# Access agreement monitoring return academic year 2010-11: Milestones and targets University Campus Suffolk

### Milestones and targets

This document reflects the institution's own analysis of its performance against the targets and milestones that it set itself in its access agreement for 2010-11. OFFA considered it as part of our holistic consideration of the institution's progress against its access agreement; we also took into account the other information provided in the monitoring return, the institution's general performance on widening participation, and our knowledge of its access agreement and previous monitoring rounds.

For further information about monitoring performance against milestones and targets, please see part four of the report, Access agreement and widening participation strategic assessment moniotoring: Outcomes for 2010-11.

**Table 1** contains a report from the institution on its progress against the milestones it set itself in its access agreement relating to 2010-11.

Table 1a): This shows statistical milestones/targets relating to the institution's applicants, entrants or student body – e.g. those based on HESA, Ucas or similar data that the institution uses to measure the outcomes of its widening participation work.

Table 1b): This shows other milestones and targets that the institution chose to include. These typically relate to outreach, lifelong learning, or institutional mission and targets.

**Table 2** sets out the HESA performance indicators for young entrants covering state school, social class (National Statistics Socio-economic Classification – NS-SEC) and low participation neighbourhoods (LPN). These are reproduced to provide a context for the institution's overall performance. Please note that 2010-11 performance indicators are now also available; however, these had not been published at the time institutions were submitting their monitoring returns and are not presented here. For more information on HESA performance indicators, see www.hesa.ac.uk/pi.

**Table 3** provides the institution's commentary on its progress. Specifically, we invited institutions to:

- comment on the level of progress made against their access agreement targets
- set the figures in some context, for example, if there were any external factors which may have influenced them
- provide explanations where they did not meet targets or where progress was less than anticipated.

#### 1. Access agreement milestones and targets

a) Statistical milestones and targets relating to your applicants, entrants or student body (e.g. HESA, UCAS or internal targets)

| Milestone / target type<br>(from drop-down menu) | Description   | Baseline data<br>(number or<br>percentage) |      | Target (number or percentage) | Target year | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 | 2009-10 |        | Performance summary<br>(from drop-down menu) |
|--|---|--|------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--|
| Non-continuation/Student success                 | Retention rate for 2010/11 to be 95%  | 0.941                                      | 2009 | 0.95                          | 2010        |         | 0.9541  | 0.9515  | 0.941   |        | No progress made against baseline data       |
| Non-continuation/Student success                 | Achievement rate for 2010/11 to be 92%  | 0.9112                                     | 2009 | 0.92                          | 2010        |         | 0.9049  | 0.9296  | 0.9112  |        | Progress made – but less than anticipated    |
| Other (please give details in comments box)      | UCS will continue to maintain the proportion of students in receipt of state support as in 09/10                    | 0.512                                      | 2009 | 0.512                         | 2010        |         | 0.5     | 0.49    | 0.512   | 0.528  | Target met/exceeded                          |
| Other (please give details in comments box)      | UCS will continue to maintain the current broad mix of its UG student body in 10/11 (total % of WP new UG entrants) | 39.8                                       | 2009 | 0.398                         | 2010        |         | 0.3369  | 0.368   | 0.398   | 0.4342 | Target met/exceeded                          |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |
|  |   |  |      |                               |             |         |         |         |         |        |  |

