

Uni Connect: Data snapshot 2023-24

Uni Connect is made up of partnerships between universities, colleges and local organisations to help school and college students understand their higher education options. It provides experiences of universities and colleges and information on what higher education is like, including what courses there are and explaining the finance system.

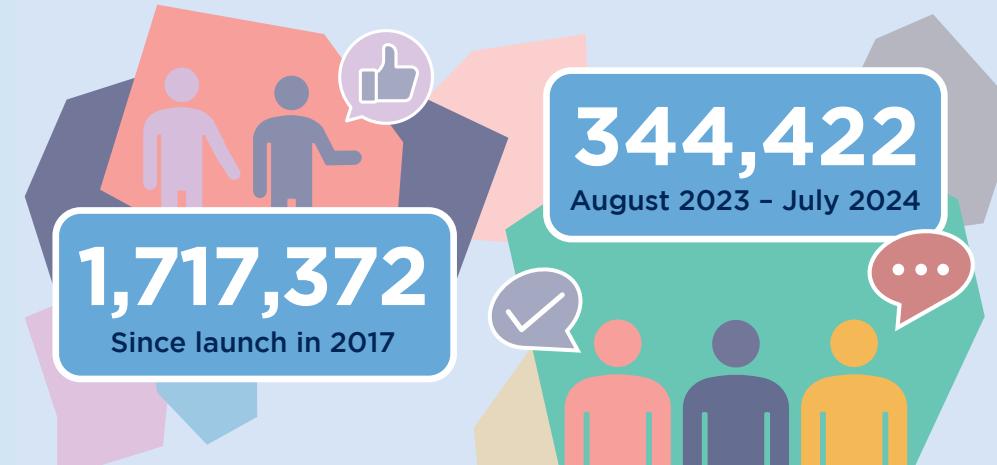
The programme aims to ensure that access to higher education is not limited by background and is targeted at learners who may face barriers to entering higher education.

This snapshot presents Uni Connect data for academic year 2023-24. This snapshot is a continuation of previous data reporting collected from programme monitoring and reports on similar categories as in the 2022-23 snapshot.

A new focus for Uni Connect from 2023-24 was on raising the attainment of school students in Years 7-11. Alongside offering information, guidance and experiences of higher level study in universities and colleges, Uni Connect partnerships also provided activities like tutoring, support with study skills and preparing for exams, to help increase attainment levels of eligible students. This was the first full year of attainment-raising activities and data, and there are new tables within the snapshot to reflect this.

