Outreach and Widening Participation.

Annual Report
2015/16
Foreword

Our university seeks to explain the world around us and to share that understanding with others no matter what their background. Opening up our doors to those who have the desire to learn, but come from backgrounds where it is hard to change social perceptions or where expectations are very different is a challenging but hugely important task.

We want to be, and indeed must be, inclusive in all we do. Our pre-entry Outreach and Widening Participation work is focused exactly on this task and I am delighted to be offering this foreword to support this first annual report.

It is clear that the team has had a very busy and active year. The huge variety of activities targeted both locally and regionally to help raise aspirations, support students in their studies or simply to encourage engagement with Higher Education is very impressive. I am delighted to see that the responses of the students we work with are very positive. We know there is always more we can do but we believe strongly in this agenda and I am proud of what has been achieved this year and pleased to share this success with you all.

Professor Wyn Morgan,
Pro-Vice-Chancellor – Learning and Teaching

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Outreach and Widening Participation at The University of Sheffield

I’m delighted to be introducing this first annual review of the wide range of Outreach and Widening Participation activity at the University of Sheffield. Our approach is one that ensures that disadvantaged students and mature learners from across the City and wider Yorkshire region have access to information and advice to help them make an informed decision about their future and Higher Education.

By working with those who are ‘most able, but least likely’ to access university, we strive to widen participation specifically to the University of Sheffield, as well as to Higher Education in general.

Working across all age groups, we aim to raise aspirations and build confidence in the learners with whom we engage with, showing them they can achieve anything if they work hard and apply themselves.

As you’ll see in this report, our activities are extremely varied, ranging from single hands-on tasters of different subjects and university life, through to our flagship sustained programmes which provide pupils with ongoing support and a pathway to admission at the University of Sheffield.

Engagement with teachers, parents and guardians is vital to our work, as well as our own staff and students who provide positive role models for those young people and adults beginning their journey to Higher Education.

Special thanks go to all those involved with Outreach and Widening Participation work, both here at the University and across the region through our schools, colleges and other stakeholders.

I do hope you enjoy reading this report and I look forward to continuing to work with you in order to achieve our widening participation goals.

James Busson,
Head of Outreach and Widening Participation

Engaged with 41,225 participants

Delivered over 760 activities

Worked with over 517 schools and colleges

51,582 interactions *

* An interaction refers to the total number of students participating in activities. It includes students who have attended multiple activities.
Our activities

The Outreach and Widening Participation team’s purpose is to enact the University’s fundamental principle of access to world-class Higher Education for anyone who can benefit, regardless of status and background.

Our activities include:

— School, college and campus based outreach programmes to raise awareness of Higher Education and support informed choices
— Faculty, department and subject-led activities to deepen knowledge and skills
— Long-term outreach programmes which build pathways for targeted participants into subjects and professions in which they are under-represented.

Many of our programmes and events are open to all, though some have very specific eligibility criteria in line with national guidance on widening participation in Higher Education.

This, the first, annual report that we have produced, aims to showcase our provision and its impact across all the age groups with whom we work through highlighted projects and case studies.
Primary School activities (5–11)

At the University of Sheffield we work with students, schools, teachers and parents alongside local and national partnerships to develop a range of innovative activities that are fun and engaging – introducing the concept of Higher Education from an early age.

Our work with Primary aged children is particularly important given that, compared with other regions nationally, there’s still work to do to raise the levels of educational aspiration and attainment in South Yorkshire. Faculties and departments have created a wide range of subject-led activities for Primary aged children, many of which offer the hands-on experience that is vital to young people at this stage.

Our Primary School offer is developing further to include free resources for teachers to support exciting hands-on learning in the classroom.

Activities for this age group include:

- **Sustained programmes:**
  - Building Learning Power Club
  - Cool to be Clever Club
  - Women in STEM

- **Workshops:**
  - Be a Scientist for the Day
  - Be an Ecologist for the Day
  - Bone Days
  - Sir Harry Kroto Buckyball Science
  - Music and Images
  - Skeleton Science
  - Faculty of Social Sciences
  - Primary Challenge
  - Environmentally Friendly Robots
  - Zebrafish

- **Community events and visits:**
  - Music for Youth Festival
  - Women in Engineering days
  - Faculty and department visit days
  - Primary Lecturethon

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Our Primary School offer is developing further to include free resources for teachers to support exciting hands-on learning in the classroom.
**Be a Scientist for the Day**

**Workshop**

Be a Scientist for the Day welcomes Primary School groups to the University of Sheffield’s Department of Animal and Plant Sciences’ laboratories to explore what it is like to be a real Biologist.

