



REALISING OPPORTUNITIES

Working Together | Supporting Talent



Realising Opportunities

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- Programme and the benefits
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University of Birmingham
University of Exeter
Goldsmiths, University of London
King's College London
Lancaster University
University of Leeds
University of Leicester
University of Liverpool
Loughborough University
Newcastle University
Queen Mary University of London
University of Sheffield
University of Sussex
UCL
University of Warwick
University of York

Realising Opportunities overview



- National programme
- HEFCE funded pilot 2009 – 2012
- Funded by Partners
- One common programme

University of Birmingham
University of Exeter
Goldsmiths, University of London
King's College London
Lancaster University
University of Leeds
University of Leicester
University of Liverpool
Loughborough University
Newcastle University
Queen Mary University of London
University of Sheffield
University of Sussex
UCL
University of Warwick
University of York

Research intensive universities



The RO Partner universities are all RIUs which means they have:

- Leading academics and tutors who are experts in their field
- Vibrant learning environments where new discoveries are being made
- Cutting edge facilities thanks to investment associated with research
- Top careers guidance and strong links with business
- World-renowned reputations which are highly valued by employers

Programme and the benefits

Benefits of the programme



Alternative offers
from the RO Partner universities
which can be up to two grades lower
than the typical offer.†



A local launch event
at their host university to celebrate
their place on the RO programme,
get them started, and meet
university representatives.



Experiences and support
to help them make an informed
choice about higher education and
research intensive universities.



A chance to develop their skills
in analysis, critical thinking, evaluation
and research through taking the RO
Academic element.



Online support
through which students can get
answers to their questions from both
current university students who have
been in their shoes and staff from
the RO Partner universities.



A National Student Conference
where students have the chance
to meet others from across the
country taking part in RO and
representatives from all of the
RO Partner universities.



skills4uni
An online study skills challenge
and multiple choice quiz which will
help them develop their planning
and independent research skills.



Additional consideration
when students make an
application to an RO Partner
universities through UCAS.



**A wide range of
events and activities**
at the RO Partner universities.
Support for travel costs may be
available with prior arrangement.

Eligibility

Students must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- Attend a state-funded school/college which is currently working with an RO university to deliver the RO programme
- Have achieved at least 5 A* to B or 9 – 6 grades at GCSE (or equivalent, e.g. GNVQ, BTEC Certificate); if this does not include including English Language and Maths students must have achieved at least a grade C (4) in these subjects
- Be a Home/EU registered student

Eligibility

They must also meet AT LEAST TWO of the following criteria:

- Live in a 'low participation' neighbourhood. This is defined by the student's home postcode. You can check the postcode on our website at www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk
- Come from a home where neither parent attended university in the UK or abroad
- Be in receipt of, or entitled to, discretionary payments/16-19 bursary at school/college or
- Be in receipt of, or entitled to, free school meals.

Continued...