#### b) Other milestones and targets

| Milestone / target type   | Description  | Baseline data  | Baseline year | Target   | Target year | 2006-07                                    | 2007-08   | Progress to dat 2008-09   | 2009-10  | 2010-11   | Performance summary                        |  |
|---|--|--|---------------|--|-------------|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| from drop-down menu)  | Description  | Baseiiile uata   | baseline year | Target   | Target year | 2000-07                                    | 2007-00   | 2000-09   | 2009-10  | 2010-11   | (please select from drop-dow<br>menu)      |  |
| trategic partnerships (eg formal<br>elationships with<br>chools/colleges/employers) | To maintain current level of internship offers/grow incrementally in light of current economic climate   | 8  | 2009          | To maintain or grow numbers  | 2010        |  |   | 4   | 8  | 10  | Target met/exceeded                        |  |
| trategic partnerships (eg formal<br>elationships with<br>chools/colleges/employers) | To hold more dedicated careers events for current students   | 2  | 2009          | Increase<br>number of<br>events                                      | 2010        |  |   | 1 Public and<br>Voluntary<br>Careers Fair   | 2- Volunteers<br>Fair and<br>Graduate<br>Careers Fair  | 6 - 3 SNITT, 2<br>Volunteers<br>Fairs and I<br>Graduate<br>Careers Fair   | Target met/exceeded                        |  |
| tudent support services   | To hold targeted student support training sessions for UCS staff   | 2  | 2009          | Increase<br>number of<br>targeted events                             | 2010        |  |   |   | 2 SPLD   | 5 - 2 SPLD<br>and 3 QAA/RA  | Target met/exceeded                        |  |
| Operational targets   | Review how the reasonable adjustments are implemented and how data is recorded   |  |               |  |             |  |   |   |  | Self Assessment, Review and Evaluation Process Anually Reviewed. Monitored through QAA action planning  | Target met/exceeded                        |  |
| trategic partnerships (eg formal<br>elationships with<br>chools/colleges/employers) | Review the number of Progression<br>Accords established between UCS<br>and schools and FE colleges.  |  |               |  |             |  |   |   |  | UCS has maintained current progression accords and plans to review on an ongoing basis  | N/A  |  |
| trategic partnerships (eg formal<br>elationships with<br>chools/colleges/employers) | To increase number of FE taster events to 8 in year 10/11 in a broader range of subject areas  | 5  | 2009          | 8  | 2010        |  |   |   | 5  | 6 taster  | Progress made – but less th<br>anticipated |  |
| etails in the next column)  | Increase number of activities held for WP students over 2 years between 08/09 and 10/11 by 25%, seeing a yearly increase in activities   | 82   | 2008          | Increase<br>number of<br>activities held by<br>25% within 2<br>years | 2010        | 42 events in total                         | 65 in total (Talks: 47 Careers Fairs: 10 On Campus: 2 Taster sessions: 1, plus Aimhigher and UCS Roadshows) | 82 in total (Careers Fairs: 24, On Campus: 5 Talks: 50 Aimhigher and UCS Roadshows: 2 plus Suffolk HEC) | 93 in total (Talks 54; Careers Fairs 23 On Campus visits 9 Follow up day 1 Teachers training day 1, LEAP Centre events 3, The accident, Primary event and Health Conference) | 141 in total 58% from 2008 increase from (School visits:50; Careers and HE fairs: 50; Campus Visits 19; Taster days 12; FADS 4; New events for looked after children; Health and Social Care conference and 'The Accident'. Other activities within local schools carried out by the Aimhigher team. Teachers training day) |  |  |
| outreach / WP activity (summer schools)   | To hold 2 summer schools in 10/11 but with a higher target number of participants. The residential summer school will be generic rather than subject specific and will hopefully attract more applications | 2 summer<br>schools with 24<br>participants<br>across the 2<br>summer<br>schools | 2009          | 2 summer<br>schools with<br>increased<br>number of<br>participants   | 2010        | 1 Summer<br>School with 23<br>participants | 1 Summer<br>School with 25<br>participants  | 2 Summer<br>Schools with 25<br>participants<br>and 17 parents   | participants and   |   | Target met/exceeded                        |  |

| Other (please give details in the next column) | Maintain number of Leap Centres (14)   | 12 Centres and | 2009 | 12 Centres and | 2010 | 0 | 3 Centres and | 7 Centres and | 12 Centres and | 14 Centres and | Target met/exceeded           |
|--|--|----------------|------|----------------|------|---|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
|  | and Points (100) currently open. Final | 100 points     |      | 100 points     |      |   | 2 points      | 23 points     | 100 points     | 100 points     |                               |
|  | Leap Point to open in Jan 2011         |                |      |                |      |   |               |               |                |                |                               |
|  |  |                |      |                |      |   |               |               |                |                |                               |
| Other (please give details in the next column) |  | 27000          | 2009 | 27000          | 2010 |   |               | 3300          | 27000          | 22000          | Progress made – but less than |
|  | Leap Centres/Points                    |                |      |                |      |   |               |               |                |                | anticipated                   |
|  |  |                |      |                |      |   |               |               |                |                |                               |
|  |  |                |      |                |      |   |               |               |                |                |                               |

