

## **Leeds City College**

**UKPRN 10024962**

**Access Agreement – September 2012 – June 2015 (3 academic years)**

### **1. Introduction**

Leeds City College has approximately 45,000 students. Of these further education and higher education students, 14% are full time and 86% part time students. BME students account for 29% of the total and 11% of this total number are students with disabilities or learning difficulties. Overall, 50% of the students have been identified as meeting widening participation 'ward uplift' criteria.

As a large, diverse organisation, the Leeds City College provides benefits to the region, employers, employees, students and the community. Particular advantages for learners are being gained through bringing together higher and further education opportunities in a unique way. The College is well placed to offer a vocational higher education (HE) curriculum that articulates well with its further education (FE) curriculum and in the future this will be a positive attribute in enabling progression from Level 2 and Level 3 apprenticeships and diplomas for 14-19 year olds and increasing progression through HE. Our widening participation strategy promotes awareness and raises aspirations of all learners to support their progress into and through higher education.

The mission of the college is:

'To be recognised as an exceptional College providing life changing skills and experiences for individuals, businesses and communities'.

The College's current strategy for HE and its widening participation strategic assessment outline objectives, outcomes and actions relating to widening participation.

### **2. Fee Limits**

This agreement applies to all courses for which Leeds City College currently receives funding directly from the Higher Education Funding Council for England.

The fee charges for indirectly funded provision offered at the College will be determined by the University providing the funding.

Students included within this agreement:

Full-time students who are eligible to pay EU tuition fees are included within this agreement.

Part time students and non-EU students recruited to provision offered at Leeds City College are subject to fees determined by the College, which are reviewed annually by the College Board of Governors.

This access agreement is reviewed annually by the College Executive Leadership Team.

In 2012-2013, we intend to charge new students £6,200 per annum for full-time undergraduate courses.

In future years we anticipate increasing this fee in line with the annual increase set by the Government each year.

The higher level fee will not apply to current students on programmes commencing before 1 September 2012.

### 3. Expenditure on additional access measures

The additional fee income over the period of the income will be used to:

- Provide fee waivers for eligible students
- Provide a bursary for students with household income levels of less than £42,600
- Provide direct support for students during their study at the College (e.g. study skills such as academic writing, enterprise skills)
- Provide a summer school for those entering HE
- Provide opportunities for those studying an apprenticeship to enter HE
- Develop progression agreements with local schools and other providers

### 4. Additional access measures

- **Outreach**

In addition to our current outreach work for HE students, over the period of the agreement we will develop a targeted summer school for those entering HE.

- **Student retention & success**

We will continue to monitor our retention and success rates with a view to maintaining the current levels.

- **Financial support for students – Bursary**

We will continue to offer bursaries as outlined in the table below.

Household income	Total Bursary	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Less than £25,000	£1,000	£500	£250	£250
£25,000 to £42,600	£500	£250	£125	£125

- These will be for Home or EU students and all applicants will be equally eligible. Assessment will be based on need in line with income assessments used for applications to the Student Loan Company. We will also consider other schemes based on assessment of need.

- **Financial support for students – National Scholarship Programme** – This funding (£63,000 including the 50% match from the College in the first year) will be allocated in line with the guidelines. We will use this to provide assistance with fee support for students on income levels below £18,000 per annum. This will take the form of a £3,000 reduction in tuition fees in the first year for 21 students. Assessment will be based on need in line with income assessments used for applications to the Student Loan Company. All undergraduate students will be equally eligible.

## 5. **Targets and Milestones**

In line with our current position, we will maintain our current completion rate and, as a minimum, will aim to maintain our levels of mature and part time students as shown in Annex B.

We will continue to review learner feedback and will monitor student profiles as at present.

## 6. **Institutional Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements**

There are arrangements in place to monitor and evaluate the impact of this agreement through the College's Academic Board, its Executive Leadership Team, its Education Standards Committee of the Board of Governors and its Board of Governors.

The Vice Principal Adults, HE & Community has responsibility to report and monitor compliance with the commitments made within this agreement.

## 7. **Provision of Information for Prospective Students**

The College uses a number of methods to provide information for students about fees and the associated support. These include:

- Information on fees and support published on the College website
- An insert in all prospectuses
- Information packs prepared for all prospective students
- Information sessions held with prospective students progressing internally
- Information sessions held with prospective students from outside the College

4 November 2011