Students carry out experiments, examine specimens under microscopes, meet and investigate the collection of insects and carnivorous plants in order to answer exciting research questions. Students are also given the opportunity to explore the wonders of the University’s Alfred Denny Zoological Museum.

Be a Scientist for the Day workshops aim to raise the aspirations and develop scientific skills of those involved through inspiring, interactive and exciting hands on activities.

“All the children learnt and developed their scientific enquiry skills brilliantly.”

Primary school teacher

“Can I come and work here when I grow up?”

Be a Scientist for the Day participant

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**Sheffield Volunteering**

**Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)**

**Sustained programme**

Sheffield Volunteering is organised and run by the University of Sheffield Students’ Union, with the aim of increasing awareness of local community issues amongst students and staff, as well as providing an understanding of how they can make a positive impact through volunteering.

The Women in STEM programme is designed to engage primary aged children with STEM based subjects as well as raising aspirations and promoting the role of key females within these industries. The programme covers a wide range of topics and themes including: Bridges, Dinosaurs, Space, Energy and Sustainable Futures delivered in a hands-on, engaging way.

Each weekly workshop highlights a prominent female role model involved in STEM research or practice, in order to inspire young people and promote the idea that they too could become the next STEM super star.

“The students who visited our school were an absolute pleasure to host. The quality of the sessions delivered by the volunteering students was of a very high standard and well thought through. The volunteers were well prepared, enthusiastic and engaging with our children.”

Primary school teacher

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**Participation in 2015/16**

**Be a Scientist for the Day**

- **14 schools**
- **870 participants**

**Sheffield Volunteering Women in STEM**

- **7 schools**
- **225 participants**
Building Learning Power Club

Sustained programme

The Building Learning Power (BLP) Club – run in partnership between the University of Sheffield, Sheffield Virtual School and the Sheffield City Council Lifelong Learning Targeted Support Service – works with young people in Years 5 and 6 from the Sheffield City Region who are under the care of the Local Authority.

Young people attend sessions at the University of Sheffield along with staff from the Local Authority and a qualified Primary School teacher. The aims of the BLP Club are to help students become better learners, build confidence, experience a university environment, meet new friends and have fun. For Year 6 students, the BLP Club also offers specialist targeted support designed to help them prepare for their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs).

All students who join the BLP Club are also supported by the University’s LAC Champions. These are students currently studying at the University who have previous experience of the care system and who act as mentors in order to inspire students to fulfil their potential.

“The programme was fantastic throughout, please continue to provide such a valuable club for our children.”
Primary school teacher

Sir Harry Kroto Buckyball Workshop

Workshop

The Sir Harry Kroto Buckyball Workshop, named after the University of Sheffield’s Nobel prize winning Scientist, aims to raise the aspirations of young children in the Sheffield City Region through fun and interactive sessions and experiments.

Local Primary Schools are invited to this annual event, offering the opportunity for Year 5 and 6 students to visit the University and make their very own Buckyballs.

Students take part in three interactive scientific sessions that include:

— The Scientific Scale Workshop
— Building a Buckyball
— Making Slime and Bathbombs

The day also includes an introduction and welcome to the University, a tour of the campus and culminates with a certificate ceremony.

A Buckyball video series has been developed for use in the classroom, enabling more students to access these sessions and extending the legacy of Sir Harry Kroto.

“Absolutely everyone came back buzzing and it has had a huge impact on our children. We are working very hard to raise aspirations in our community and so many children came back saying how much they would like to go on to university now.”
Executive Headteacher, Greengate Lane Academy

Participation in 2015/16

17 participants

Participation split Male/Female

Video – Buckyball Science Series

The University of Sheffield | Outreach and Widening Participation | Case Studies
Secondary School activities (11–16)

The University of Sheffield offers a wide range of inspiring events, programmes and workshops targeted at Secondary School students. These are specifically designed to raise aspirations, improve attainment and encourage informed decision-making about study routes and career progression.

The activities offered provide opportunities for students to develop knowledge and skills in many areas: they can visit the University, develop study skills, receive one-to-one mentoring, support and advice about decisions that they need to make at key times in their education.

Subject-led activities also provide a more in depth hands-on experience for students, giving them a deeper understanding of university study and life.

