

WPC17D007

Title: *Applying our values: the pre-arrival case study*
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Issue

A collation of positive partnership case-studies and their impact at institutions in the UK with a view to adapting and adopting good sector practise.

Recommendation

To receive and consider the examples of collaborative working and take best practise examples forward.

Resource Implications

Varied dependant on outcomes of discussion and actions undertaken.

Risk Implications

Dependant on actions, or lack of, this could be seen as a medium risk issue.

Equality and Diversity

Given that the groups most at risk are covered by a number of protected characteristic this should be seen as an organisational priority in terms of equality and diversity.

Timing of decisions

A decision on adaption of practises in stated examples ahead of the next round of recruitment would be advantageous.

Further Information

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Background

During our induction period, we have come across some excellent examples of collaborative work across the country, but best practice comes the university and the students' union working together on initiatives targeting commuter students, students who are estranged from their families, mature students and student-led outreach projects. These examples are:

[Access All Areas](#): University of Manchester and University of Manchester Students' Union
[The Role Models Project](#): University of Sussex and University of Sussex Students' Union
[Connect Peer Mentoring](#): University of Wolverhampton and University of Wolverhampton Students' Union
[The Stand Alone Pledge](#): various HE institutions

We recognise that some excellent work already takes place here at UEA and enjoy the partnerships that we have with colleagues. With the wide range of targeted activities taking place over the Freshers period, we can also appreciate that we do not know the full extent of the activity on campus, but critically there is could be opportunities to improve the offer of information available before students arrive.

The discussion exercise below will enlighten us into the full extent of UEA's activity for widening participation students pre-arrival; allow the Committee to understand and implement our strategic approach to widening participation; and identify best practice within UEA and the wider sector.

Discussion

In the Terms of Reference for this Committee, we are to

- 1) Set the strategy of approach to widening participation at UEA across the student life cycle including input into UEA's Access Agreement and Monitoring Form
- 2) To consider cost/benefit of potential major initiatives to address widening participation as appropriate

We invite the Committee to share their knowledge and feedback into this year's pre-arrivals activities and initiatives, paying special attention to the values and approaches to the planning, implementation and evaluation of these activities – as outlined in the Terms of Reference. This will go onto inform a mapping exercise that we would like to use as a way to coordinate and communicate widening participation activity across the student lifecycle.

Conclusion

Using the discussion points as a case study, we would ask the Committee to consider collaborate with us on conducting this mapping exercise, identifying current activities, highlighting where challenges might present themselves for different students and look at opportunities to rectify those.