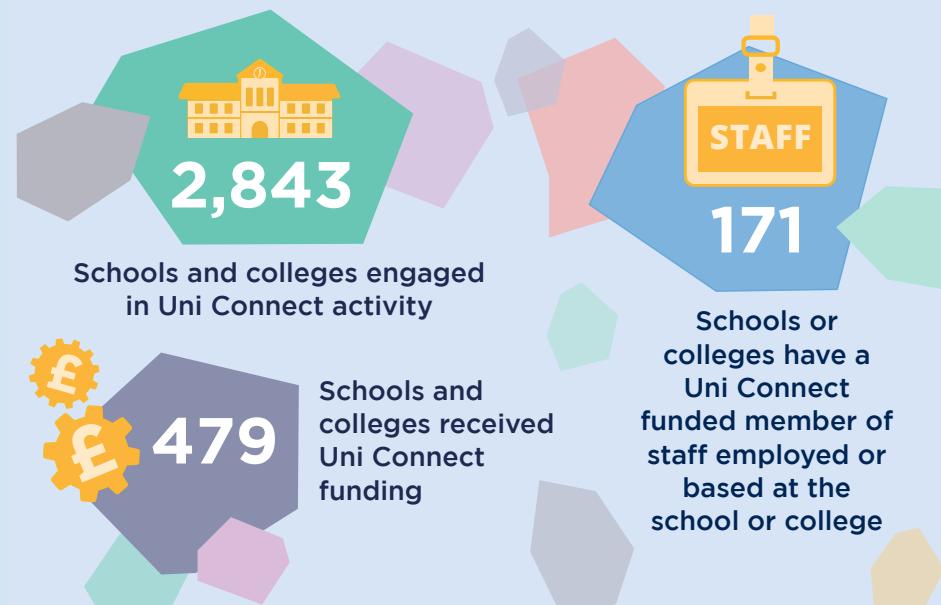
Learner engagement

Uni Connect learners engaged

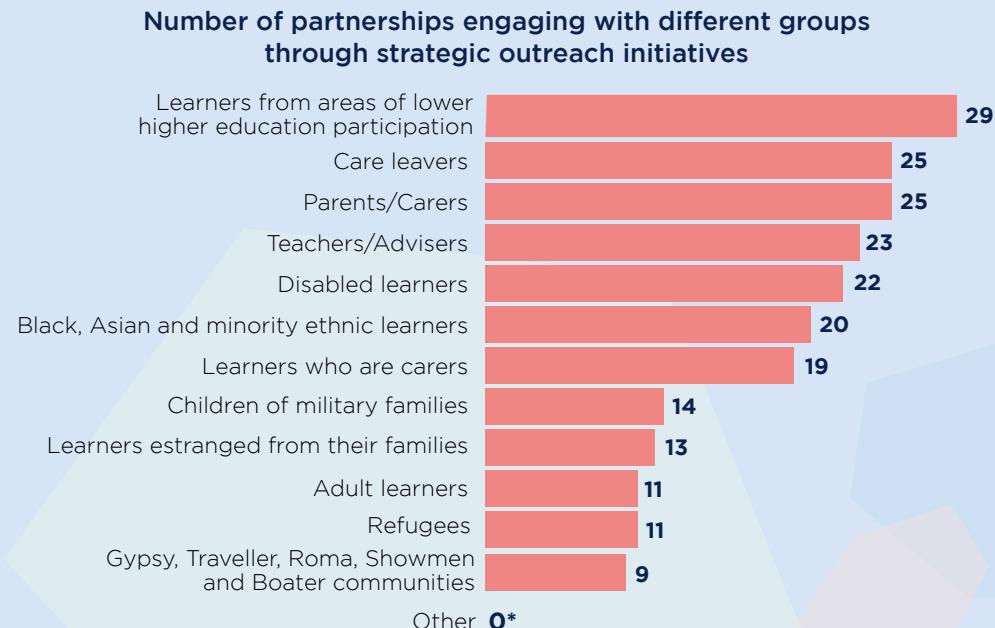


School and college engagement

(August 2023 - July 2024)

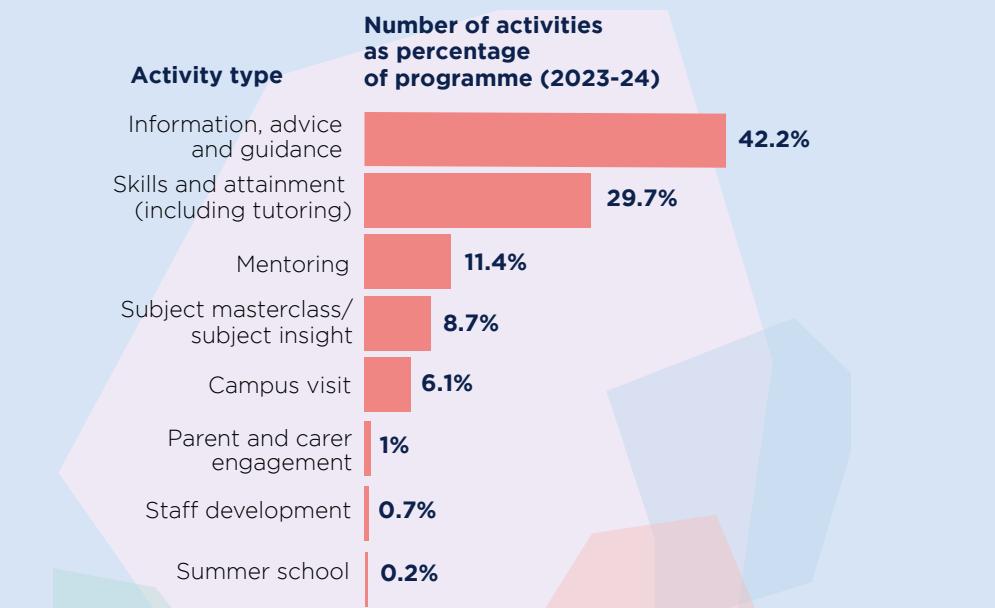


Groups engaged in Uni Connect activities



*This zero value has been kept for comparison purposes with previous years.

Uni Connect activities delivered



“Taking part in [the Uni Connect Programme] helped me become more confident in school and think about my future positively.”

Year 9 Uni Connect learner

“My young person has very little interest in education and higher education. This project is opening her eyes to what is available to her and her future in education.”