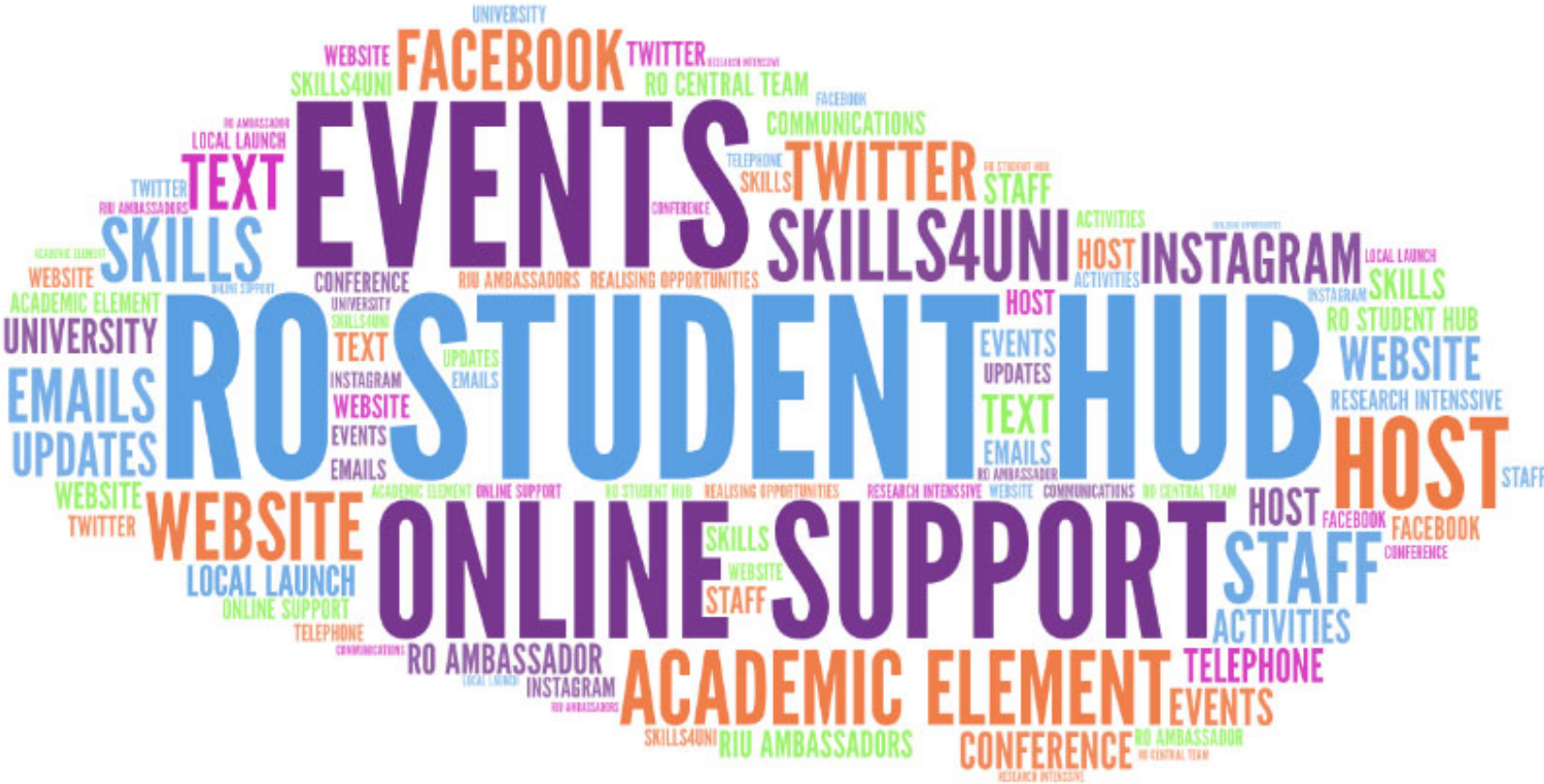
Eligibility

- Be attending or have attended a school/college:
 - that is performing below the national average for 5+ A*-C/9-4 or equivalents including 9-4 in both English and Mathematics or below the national average Attainment 8 score per school or
 - which is performing below the national average at key stage 5, or
 - where there is higher than the national average number of students eligible for free school meals
 - At the point in time the student applies to the RO programme.

Or alternatively meet the following:

Anyone with experience of the care system, who is a young carer, or who has experienced or has the potential to experience circumstances which could lead to a period of disrupted education, may not be required to meet all of the other criteria and their application will be considered on an individual basis.