Activities for this age group include:

**Sustained programmes:**
- Achievement Awards
- Brilliant Club
- Computer Science Ambassadors
- Discover US
- Passport to Languages
- US in Schools – Mentoring

**Workshops:**
- Chemistry Lab
- Civil Engineering
- Dig it!
- Discover Study Skills
- Good For You
- Science Space Station
- Virtual Robotics
- The Sky’s the Limit

**Community events and visits:**
- Excellence Hub
- STEMwise
- Things You Can’t Do in Schools
- Exploring STEM for Girls

Faculties and departments provide several opportunities for students to visit the University to take part in subject taster days and events, as well as delivering Higher Education information sessions and activities in local schools and colleges.

Engaged with
17,756 participants

Worked with
162 schools and colleges
Discover US

Sustained programme

Discover US is an interdisciplinary aspiration-raising programme for students in Years 9 to 11 who have the potential to access Higher Education but do not have a family tradition of going to university.

The programme is designed to support young people in discovering the University of Sheffield for themselves and to find out what it is really like to be a student.

Students are invited to the University three times each year in Years 9, 10 and 11 to take part in mini lectures, subject tasters and explore different courses and careers with current undergraduate student ambassadors. The students are fully supported throughout the programme in order to find out how their subject options at GCSE and their post-16 choices can open doors to a wide range of professions, careers and opportunities.

"I feel that I have gained a much deeper understanding of the University environment and developed my communication and leadership skills."

Discover US participant

Participation in 2015/16

99.5% do not have a family history of Higher Education

91% of participants agreed that their knowledge of Higher Education had increased

91 schools

734 students across Years 9, 10 and 11
Achievement Awards
Sustained programme

The Achievement Awards enable Year 10 and 11 students from target schools across the Sheffield City Region to demonstrate the skills needed for successful progression in whatever pathway they choose in the future.

Over two years, students complete a series of goals based on their attendance, punctuality and completion of a work experience or equivalent skill-building activity. They also attend a sixth form or college open event.

The Achievement Awards are delivered in partnership with fourteen schools specifically selected on Widening Participation criteria. At the end, successful students are invited to an award ceremony along with their family and teachers.

Each year, schools are asked to nominate two outstanding pupils from Year 10 and Year 11 as ‘Achievers of the Year’, who are then invited to additional aspiration and awareness-raising events run by the University and in partnership with Lloyds Banking Group.

“It’s great that the University recognises my hard work and achievements.”
Achievement Awards participant

After attending one of our ‘Achiever of the Year’ events

100% of participants felt they learned more about the University after completing the programme

86% of participants agreed that they were more likely to go on to study at university

Participation in 2015/16

11 schools

1,450 Year 11s successfully completed the award
**Good For You Workshop**

The Good For You workshop is delivered by the Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health and is designed to provide students with the opportunity to learn about careers in the healthcare sector through innovative hands on activities and demonstrations.

These two hour aspiration raising workshops are delivered in local schools by a member of university staff and a team of student ambassadors. The workshops are interactive and include an introduction to the University and courses available, as well as six hands on activities such as CPR training and ‘Filling a Tooth’. Activities are then followed by a course and careers specific question and answer session.

“Good For You has given me multiple possibilities for careers in the future, not just the ones I know now.”
Good For You participant

**US in Schools – Mentoring Sustained programme**

Mentoring is a key part of the University’s Outreach Strategy which aims, by means of close mentoring relationships, to raise the aspirations and attainment of young people from targeted local schools and colleges.

Current University of Sheffield students work in schools and online as mentors, supporting students on a one-to-one basis in a variety of ways. These include: homework and coursework support, developing study skills, exploring career paths, discussing choices and introducing mentees to student life at the University of Sheffield.

This programme also provides the University mentors with the opportunity to develop a range of skills required for careers in the educational and youth sector.

“It’s been really informative and I’ve learnt a lot about the University. It’s somewhere I’d like to go because there’s a lot of different opportunities.”
US in Schools participant

**Participation in 2015/16**

6 schools

440 students

87% of mentees do not have a family history of Higher Education

13 schools

80 mentors

300 mentees
Exploring Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) for girls
Community events and visits

Exploring STEM for Girls is a collaboration between the University’s Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Science. It is designed to provide girls from the Sheffield City Region with the opportunity to explore STEM based subjects and discover where they could lead to in the future.

This informative one day workshop incorporates both practical demonstrations and activities. Researchers, academics and student ambassadors are on hand to showcase the wide range of exciting degrees available to study at the University, as well as providing expert career advice and support.

