



2019-20 access and participation plan monitoring

Provider impact report

This impact report summarises the progress made by Nazarene Theological College against targets, objectives and written commitments set out in its 2019-20 access and participation plan. This document is a summary of information submitted by the provider to the OfS. This document is a self-report by the provider only and does not indicate any OfS assessment of compliance.

1. Ambition and strategy

Nazarene Theological College's ambition and strategy as detailed in the 2019-20 access and participation plan:

The College's strategic approach to addressing issues of access and participation identified the following priorities for action, based on analysis of student access and participation data .

1. To continue our commitment to widening participation by maintaining the level of engagement and access from under-represented groups: mature students; non-white students; students from low participation locations; students with a disability; students who are part-time. We continue to monitor the success of interventions.
2. To continue our commitment to supporting the good level of academic success in under-represented groups (mature students; students with a disability), and increase our support to those students where a success gap is evident: non-white students; students from disadvantaged neighbourhoods, in particular through developing learning support for non-White students, delivered by qualified support workers, including peer support workers; and through establishing pre-sessional learning support for those from disadvantaged neighbourhoods.
3. To continue our commitment to facilitate access to higher education for non-traditional students from under-represented groups, by covering the costs of validation fees for these students, for which they are currently liable, and increasing our funding for a 'student hardship fund' to support such students.

2. Self-assessment of targets

The tables that follow provide a self-assessment by Nazarene Theological College of progress against the targets approved in its 2019-20 access and participation plan.

Please note the tables contain only a summary of target milestones approved in 2019-20 access and participation plans. Full information can be found in **Table 8a – statistical targets and milestones** and **Table 8b – Other milestones and targets** of Nazarene Theological College's 2019-20 [access and participation plan](#).

Any optional commentary provided against the targets is given in [Annex B](#).

Statistical targets and milestones

Reference Number (lifecycle stage)	Description	Baseline year	Baseline data	2018-19 milestone	2019-20 milestone	Units of target	Comparison year	Actual performance in comparison year	Target self-assessment
T16a_01 (Access)	Maintain the current high proportion of ALL students from low participation neighborhoods	2016-17	35%	35%	35%	Percentage	2019-20	45	Expected progress
T16a_02 (Access)	Maintain the current high proportion of all students who are mature	2016-17	89%	89%	89%	Percentage	2019-20	82	Limited progress
T16a_03 (Access)	Maintain the current high proportion of students in receipt of DSA	2016-17	27%	20%	20%	Percentage	2019-20	17	No progress
T16a_04 (Success)	Reduce the 'success gap' in students from the BAME community	2016-17	-6%	-5%	-5%	Percentage	2018-19	-3.6	Expected progress
T16a_05 (Access)	Seek to increase the proportion of part time students.	2016-17	14%	14.5%	15%	Percentage	2019-20	40	Expected progress
T16a_06 (Success)	Reduce the 'success gap' in students from low participation neighbourhoods	2016-17	-6.8%	-6.5%	-6%	Percentage	2019-20	-1.2	Expected progress
T16a_07 (Success)	Reduce withdrawal rates for targetted students (Mature; BAME background; DSA recipients; Low Participation Neighborhoods) by introducing pre-sessional training	2016-17	18%	16%	15%	Percentage	2019-20	5	Expected progress
T16a_08 (Access)	Support students from under-represented groups with targetted bursary support.	2016-17	4	6	7	Headcount	2019-20	6	Expected progress

Other milestones and targets

No data was returned for this section in Nazarene Theological College's 2019-20 [access and participation plan](#).

3. Investment commitments

3.1. Access and participation investment for the last audited year

Please note that some differences in predicted vs actual spend may be due to reporting differences between academic and financial years.

Financial year	2019-20		
	Predicted spend (£)	Actual spend (£)	Difference (ppt)
Access investment	£14,100.00	£86,000.00	510%
Financial Support	£4,000.00	£23,000.00	475%

4. Action plan

Where progress was less than expected Nazarene Theological College has made the following commitments to increase the rate of progress against their targets.

Reference Number	Steps that will be taken in the future to make expected progress against target
T16a_02	Continue to develop modes of learning that support mature students
T16a_03	We will try to encourage students to apply earlier in the admission cycle for DSA support

5. Confirmation

Nazarene Theological College confirms that:

Student engagement	
Have you worked with your students to help them complete the access and participation plan monitoring student submission?	
No	
Have you engaged with your student body in the design, evaluation, and monitoring of the plan?	
Yes	
Verification and sign off	
Nazarene Theological College has confirmed that the information included in this impact report is accurate, that it has been compiled in line with OfS guidance, and that it is being submitted on behalf of the governing body of the provider.	
Yes	
Accountable officer sign off	
Name	Deirdre Brower Latz
Position	Principal

Annex A: Commentary on progress against targets

Nazarene Theological College's commentary where progress against targets was less than expected.

Target reference number: T16a_02
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
We have continued to reach an 80% threshold of recruitment, but not the 89%
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
We have created a new flexible access route to part time study to support mature students who are in employment.

Target reference number: T16a_03
How have you met the commitments in your plan related to this target?
We are just under the target number
Have you taken any additional steps other than that detailed in the plan to reach the selected milestone?
We have increased staffing levels in this area

Annex B: Optional commentary on targets

Nazarene Theological College's commentary on any of the targets listed in [Section 2](#).

Reference Number	Optional commentary
T16a_01	
T16a_02	With very small numbers, the change of 7% represents only one student, and stable figures are therefore difficult to attain. Some slippage is unsurprising, as noted in the APP
T16a_03	Some changes in DSA regulation meant that some of our students no longer fell in scope of support, and so the original target numbers were no longer attainable.
T16a_04	With very small numbers, fluctuations are unavoidable. Data for 2018-19 was a success gap of 3.6, but for 2019-20 it was 7.1, with an average for both years of 5.4. The previous data was aggregated over 3 years.
T16a_05	Although the outcome here appears spectacular, the reality is that a new group of part-time students came into the scope of reporting, so the increase is not like-for-like, but is still encouraging.
T16a_06	With small numbers, one or two strong students can affect the cohort, and that is what has happened here, albeit in a positive way.
T16a_07	Given COVID19 challenges, seeing a reduction in withdrawal rates is encouraging, and perhaps due in part to the adoption of no-disadvantage policy by our validating university.
T16a_08	The College awarded more funds and made more awards to students in this year.