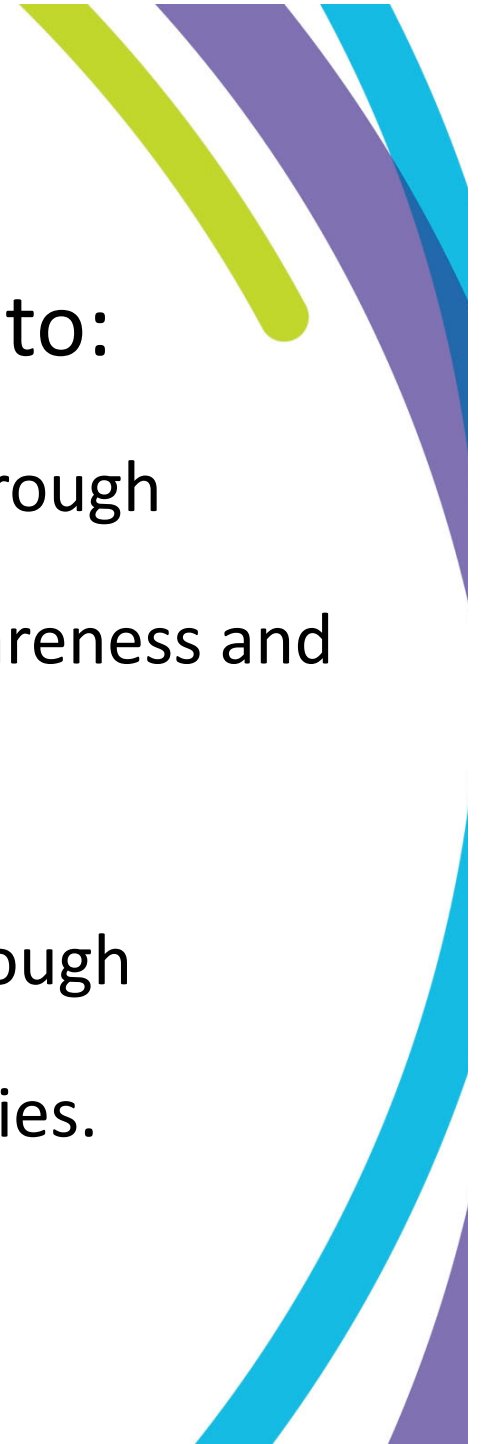
Support



Impact

RO evaluation framework designed to:

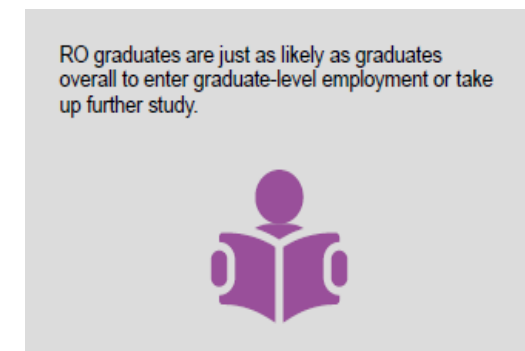
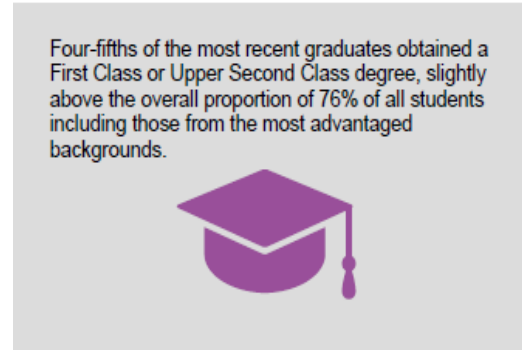
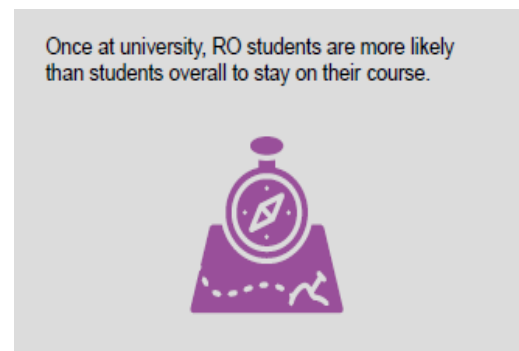
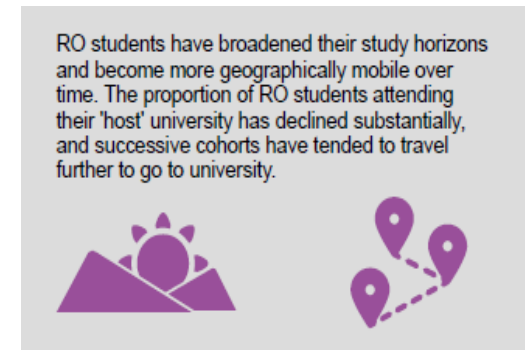
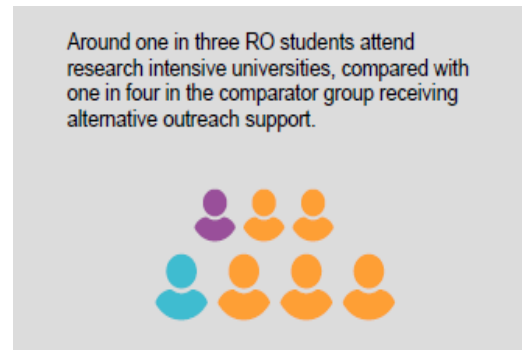
- Understand/ensure benefits to students through assessing changes in student attitudes, awareness and knowledge.
- Evidence the impact of the programme through progression to Research Intensive Universities.