Activities within the workshop include: Computer Science air guitar, Chemical Engineering candyfloss, Physics infra-red camera, Mechatronics robotics, Electrical and Electronic Engineering Scalextric track, Civil Engineering cable-stay bridge, Formula Student Car, Mathematical coding and many more.

“Our girls really enjoyed the event. One girl said that it was really good to find out that she was on the right track with regards to the subject that she had picked to study and that she couldn’t wait to come to the University of Sheffield.”
Secondary School teacher

Passport to Languages Workshop

The Passport to Languages workshops run by the Faculty of Arts and Humanities are a series of educational visits to local Secondary Schools designed to provide students with an insight into studying a language at GCSE.

The visits are delivered by a dedicated team of student ambassadors from both the University’s School of Languages and Cultures and School of East Asian Studies. Sessions include a suite of interactive language activities, ranging from learning new vocabulary and alphabets to discussing cultural topics.

The programme’s aim is to provide an accessible and fun insight into language study, ultimately encouraging pupils to study a language at GCSE level.

“I really enjoyed the different activities. I’ve never really enjoyed languages before but there were lots of different things to do today. It was exciting.”
Passport to Languages participant

Participation in 2015/16

18 schools
405 students

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Sixth form and college activities (16–18)

The University of Sheffield delivers a variety of engaging and relevant activities to ensure students are equipped with the skills, knowledge and experience to make the best decisions for their futures.

As well as a host of subject-specific activities, many of the programmes are underpinned by workshops and events that support students with the transition from Key Stage 5 to Higher Education such as guidance around the UCAS process, exploring university course options, information about fees and funding and career advice.

Many of the activities utilise the cutting edge research which is undertaken at the University and sessions are led by academics, researchers and current students—all working to inspire young people and open up new pathways and possibilities.

**Sustained programmes:**
- Brilliant Club
- Discover Post-16 programmes
- Medicine, Dentistry and Health Mock Interviews
- Realising Opportunities
- Discover Study Skills

**Community events and visits:**
- Destination: Sheffield
- Discover Languages
- Discover Philosophy
- Politics Debateathon
- Alternatives to Medicine
- STEMWise

**Workshops:**
- All Things Gendered
- Chemistry Lab
- Hands-on DNA
- Model United Nations
- The Sky’s the Limit
- Excellence Hub

Faculties and departments provide several opportunities for pupils to visit the University to take part in subject specific taster days and events, as well as delivering Higher Education information sessions and activities in local schools and colleges.

**Worked with**
- 328 schools and colleges

**Engaged with**
- 19,770 participants
Discover Post-16 programmes

Sustained programmes

The University of Sheffield understands that some young people may believe that certain professions or subjects aren’t really an option for them—or that students may not even be aware of them.

The Discover Post-16 programmes address this directly by offering subject and profession specific programmes for target schools that raise aspirations and support students into Higher Education.

There are six programmes:

— ADOPT (Access to Dental Occupations: Practice and Tutoring)
— Discover Arts and Humanities
— Discover Law
— SOAMS (Sheffield’s Outreach and Access to Medicine Scheme)
— Discover Social Sciences
— Discover STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)

Programmes include subject specific activities and offer specialist support about entering Higher Education within their specific area.

In 2015/16, the Discover programmes were streamlined and shared activities across all subjects areas were introduced. Each programme now follows the same structure and purpose with study support workshops, information and advice sessions, summer schools and e-mentoring—providing the opportunity for students to work together collectively.

The experiences that students have on these programmes ensure that they are equipped to take their next steps and inspired to continue onto Higher Education.

“This has been a fantastic experience and I have learnt so much in terms of the medical course at the University. The mock interviews and medical entrance course has been so helpful and I feel that without SOAMS I wouldn’t have known the hints and tips for how to do well in these. I loved the summer school and haven’t stopped talking about it since I returned home.”

SOAMS participant

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<tr>
<th>Participation in 2015/16</th>
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<tr>
<td>62 – ADOPT</td>
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<td>80 – Discover Arts and Humanities</td>
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<td>115 – Discover Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>80 – Discover Social Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>121 – SOAMS</td>
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<td>120 – Discover STEM</td>
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578 Total participants

94% of participants do not have a family history of Higher Education

34% of participants live within the lowest participation neighbourhoods*

* POLAR 3 Quantile 1

Video – Discover Post-16 programmes

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Realising Opportunities

Sustained programme

The University of Sheffield is a partner in Realising Opportunities (RO), a unique collaboration of leading, research intensive universities, working together to promote fair access for those groups under-represented in Higher Education. Participating schools, colleges and pupils are identified on the basis of Widening Participation criteria and the programme operates locally in alignment with our Discover programmes.