## 2. HESA widening participation perfomance indicators to 2009-10 (from HESA table T1b)

|  |         | Progress to date |         |         |         |      |               |  |
|--|---------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|------|---------------|--|
| HESA PI category                             | 2004-05 | 2005-06          | 2006-07 | 2007-08 | 2008-09 |      | change (2007- | Five-year<br>change (2004-<br>05 to 2009-10) |
| State School (%)                             |         |                  |         | 97.7    | 99.6    | 99.3 | 1.6           |  |
| Distance from benchmark                      |         |                  |         | 3.5     | 3.8     | 3    | -0.5          |  |
| NS-SEC 4-7 [socio-economic class] (%)        |         |                  |         | 43.7    | N/A     | 42.2 | -1.5          |  |
| Distance from benchmark                      |         |                  |         | 8       | N/A     | 5.8  | -2.2          | :  |
| Low participation neighbourhoods (young) (%) |         |                  |         | 23.8    | 20.7    | 21   | -2.8          | N/A  |
| Distance from benchmark                      |         |                  |         | 7.9     | 4.9     | 5.3  | -2.6          | N/A  |

#### 3. Institution's commentary

For your statistical and other access agreement milestones (from Tables 9a and 9b), please provide a narrative (maximum 750 words) which:

- comments on the level of progress made against the targets
- sets the figures in some context, for example if there have been any external factors which may have influenced them
- provides explanations where you have not met targets or where progress has been less than anticipated.

UCS has continued to grow its broad mix of undergraduate students by increasing its % of WP students in 2010-11. The number of students in receipt of state support was increased.

Our target for retention was 95% but for 2010/11the figure was lower than anticipated at 93.83%. Retention has been closely monitored and areas with high attrition have been audited as part of the Self- Assessment Review and Evaluation process and specific local actions taken. Examples of UCS wide actions taken;

- interventions at admissions stage to ensure students are adequately prepared for the proposed course (e.g. pre-entry study skills programmes for students who have been out of education for a while; increased use of the Applicant Portal so students start to identify with their programme from the point they accept an offer)
- The Induction programme has been redesigned as studies show students who undergo a successful
  induction are more resilient and likely to be retained. Feedback received from the 2010 induction
  sessions show improved satisfaction that should impact on 2011/12 retention
- UCS has joined the HEFCE funded project run by the OU- Back on Course in order to better understand
  why students leave and how they can be supported back into HE
- Peer Assisted Learning programme (PAL) has been extended
- We have introduced a single point for all student enquiries called the Infozone which should enable issues to be resolved much faster and be less likely to escalate.

Achievement rates for 2010-11 have increased though slightly less than predicted. Our target for achievement was 92% achievement and the 2010/11 figure was slightly lower than expected at 91.36%. All areas with specific achievement issues have undergone an audit as part of their Self- Assessment Review and Evaluation process and local action taken. We also anticipate that the actions taken to enhance retention will have an impact on achievement as if students are better prepared for their studies, are better supported and can resolve the normal issues they encounter with the minimum of stress, they will be in a better position to achieve.

UCS has a well-established student support service. In early 2011 the UCS Infozone opened, which provides information, advice and guidance to current and prospective students and the local community. The student support service is based within the Infozone and someone is always available to answer queries. All of the milestones set in 2009 including increasing the number of internships provided to students, increasing the number of careers fairs and running training sessions for UCS staff, were exceeded.

UCS has made excellent progress in its outreach activities with schools, sixth forms and FE Colleges. The figures outlined in table 9b indicate the number of outreach activities facilitated by UCS staff, or run jointly between UCS and Aimhigher. Aimhigher staff also ran activities with local schools which are not included here. The number and variety of activities on offer increased by 58% between 2009 and 2011. UCS and Aimhigher worked collaboratively towards this success and much focus was on targeting the correct groups of young people to work with. The 'You Can Succeed' Summer School in July 2011 was a particular highlight, with more than double the number of participants than in previous years. UCS hoped to increase the number of university taster sessions for students from local FE Colleges. With a target of 8 taster days, 6 were achieved for students from FE Colleges but there was a significant increase in the number of taster sessions for students from local Sixth Form Colleges. Due to Aimhigher ending in July 2011, UCS will be focusing on widening participation and outreach activity in 2011/12 and a new widening participation officer has been appointed to continue this work alongside the student recruitment and widening participation officer.

| UCS led the LEAP Partnership very successfully in 2010/11 and continued to maintain the number of LEAP Centres and Points across the region. There was a slight decrease in the number of learners attending the Centres compared to the previous year (22,000 in 10/11 and 27,000 in 09/10), which can be explained by the economic downturn. Many of the courses provided through LEAP have a cost attached to them, and potential students are perhaps choosing to spend less on their education and training. |
|---|
|   |
|   |
|   |
|   |
|   |