Impact

Impact highlights

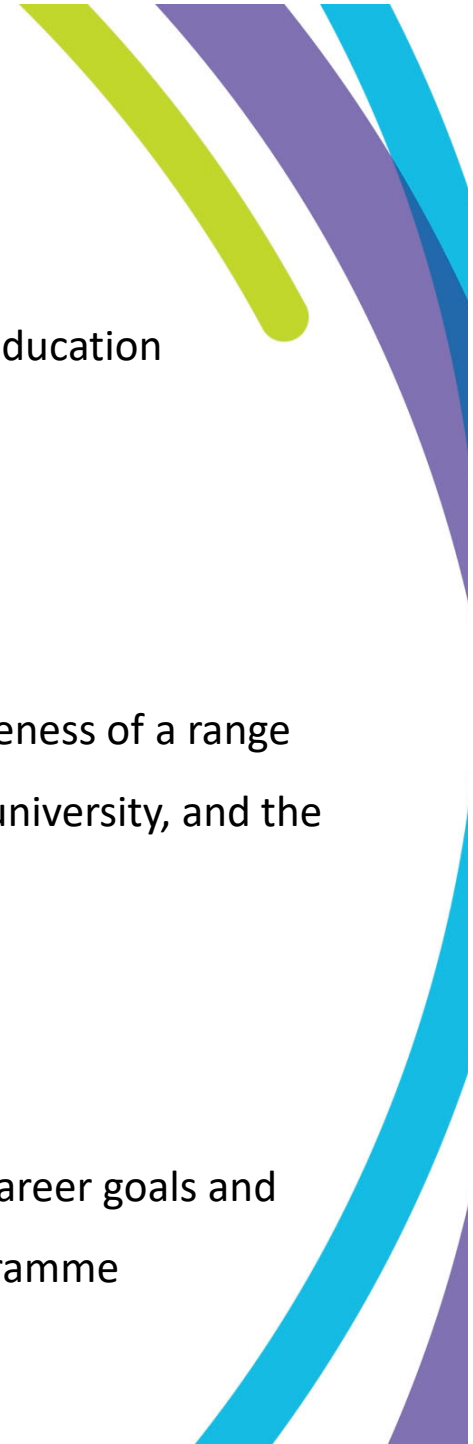
- Over 7,000 “most able, least likely” students have taken part in RO so far.



Impact

Students who took part in RO reported:

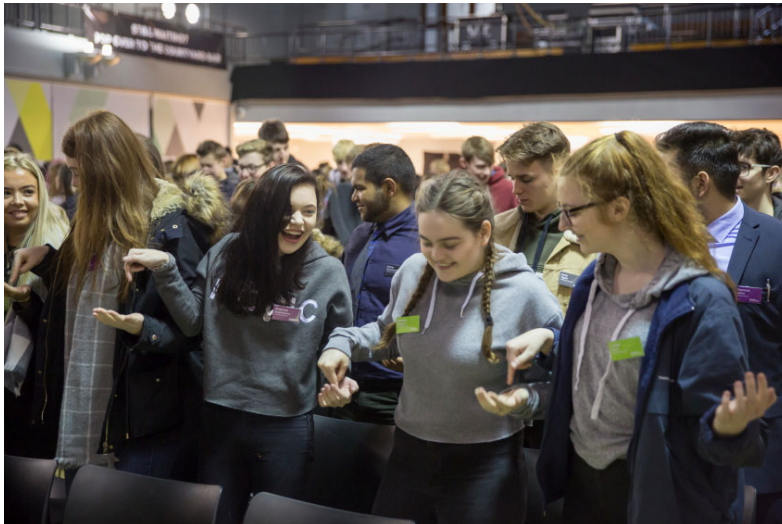
- That participation in RO increased how prepared they were for higher education especially:
 - feeling more prepared for university life in general
 - meeting new people
 - managing finances
 - living away from home
 - getting used to a new place of study
- That the RO programme had a significant positive impact on their awareness of a range of university and career factors, particularly regarding how to apply to university, and the best universities for the subjects that students were interested in
- That they were happy with the offers they received through UCAS
- That they enjoyed their university experience
- They were more likely to feel they knew what to do to achieving their career goals and were confident of achieving those goals after participation on the programme



RO Student Feedback

IT'S AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY AND OFFERS A RANGE OF DIFFERENT WORKSHOPS TO HELP IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS.

Danielle, RO student 2015-2017



YOU GET TO MEET GREAT PEOPLE AND VISIT AMAZING UNIVERSITIES.

Lewis, RO student 2015-2017







Any questions?

Contact

The RO Central Team co-ordinates the Programme on behalf of the RO Partner universities.

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