



## **Barnet and Southgate College - Access and Participation Statement**

Barnet and Southgate College is dedicated to providing an outstanding quality service and to widen access to meet the needs of local and regional employers and those of our local community. The College Higher Level Skills (HE) provision is committed to equality of opportunity and freedom from discrimination. Barriers to higher level learning are minimised and the diversity of our student body celebrated.

The College's vision is:

'To be the most innovative, inspirational and employment focused learning organisation in the education sector.'

The College's mission is to:

'Provide outstanding learning and employment related opportunities within every market we operate and to offer the highest level of expertise and knowledge which will enrich the personal and professional lives of our customers.'

The College values are:

Putting the student at the centre of everything we do  
Continually learning and improving ourselves  
Being professional and setting a great example to others  
Promoting equality and inclusiveness  
Working as part of one college team  
Challenging the norm

The College has, strategically, taken an inclusive approach to the work of engaging with individuals with protected characteristics (as defined by the Equality Act 2010) delivering programmes, with a planned differentiated approach, from pre-entry through to Degree level to fully support the needs of our further education and higher education students. Barnet and Southgate College is an accredited Investors in Diversity centre.

Supporting progression at all levels is a key aspect of Barnet and Southgate College commitment to widening access and participation. Courses are offered in the community, which lead onto mainstream courses at the college and are part of the college's outreach work, a bridging programme 'Back on Track' provides young people with the opportunity to access a programme which provides support at lower levels before transitioning to higher level courses and the Schools Liaison team

actively promote all college programmes, including degrees, at the regular local School events. The College Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy and Learner Support Fund Policy are part of the strategic and operational commitment to widening access and participation.

Barnet and Southgate College Higher Level Learning and Skills Strategy for Higher Education 2016-2020 is focused on the delivery of high quality learning with the key aim of supporting Higher Education students to gain sustainable employment through widening participation and providing access to higher level learning.

The strategy includes three strategic aims which underpin the College values:

- Widen participation and aid social mobility for all students and access for those in work from a range of different backgrounds including international higher level students
- Provide clear information to higher level skills applicants on opportunities, choice and progression including through to Degree Apprenticeships.
- Plan distinctive, high quality, flexible, innovative and accessible higher level skills courses and Degree Apprenticeships that provide choice for our students enabling progression opportunities to employment and promoted positions throughout their lives.

#### Recruitment and Support for Students

The College is committed to providing impartial advice, guidance and support to ensure applicants enrol onto an appropriate course with additional learning support put in place, where required, to enable successful outcomes and progression to further study or employment. Students can access a confidential counselling and careers guidance service through the Learner Services teams at each main campus. Full details are outlined in the College Admissions Service Policy and Fitness to Study Policy. The College ensures access and participation in higher level programmes by:

- Planning higher level programmes with flexible delivery including part time day and evening courses.
- Offering a range of Access to Higher Education programmes to support adults with progression onto degree programmes.
- Progression routes are mapped across curriculum areas up to and including higher education.
- Higher Level programmes have an entry criteria which encourages students from a 'non-traditional' background to apply, with previous workplace experience being the alternative entry criteria rather than UCAS points or academic qualifications.