The two year programme provides students with the skills and knowledge to help them make informed decisions about their future, to raise their aspirations to progress to a leading university, and support their current work in school or college.

The structured and interactive content includes: a local launch event, an e-mentoring programme, a national student conference, ‘Skills4Uni’, an online study skills module and an academic element (Realising Opportunities academic assignment or Extended Project Qualification). Access to Higher Education events and activities across all of the Realising Opportunities partner universities are also included.

“Realising Opportunities is absolutely fantastic if you are wanting to stretch your potential, with a university student mentor and lots of organised events to give you valuable advice ahead of everyone else which really is priceless.”

Realising Opportunities participant

82% of participants do not have a family history of Higher Education

Participation in 2015/16

The University of Sheffield

14 schools

56 students

Nationally

205 schools

830 students
Discover Study Skills

*Sustained programme*

Discover Study Skills is a flexible programme which helps students to develop a range of academic skills to enhance their current studies, raise their attainment and help to prepare them for Higher Education.

There are a range of workshops available including academic reading, research, writing, exam revision, time management and critical thinking. These workshops take place both at the University of Sheffield and in schools and colleges. Sessions take advantage of full access to the University libraries and facilities, and enable students to be introduced to higher level study. Students are also able to spend time with current University of Sheffield undergraduates and find out more about student life.

"I have been able to experience independent learning properly."

*Discover Study Skills participant*

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Model United Nations

*Workshop*

The Faculty of Social Sciences Model United Nations (UN) is a unique experience delivered in partnership with the Department of Politics. Students act as part of a UN simulation, researching current world issues and debating from their assigned country’s perspective.

Lively debates and negotiations take place, with pupils gaining expert insight into international issues as well as the study of Politics at the University of Sheffield.

The aim of the activity is to raise aspirations and develop key skills in public speaking, debating, research and teamwork, and ultimately helping them make informed decisions about their future.

It is a fast paced, exciting and interactive activity—with war being declared five out of the seven times!

"I found the whole experience very interesting, educational and enjoyable. I’ve always had a profound love of politics, but this day has taught me a lot about the United Nations and the process of debating. I thoroughly enjoyed this wonderful day."

*Model UN participant*

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Participation in 2015/16

**16 schools**

**506 students**

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Participation in 2015/16

**13 schools**

**65 students**

80% of participants do not have a family history of Higher Education
AMRC Training Centre

The Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre with Boeing (AMRC) was established in 2001 as collaboration between the University of Sheffield and Boeing, with support from Yorkshire Forward and the European Regional Development Fund. The AMRC Training Centre opened its doors in October 2013 and to date has trained 755 students predominately from within the Sheffield City Region.

The training centre is a key aspect of the AMRC and the University of Sheffield educational offer and delivers a range of activities and visits designed to introduce and inspire young people to the idea of apprenticeships in engineering and the manufacturing sector.

Activities are specifically designed to provide young people with the opportunity to discover the world of engineering and sample life as an apprentice, whilst promoting an alternative route to Higher Education.

The AMRC Training Centre also offers a Foundation Degree in Manufacturing Technology and Mechanical Manufacture with further programmes due to be released in 2017, these lead students to a degree progression path which is fully funded and supported by the student’s employers.

Summer Manufacturing Camp

Sustained programme

This one week Summer Manufacturing Camp provides students the opportunity to work alongside manufacturing apprentices in a fantastic training facility. Young people develop an understanding of apprenticeship pathways available, gain support in developing their CVs, attend a mock interview and undertake a work experience placement in a safe manufacturing environment.

"The Manufacturing Camp, for all our year 10 Engineering students at UTC Sheffield, allowed students to immerse themselves in both the outstanding apprenticeship training activities and the world class Advanced Manufacturing Park facilities. This experience has left them highly motivated to pursue careers in Engineering."

Executive Principal – UTC Sheffield

Participation in 2015/16

188
16–18 year olds successfully trained at the AMRC Training Centre

78
attended the Summer Manufacturing Camp

Video–
The AMRC Training Centre
Mature student activities (21+)
Department for Lifelong Learning

The Department for Lifelong Learning (DLL) at the University of Sheffield supports mature learners who are coming to University for the first time by offering a range of degrees with an integrated foundation year, a part-time foundation programme in Combined Studies and a part-time Certificate in Higher Education.

The courses are designed especially for adults who have been out of education for an extended period of time.

