



Empire College London

Access and Participation Statement

Empire College London has a strong track record of providing Higher and Further Education since its foundation in 2003. The college aims to continue to deliver to students from all backgrounds providing them with appropriate support allowing achievement in H/FE. The College believes that everyone should have the opportunity to progress in education and succeed.

The College is committed to delivering a high-quality learning experience for all students. It is committed to widening access and participation for all prospective students irrespective of background, gender, age, ethnicity, disability, religion, social class or any other factor. This is in line with the college goals and Equality and Diversity policy.

Access, success and progression

Our Access and Participation statement supports awareness and raises aspirations of all learners to support their progress into and through higher education.

The college has a fair and transparent admissions policy which welcomes applications from students with non-traditional backgrounds. The admissions team provides comprehensive advice and guidance throughout the admissions process to allow applicants from as wide a spectrum as possible to access the college educational offer.

Existing students provide support to new and prospective students by participating in college recruitment events and the college induction programme.

A comprehensive induction program is provided allowing an effective transition. Information on academic regulations, student support, policies and student and college expectations is provided during the programme.

The college offers flexible course delivery which allows students with childcare and work commitments to continue with their studies rather than seeing this as a barrier to continue.

A wide range of support mechanisms are in place to enable progression, retention, achievement and success. These include initial diagnostic assessments, tutorial support, academic and pastoral support. Extracurricular activities are also embedded as a support tool to develop a balance between the course of study and non-course social interaction.

The college has the appropriate processes in place to provide learner and learning support to students including disabled students. Students are supported from the admission stage right through to course completion. Third party arrangements are in place for additional support for learners who may require further assessment.

The retention and achievement of students are monitored throughout the academic year. This allows the college to intervene at early stages to provide and identify the necessary support needed for those students who may require additional support.



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The college offers careers service to students which include CV and Interview preparation. Employer engagement is embedded into course delivery to develop transferable skills. The college supports students to both employment and into graduate level.

The college will continue to:

- **Implement effective targeted marketing to encourage prospective students who would not otherwise think about or consider entering Higher education.**
- **Provide Prospective students with accurate and timely information which will allow them to make informed decisions.**
- **Offer a range of delivery modes to meet the needs of students and support progression, retention and success.**
- **Offer a wide range of appropriate student support mechanisms throughout the learner journey to enable progression, retention, achievement and success.**
- **Provide Higher Education that is accessible for all.**

The college holds a strong track record of attracting and retaining students from diverse groups on Higher Education programs. The college is focused on continuing to recruit students to Higher Education from under-represented groups including:

- Mature students
- Students of particular ethnicities
- Disabled students
- Refugee status

The Higher Education portfolio currently consists of Higher National Diploma, Diploma in Education and Training and Diploma & Strategic management & leadership. We are looking to develop and enhance the HE provision in the future to meet the needs of prospective students.

Future developments:

Develop further formal outreach partnerships to support access, success and progression.

Develop the current F/HE portfolio

Student consultation

Students are members of management and staff meetings. Consultation takes place with students regarding the contribution that they can make to the development and implementation of college systems



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and procedures. A particular and identifiable strength of Empire College London is the support provided by students in marketing the college.

Students are part of the annual review of the access and participation statement.

Monitoring & Evaluation

The following data will be collected and used to inform future planning and during the annual review of this statement:

- Retention and completion rates of students from these groups.
- Social background of students to monitor participation by those from underrepresented groups.
- Age & profile of students
- Internal progression
- External Data – (HESA, DHLE)

Last updated and reviewed: August 2018