKBC) is firmly grounded in its community and plays a significant role in supporting young people and adults in developing their knowledge, skills and education in preparation for employment, career advancement or further study. UKBC provides the culture, environment, facilities, resources and services to enable learners at all career stages, to make effective progress and contribute to a thriving local economy.

The College is committed to widening participation, providing opportunities for all learners to achieve and progress.

The UKBC is proud of the inclusive nature of its intake, which reflects the town's growing diversity and population change. The College has ensured that the plan is underpinned by the Equality Act so that no one is directly or indirectly discriminated against.

The UKBC has a clear mission and vision and is clear in its strategic positioning both within the education and training sector and geographically.

The Mission of UK Business College is:

Expand our educational portfolio beyond business, aiming to offer a diverse range of accredited degree programmes.

- Pursue UK degree-awarding powers to elevate our academic offerings from HND to full degree qualifications.
- Deliver high-quality, accredited programmes that meet UK standards and enhance students' career prospects.
- Develop and maintain industry partnerships to provide students with real-world learning experiences and employment opportunities.
- Offer innovative curricula that address current and future business challenges, preparing students for a rapidly evolving global economy.
- Provide accessible, high-quality education that empowers underprivileged students from diverse backgrounds, fostering their success and promoting community engagement and social responsibility.
- Provide comprehensive professional development services, including mentoring, workshops, and career counselling.
- Implement a robust student support system with personalised guidance and resources.
- Conduct and publish impactful research that contributes to the advancement of business.
- Conduct and disseminate innovative, interdisciplinary research that advances knowledge, informs industry practices, and addresses real-world challenges across diverse fields of study.
- To ensure that our programs and services provide excellent value for money, making quality education accessible and affordable for all students.
- To maintain transparency in our decision-making processes and financial management, providing clear information to stakeholders about the college's operations and resource allocation.

ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION PRIORITIES

A. ACCESS

The College will follow OFS guidance in terms of providing admissions:

- To increase the entry rates of students from underrepresented groups to higher education, reducing the participation gaps for those from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds and at higher tariff providers,

B. SUCCESS

We will provide additional support for our students

- To improve the non-continuation rates of students from under-represented groups, particularly those from minority ethnic groups and those with disabilities, and to reduce the gaps between these groups and other students.
- To reduce the attainment gaps between students from underrepresented groups, particularly those from minority ethnic groups and those with disabilities, and those from other groups.

C. PROGRESSION

The College will take necessary measures to improve the rates of progression of students from underrepresented groups, particularly those from minority ethnic groups and those with disabilities, into graduate-level employment or further study, and to reduce the gaps between these groups and other students.

AMBITION, STRATEGY AND SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

The College is committed to increasing access, participation and achievement as outlined below:

- Raise participation for those learners from an ethnic background.
- Raise participation for learners from areas of low higher education participation and deprived areas.
- Raise the high-grade achievement for young graduates.
- Increase progression of learners from ethnic minority backgrounds into employment or further study.

ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

The College supports its students through a variety of mechanisms.

PASTORAL AND ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

The Student Support Services team offer professional and impartial advice to any student who is experiencing a difficulty that is having an impact on their learning; this may be a declared disability, or other issue that may impact on the student's progression and academic studies. Students who have a DSAS (Disabled Students

Allowance) package in place are directed towards information regarding their general allowance and supported to contact the nominated preferred provider.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Personal tutoring is an essential part of UKBC's student experience and makes a significant contribution to the retention and success of our students. Personal Tutors will act as a first point of reference for individual students on pastoral or academic matters. Every student is allocated a Personal Academic Tutor (PAT) from the academic staff. The PAT is an essential part of the student learning and teaching experience, and help is provided to students to succeed and complete their studies with UKBC.

Career support. We're here to help you Find your Future

Careers and employability services for college students play a crucial role in helping students transition from education to the workforce. At UK Business College we offer services such as:

- Career Counseling: One-on-one sessions with career advisors to discuss career goals, interests, and potential job paths.
- Resume and Cover Letter Workshops: Guidance on how to create effective resumes and cover letters tailored to specific job applications.
- Job Search Assistance: Resources and support for finding job openings, including job boards and networking opportunities.
- Interview Preparation: Mock interviews and tips on how to prepare for job interviews, including common questions and professional attire.
- Career Fairs and Networking Events: Organised events where students can meet potential employers, learn about job openings, and network with industry professionals.
- Workshops and Seminars: Various workshops on topics such as personal branding, LinkedIn optimization, and soft skills development.
- Online Resources: Access to online tools, job databases, and career planning resources.

These services aim to equip students with the skills and knowledge they need to successfully enter the job market and build their careers.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The College is committed to supporting, developing and promoting equality and diversity in all its practices and activities and aims to establish an inclusive culture

free from discrimination and based upon the values of dignity, courtesy and respect. The institution will support and develop the staff and student populations through providing all with access to facilities, personal and career development opportunities, employment and study based on equality.

Office for Students (OfS)

OfS's primary regulatory objectives is to ensure that all students, from all backgrounds, with the ability and desire to undertake higher education, are supported to access, succeed in, and progress from higher education.

UK Business College is not yet required to have an Access and Participation Plan due to not being an Approved (fee cap) provider which intend to charge fees above the basic amount to qualifying persons on qualifying courses which is highlighted at **Condition A1**.

- i. Have in force an access and participation plan approved by the OfS in accordance with HERA.
- ii. Take all reasonable steps to comply with the provisions of the plan.

UK Business College Access and Participation statement indicates our commitment and dedication to creating a supportive community where every student feels valued and empowered.

Access and Participation document is reviewed on an annual basis.

Next review of the Access and Participation September 2026.