Applicants to DLL courses aren’t required to have formal entry qualifications, but are asked to demonstrate their aptitude, enthusiasm and readiness for degree level study. Students study a Foundation Year with DLL before transferring to their chosen department to study for their degree. Many courses can also be studied on a part-time basis. The Department’s dedicated Outreach team deliver a range of activities which focus on engaging with adults in the local area, raising aspirations and supporting progression to Higher Education study. These include:

— Open events and taster sessions
— Visits to adult learning settings
— Attendance at various community events
— Pre-entry ‘Discover’ course

Discover course

Pre-entry course

Discover is an award winning short course which runs one morning per week for a period of between six and ten weeks.

The course is aimed at adults in the local area who haven’t previously been to university and is designed to build their confidence, increase their awareness of Higher Education, and give them a taste of university life. The course is developed in partnership with Museums Sheffield and the Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English and is based at Sheffield’s Weston Park Museum.

Weekly sessions include discussions and activities based upon key themes stimulated by objects from the Museums Sheffield collection and objects of personal significance to participants. Every course features an in depth ‘Next Steps’ session, offering information and advice about progression opportunities, and participants are offered the opportunity to meet one to one with the University’s careers team.

“The course gave me an insight into myself and boosted my confidence. I learnt that I have a lot of valuable life experience.”

Discover course participant

Participation in 2015/16

120 adults attended an open event or taster

20 progressed onto DLL courses

500 adults engaged with 18 community and campus events

29 adults took part in the Discover course

8 progressed onto DLL courses
Collaborative working

The key to successful outreach work is collaboration. Here at the University of Sheffield we work with a range of partners: students, teachers, education leaders and managers, adult learners, families and supporters, charities, community organisations and employers.

In addition to local programmes which focus on access to the University of Sheffield, the Outreach and Widening Participation team are proud to work with a range of partners locally, regionally and nationally. These include charities such as the Sheffield Children’s University and community organisations representing Young Carers, local authorities and the Cutlers’ Company amongst others.

**Key partnerships include:**

**Higher Education Progression Partnership**

The Higher Education Progression Partnership (HEPP) is jointly funded by the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University, and works in collaboration with schools, colleges, Local Authorities and employers to provide impartial Information, Advice & Guidance (IAG) to students, their parents or carers and other advisers.

**Excellence Hub**

Excellence Hub is a collaborative initiative between the University of Sheffield, the University of Leeds and the University of York. Through Excellence Hub the University of Sheffield is able to offer a range of subject specific taster events aimed at high achieving individuals from key Widening Participation target groups. Via the partnership we can make these available to young people across the wider Yorkshire and Humber region and students can book directly via the Hub website.

**Brilliant Club**

The University of Sheffield partners with the Brilliant Club, an award winning charity that exists to widen access to research intensive universities for students from under-represented groups. The Scholars programme recruits, trains and places doctoral and postdoctoral researchers in state schools across the country. The tutors deliver university-style tutorials to small groups of students, from Year 6 through to Year 12. They work on a research project with the aim of developing knowledge, skills and aptitude, which will improve their chances of securing a place at a leading university.

**Russell Group initiatives**

As a member of the Russell Group we contribute to a range of initiatives to help students make appropriate choices in relation to Higher Education and to give them a sense of what it is like to study in a research intensive environment. In recent years we have contributed to the Informed Choices publication and hosted Russell Group teacher conferences.

This year we have collaborated on a new initiative involving Russell Group universities, Advancing Access. This project provides a variety of free CPD resources and online events for teachers and advisers to help them support students’ progression to leading universities.
Further information

The University of Sheffield
www.sheffield.ac.uk

For full information about school engagement, programmes and activities
www.sheffield.ac.uk/schools

REACH schools and colleges newsletter
www.sheffield.ac.uk/schools/reach

Widening and Participation and Fair Access at the University of Sheffield
www.sheffield.ac.uk/als/wp

Join the conversation
@SheffOutreach
sheffieldoutreach
University of Sheffield Outreach

University Open Days 2017

Wednesday 21 June
Saturday 8 July
Saturday 9 September
Saturday 21 October

Book online www.sheffield.ac.uk/opendays

Contact us
Outreach and Widening Participation
The University of Sheffield
Level 3, The Arts Tower,
Western Bank,
Sheffield, S10 2TN
outreach@sheffield.ac.uk
0114 222 1027

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this publication is accurate at the time of print. Student numbers have been collated across the range of Outreach and Widening Participation work at the University of Sheffield.

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