



HARROW INDEPENDENT COLLEGE

School of Mathematics, Science & Economics

Access and Participation Statement of Harrow Independent College

Date: 26th April 2018

Harrow Independent College (HIC) has a mission to identify the individual needs of learners and satisfy them, to improve their skills and knowledge and achieve their maximum potential.

In past three years of its existence HIC has helped students in paving pathways to top British universities.

HIC's vision is to be the top rated independent college in Harrow by delivering quality education and building a strong foundation in the field of education. The college wishes to deliver exceptional education to students and maintain trust among its community and staff. HIC creates its own ways in creating and improving its internal systems, delivering excellent education to its learners and to constantly learn from ever changing environment, needs of our students and members of staff. HIC believes in providing equal opportunity to all be it students, members of staff and parent groups. It continues to devise new ways to improve in the field of sixth form education and has achieved in successfully placing our sixth formers in top British Universities for the past three years.

As a way of development and learning, HIC values:

1. All our students and their individual achievements
2. The commitment and professionalism of our members of staff
3. The highest standards in all that we do
4. Working together to meet the needs of our college and the wider community
5. Effective, efficient and appropriate use of resources
6. Respect, equality and honesty for all

The college Higher Education approach is focused upon the development and delivery of high quality and relevant programmes to support internal development, widen engagement opportunities and to meet external demand of potential students. There are five key aspects within this approach that HIC follows:

1. Provision for internal progression of students from Level 4 to Level 5. Students who meet the minimum requirement for the Level 4 HE education could be considered to be our students, provided if they do not wish to pursue a course at a university.
2. Employability and skills development of students by providing them with theoretical as well as practical knowledge.
3. Creating a high quality, differentiated Higher Education experience for students.
4. To be able to offer higher education to lower income groups by keeping affordable fees.
5. To be able to offer HE (Level 4 and 5) to those students who aspire to complete their Level 6 at a university, however are not willing or able to enter any university due to financial and other constraints after completing their Level 3 education.

Programmes are designed to facilitate flexible delivery. This enables those in work to attend lessons for recommended guided learning hours (GLH). This means that students are able to work and therefore maintain an income for their livelihood and pay for their education themselves.

The college offers a range of Access to Higher Education Qualifications in Computing to support those who are returning to education and need knowledge and skills to facilitate study at a higher level.

Taster sessions are offered to applicants throughout the year so that they get the opportunity to attend the college in advance of enrolment and discuss any potential concerns or support needs. Students are also able to experience the welcoming environment and small class sizes.

The Admissions Team introduce the concept of Higher Education during college presentations to local community during our open evenings, seminars and other events for our sixth formers and preview activities for all ages.

Progression routes are mapped from many internal vocational programmes which have not previously attracted UCAS points for example NVQs and Apprenticeships. In some areas this includes the provision of bridging courses to ensure that students have the necessary academic skills in computing to succeed at higher levels.

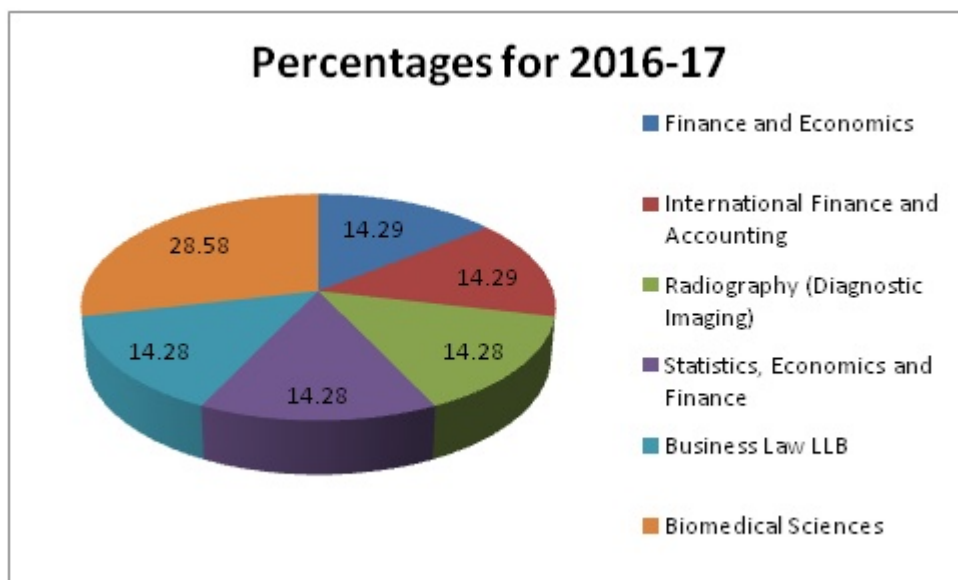
The entry criteria for all higher education programmes at the college include 'non-standard' options so as to encourage applications from those who have not followed a standard route and may not have UCAS tariff points.

