

## Higher Education Access & Participation Statement 2019/2020

The Capital City College Group (CCCG) is an independent Corporation with exempt charity status formed under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2016 through the merger of Westminster Kingsway (WKC) and City and Islington Colleges (CIC). A training arm, Capital City College Training (CCCT), was launched on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 to lead on Apprenticeship delivery. With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017, the College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London (CoNEL) joined the Group. The CCCG Board is our governing body. Although one corporation, the colleges have retained their brands, specialisms and community focus.

The CCCG mission statement is ***'To inspire London's students and businesses with outstanding further and higher education and training which ensures their social and economic success'***. The Group provides a Higher Education (HE) environment within London that is dedicated to celebrating diversity, promoting equality of opportunity and eliminating unlawful discrimination.

### Areas we are seeking to address

- Increase student recruitment onto Higher Education programmes on offer in the Group. This is to be achieved by increasing the entry rates of students from under-represented groups from across London and by improving the progression rates of relevant level 3 students within the Group.
- Improve student success on the HE programmes offered by the Group, particularly those from under-represented groups by improving student support to achieve qualifications in a timely manner.
- Improve the progression rate of all students into graduate-level employment or further study.

### Ambitions and strategy

We are committed to meeting local and regional needs by widening participation of HE by under-represented groups such as mature students, students from ethnic minorities, students from socially and/or economically deprived areas, students with specific learning difficulties and/or learning disabilities and students who are the first from their family to access HE in the UK.

The Group offers a range of programmes that provide opportunities for those wishing to enter Higher Education. The Access to HE programmes have played a key role within London in widening participation for adult learners wishing to progress to Higher Education.

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We are working in collaboration with Linking London to improve the promotion of our HE offer within Greater London. The Reach Society is also hosting career conferences to encourage and promote career advancement for all students but in particular for students from black and minority ethnic groups and for students who are likely to be the first generation to access HE in the UK.

## Widening participation strategies

Some of our strategies to encourage widening participation include:

- Provision of clear and transparent advice, information and guidance by career and welfare advisors from point of inquiry through to enrolment and progression to either employment or further study
- The Group welcomes all applications and seeks to value previous work related experience in the HE application process
- Career and employment fairs to promote progression to HE and employment
- Progression talks to all level 3 students on HE programmes available at the college
- Dedicated UCAS workshops and tutorials to help students with the application process
- Provision of study skills support through taught sessions and online resources
- Provision of appropriate additional learning support for all students, including those with disabilities, mental health difficulties or learning difficulties or disabilities
- Provision of specialist support staff for students experiencing mental ill health or emotional difficulties
- Provision of financial support advice on course fees, bursaries, grants and student loans based individual circumstances
- Provision of support for students for whom English is not their first language

## Monitoring & Evaluation

The Group monitors the performance of the HE provision through the Performance & Quality Framework which involves students, staff, HEI partners, and employers. Students are helped to reach their full potential through regular monitoring of individual performance with personalised target setting and feedback on progress throughout their course of study.

Performance data is collated and reported to ensure equality and diversity indicators are considered in creating action plans that are monitored and evaluated through the HE deliberative committee system. A Group HE Self-Assessment Report and Quality Enhancement (Improvement) Plan is completed annually and presented to the Board of Governors for consideration and once approved is monitored and challenged regularly with rigour.

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The Access and Participation Statements have been put on the Group and constituent College websites. The links are given below:

The WKCIC Group: <https://capitalccg.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/The-WKCIC-Group-Access-and-Participation-Statement-2018.2019.pdf>

CoNEL:

[https://www.conel.ac.uk/images/The\\_WKCIC\\_Group\\_Access\\_and\\_Participation\\_Statement\\_2018.2019\\_copy\\_copy.pdf](https://www.conel.ac.uk/images/The_WKCIC_Group_Access_and_Participation_Statement_2018.2019_copy_copy.pdf)

CIC: <http://www.candi.ac.uk/sites/default/files/course-page-images/The%20WKCIC%20Group%20Access%20and%20Participation%20Statement%202018.2019.pdf>

WKC: <https://www.westking.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/The-WKCIC-Group-Access-and-Participation-Statement-2018.2019.pdf>

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