



Higher
Horizons



Part of the
**National Collaborative
Outreach Programme**



OUTREACH HUB: STRUCTURE, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

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Structure

Strategic Governance Group

Purpose: oversight and governance of programme

Management Steering Group

Purpose: operational oversight and governance of programme

Central Management Team:
Targeted Outreach Coordination and Outreach Hub

Purpose: strategic lead and central coordinators for programme, delivery of Outreach Hub

Staffordshire University Targeted Outreach Delivery Hub

Harper Adams University Targeted Outreach Delivery Hub

University of Chester Targeted Outreach Delivery Hub

Keele University Targeted Outreach Delivery Hub

Purpose: delivery of targeted outreach activity under direction from Central Management Team

Who is the Outreach Hub for?

- Some schools struggle with NCOP targeting but have high numbers of pupils with WP indicators
- Outreach Hub meant we could take more of a holistic view
- Schools eligible for proactive support identified by:
 - Pupils from low participation areas (by POLAR4)
 - Schools with over 20% pupils on FSM (from any POLAR quintile)
- Also ‘transferred’ some low engaging, low percentage Phase 1 NCOP schools to the Outreach Hub proactive support list
- Project-level targeting will consider underrepresented groups e.g. LAC, military service children, BAME, learners with disabilities, working class learners/low socioeconomic status etc.

Match Funding

- The biggest challenge and opportunity!
- University partners do not have capital to invest in projects... but can invest staff time and match in kind
- Call to University partners to develop new collaborative widening access projects through the Outreach Hub
- Useful to try to align goals with Access and Participation Plans where HEIs have clear access goals

Match Funding - Processes

- £150k project budget to be matched by others
- Bidding form – asks for capital, staff time, and other in kind contributions and what funding they need from the Outreach Hub as well as details of the project and how it meets Outreach Hub aims/Progression Framework
- Small projects signed off by team, larger projects signed off by Steering Group

Outreach Hub Projects

- Currently: joint bid from Keele and Staffs, bid from Keele, bid from Oxford
- Crewe Lyceum – arts ambassadors programme in Crewe with a small number of young people focused on careers in creative arts and related university courses

Project Spotlight

- Stoke Opportunity Area set up Y12 high achievers project with University of Cambridge
- Opportunity Area, Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form, 14 Stoke high schools and us collaborate on Y10 version
- Programme delivered by 14 teachers from Stoke schools over 3 days at Stoke Sixth Form – project based work
- Two day residential trip to Oxford
- Staffordshire University host celebration/poster presentation event
- Y10 cohort should continue on to Y12 programme
- Genuinely collaborative and match funded – either in kind (staff time) or capital

Website Now Live



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Good News! Your school is eligible for our activities, support and funding

Your school or college is part of the Higher Horizons Hub which serves institutions across Staffordshire, Shropshire, and Cheshire. The Hub works with other organisations to create activities to meet the need of your Year 7 – 13 learners. These activities are focused on young people who may not currently view higher education as a viable option for them. Our activities are impartial and aim to have positive impacts on your young people.



Your contact is Alex

Alex is the point of contact for all activity funded and provided by the Higher Horizons Hub. Use the button below to contact Alex to discuss what provision is available for you and your young people.

[CONTACT ALEX](#)

We're sorry your school is not eligible for Higher Horizons activity

This will be either because you sit outside of our geographical reach, or because your school or college has not been identified as one that we are able to engage with at this time.

If you are outside of Staffordshire, Cheshire or Shropshire, you can find your local provider [here](#).

Alternatively, you can find out about university outreach available via the following links to our partner websites, or make use of some of the resources below.

Why not try...



University of Chester

With over 20,000 students across five main campuses, the University of Chester offers in excess of 400 degree courses. Founded in 1839, the university is guided by its



Keele University

Founded in 1949 by A.D. Lindsay, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Keele has always been different from other universities – and, seventy years



University of Derby

Derby prides itself on being a caring, aspirational environment where students can equip themselves for the career they choose. With sites in Derby and

Strategic Engagement

- Some successes throughout Phase 1, but some challenges too
- NCS extremely low % of NCOP participants throughout Phase 1... more luck with Outreach Hub targeting?
- CEC patchy across our three counties – better in Staffs, slower to get up and running in Cheshire... so part funding 2 roles
- LEP very focussed on apprenticeships and skills agenda – difficult to combine our aims in some cases

Evaluation and Impact

- Access and Participation Plans come with increased demands on evaluation, just as NCOP Phase 2 does
- We have been doing this for 2.5 years already and can share resource and expertise
- Higher Horizons evaluation team will evaluate all Outreach Hub activity and share quarterly reports to partners for use in APPs
- Important lever to support HEI involvement in Outreach Hub

What next?

- Embed Outreach Hub projects and create NCOP legacy
- Impartial information, advice and guidance delivered by universities and colleges in partnership is the best way to support young people
- Very difficult to do that without external funding to support infrastructure (staff) and preserve impartiality
- Day planned in to do a CEC/NCOP/NCS learner event at Keele

Thank you.
Any questions?

@Higher_Horizons #HiHo

www.higherhorizons.co.uk



**Harper Adams
University**



**University of
Chester**