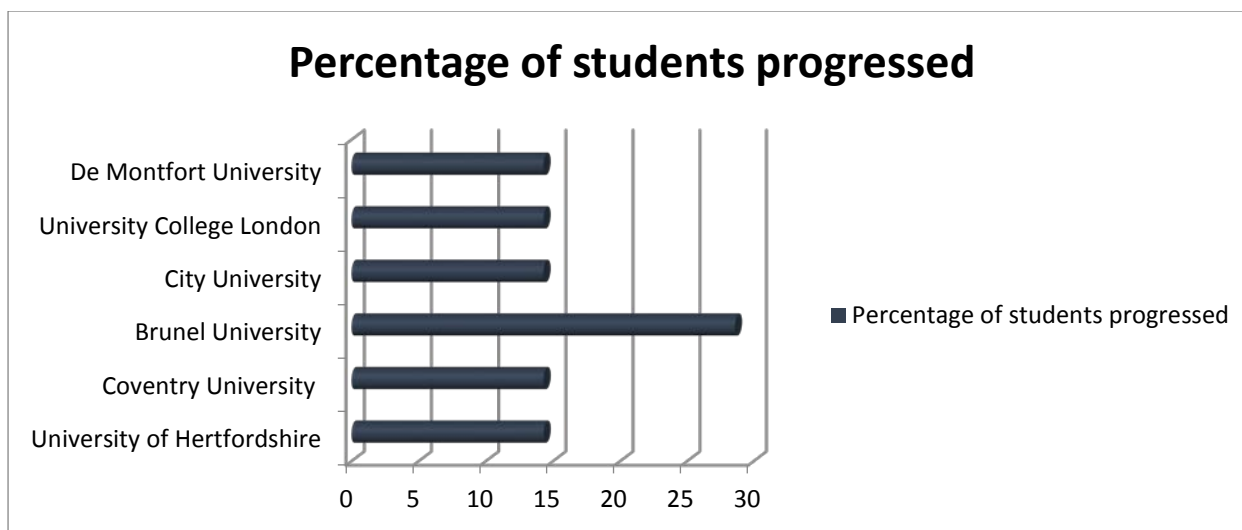
Results

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS -

In 2016-17, 100% of Harrow Independent College sixth form students progressed to university education. Students chose most popular courses like Biomedical Sciences, Business Law LLB, International Finance and also Radiography. The most popular destinations for our students include top British universities and other Russell group universities across the country.

HIC aims to give every student the opportunities and support they need, so that they achieve best possible academic careers. In 2016-17, our college leavers were successful in attaining places on the following courses:





Source – HIC database

Education for Special Educational Needs students.

We aim to provide education for all who can benefit from it, including those with Special Educational Needs and Learning Difficulties. The College believes that all people are of equal value and seeks to promote positive attitudes towards diversity and to eliminate discrimination.

HIC aims to provide additional support to those students who themselves disclose or are identified by their teachers as having specific learning needs or experiencing learning difficulties. The college has highly qualified and experienced SEN specialist teachers, who regularly update their knowledge through continuing professional development (CPDs). The parents may be able to apply for funding through the Local Authority.

Student Support

The college is committed to help its students in each and every phase of their education. There are several standard procedures to provide student support. Apart from that HIC provides advice and counselling to students in stressful situations. Our teachers always keep a check on students' overall behaviour so that whenever they need extra support and counselling they are able to timely deliver it to the students. The college is consistently striving to provide best support to students and student improvising support system. Core areas of student support are:

- Expert advice on subject and/or module combinations:

In a world where qualifications are of ever increasing importance, the central concern of the College is to present each student with ambitious personal goals whilst ensuring that these are also realistic and attainable. It can be difficult to know which subjects to choose for Level 4 or 5 and so we are here to give expert advice on subject and/or module combinations in BTEC computing courses. We have a wealth of knowledge about the university entrance system which means we can really help target the subject choices correctly. The college is, however, has a flexible environment and we do support freedom of movement between subjects and disciplines where it is felt that this is needed. If we are not able to determine an exact programme of study at the start of a student's course, it may be possible to sit on a number of modules for a short period. We can provide expert advice on the most suitable combination of subjects and/or modules at the interview and during your course of study.

- Career Advice Support

HIC is proud of its tradition of helping all students to fulfil their potential. In addition to our inspirational teaching and academic tutelage, HIC provides excellent student support in both the selection of and application to the most appropriate universities for entrance to Level 6 programmes (BSc (Hons))

- Student Counselling

Student may come to the counselling service with a wide range of personal or study-related issues which are causing concern or emotional distress. Student Counselling Service of HIC assists students with a variety of concerns. The Student Counselling Service offers brief counselling to all full-time students of the college. It is free and confidential.

- Personal Tutors

A personal tutor is an academic member of staff who takes an active interest in a student's academic progress and university experience, and is concerned for overall student's welfare. At HIC, each student has a designated personal tutor who they can always feel free to approach. Personal tutors carry out timely discussions with their tutees pertaining to their academic progression which includes creating and their Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) regularly.

- Learning Resource Centre (LRC)

HIC has a LRC for students and staff use. The LRC is resourceful as it contains numerous leading textbooks, journals, prospectuses of different universities and so on. This facility also provides access to internet, intranet and course relevant materials and software in its computer lab.

Accessibility

HIC is committed to providing an environment that enables full curriculum access that values and includes all students, staff, parents and visitors regardless of their education, physical, sensory, social, spiritual, emotional and cultural needs. We are committed to taking positive action in the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 with regard to disability and to developing a culture of inclusion, support and awareness within the college.

The HIC Accessibility Plan shows how access is to be improved for disabled students, staff and visitors to the college within a given time frame and anticipating the need to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate their needs where practicable.

Source – HIC Accessibility Plan