## The Courtauld Institute of Art

## Summary of 2020-21 to 2024-25 access and participation plan

What is an access and participation plan?

Access and participation plans set out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education.

You can see the full access and participation plan for The Courtauld Institute of Art here: <https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/widening-participation/>

**Key points**

The focus of our access and participation plan is on improving access and outcomes for specific groups of students.

Data shows that there are significantly less students from certain backgrounds represented at the Institute.

Students less likely to be represented at the Institute are:

* Students from low-income backgrounds
* Ethnic minority students

Fees we charge

At The Courtauld Institute of Art, the maximum fees charged are:

* £9,250 for full-time students

You can see a full list of fees for courses at The Courtauld Institute of Art at <https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/tuition-fees/>

Financial help available

We offer financial support to students from underrepresented groups. This helps students access higher education and continue studying until their course is completed. The support includes:

* The Courtauld Bursary: up to £3,000 per academic year for students with household income of less than £45,000 per year
* The James Hughes-Hallett Undergraduate Scholarship: £10,000 scholarship awarded over three years to three students from widening participation backgrounds
* The Courtauld Hardship Fund: up to £1,000 funding for students who experience financial hardship throughout the academic year

Information for students

* Prospective students receive information on fees and funding through the Courtauld website, marketing material and direct communication at Open and Offers Days. Detailed student fee information can be found here: <https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding/undergraduates>
* Prospective students can find information on our widening participation policies and activity on our website: <https://courtauld.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/widening-participation> <https://courtauld.ac.uk/learn/schools-colleges-universities/young-people>
* Current students are given information on financial support during Welcome Week and through direct communication via student newsletters

What we are aiming to achieve

Our overall aims are to support students access higher education and to realise their full potential once in that environment.

We have identified the following areas in which to focus our work:

* Supporting attainment in schools and colleges and access into higher education – we are working with The Brilliant Club to raise pupil attainment and expectation for studying at universities.
* Students from low income backgrounds and neighbourhoods – by 2025, we will improve:
* student numbers from POLAR4 + IMD quintiles 1 and 2 by 30% each
* continuation onto second year of students from POLAR4 backgrounds by 5%
* completion of course by these students by 7%
* Ethnic minority students – by 2025, we will improve:
* student numbers from students from an ethnic minority by 20%
* continuation onto second year for students from an ethnic minority by 5%
* completion of course by these students by 14%

What we are doing to achieve our aims

1. Create partnerships with schools – we are looking to create a bespoke partnership with 1-2 schools/colleges where fewer students participate in higher education to raise awareness of History of Art and to support underrepresented students into this field
2. Extend partnerships – formalise partnership with The Brilliant Club as this will help to raise attainment through tutoring and mentoring; continue work with Art History Link Up to provide insight into History of Art to those who do not have access to it within the school curriculum (most state comprehensive schools)
3. Expand outreach work, such as Summer University, Insight Programme, Art History for All to include a History of Art festival, and ensure it is all promoted as widely as possible
4. Support students to complete and succeed on their programme academically, financially and emotionally through a transition programme helping students adjust to higher education, Academic Skills Programme, financial support, the Wellbeing Service
5. Create a specialised careers programme for students of a widening participation background to support them into employment
6. The Courtauld has partnered with King’s College London and is part of University of London Widening Participation Leads Network. These partnerships will allow the Institute to work with other London institutions on outreach and attainment raising activity and to gain insight into best practice for evaluation

How students can get involved

Our student body is represented on most of our committees and working groups to ensure that their views are heard and acted upon:

* Our Student Union President sits on the Academic Board and Governing Board of The Courtauld
* The Staff Student Liaison Committee has representation of students from all backgrounds. This will give the Access plan greater prominence and ensure that our activities are reviewed and scrutinised to ensure we meet the targets we set

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved

* We are carrying out a thorough review of our data collection requirements
* One area we are currently working on is ensuring that the data we collect from our outreach activities, such as the Summer University, is entered on a student database and then used to track these students through their student journey
* Work is monitored and reviewed by our Admissions and Widening Participation Committee and Senior Management Team. If progress isn’t being made, we will review our actions and make adjustments. The assessment against targets is reviewed by the following:
* Production of relevant data on a bi-monthly cycle to show our performance against targets
* The departments delivering the targets meet on a twice termly basis to discuss the various activities and assess performance to ensure that we are on track to meet our objectives. Where activities may not be working as well as had been anticipated, this will be reviewed and recommendations made to our Senior Management Team and Academic Board
* As part of our partnerships with King’s College London and University of London Widening Participation Leads, we are working to gain insight into best practice for data collection and evaluation

Contact details for further information

For more information please contact Elizabeth Harris, Academic Registrar, at Elizabeth.Harris@courtauld.ac.uk