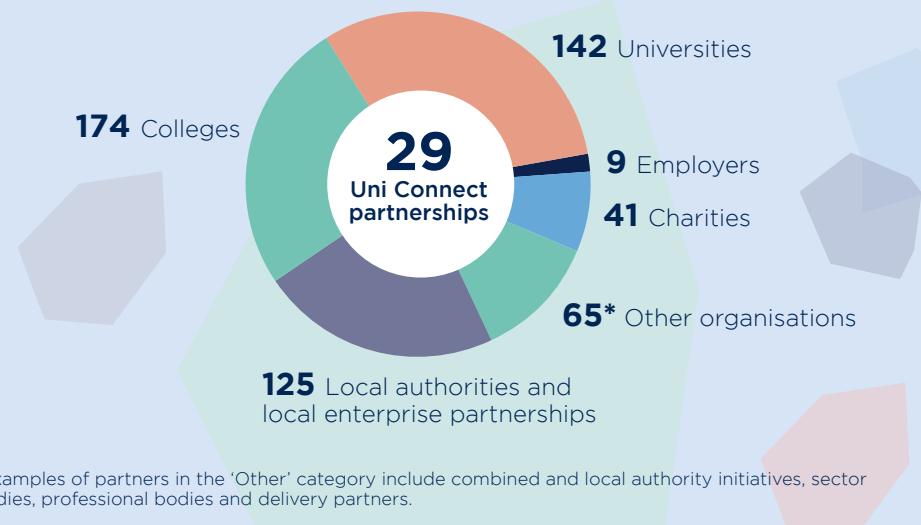
Carer of a Uni Connect learner

“I feel like, before this, I had no clue what I wanted to do. And now, I've got more options to consider. And I feel like I'm much more ahead than where I was before I joined the programme.”

Uni Connect learner

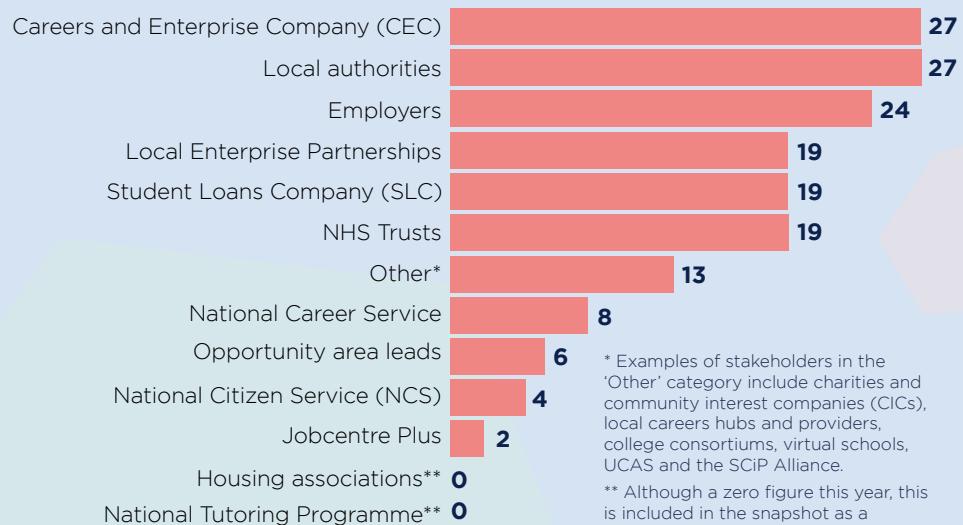
Uni Connect collaborative partnerships

Partners involved in Uni Connect



Working with other partners

Number of Uni Connect partnerships collaborating with other organisations



"It's not often you work with a partner that really puts the young person at the centre of what they're doing. The Uni Connect partnership are passionate about higher education. They want to take a young person from an area that doesn't have a high intake of university entrants and support them to get there. It's been great working with them and watching the partnership go from strength to strength."

Charlton Athletic Community Trust

"Actually, like seeing the college and thinking, you know, this is a massive place. You could do so much here and that's why I wanted to try harder, like, try as much as I can anyway, in school."

Year 10 Uni Connect learner

Attainment-raising engagement

Total number of activities delivered

Engagement types	Total activities
Non-subject-specific workshop	1,798
Literacy sessions	1,648
Subject-specific tutoring	584
Non-subject-specific tutoring	402
Revision workshop	360
Subject-specific workshop	330
Other	166
Teacher CPD	12
Academic summer school	4
Homework support	2
Total: 5,306	

Total number of unique learners engaged

Engagement types	Unique learners engaged
Non-subject-specific workshop	20,866
Revision workshop	13,410
Literacy sessions	7,364
Subject-specific workshop	6,464
Subject-specific tutoring	2,978
Other	2,034
Non-subject-specific tutoring	1,600
Academic summer school	88
Homework support	4
Total: 54,808	

“I will re-consider options as I never really wanted to go, but now I will think about it.”
Year 11 Uni Connect learner

“Since [the Uni Connect partnership] have been involved with us, we've gone from special measures to good and gone from being progress 8 minus 2 (bottom 10% of schools nationally) to progress 8 plus 0.24 (top 25% of schools nationally). There are a lot of factors in play, but the massive effect that being aspirational has on students is huge and seeing universities and what they can offer makes a massive difference.”

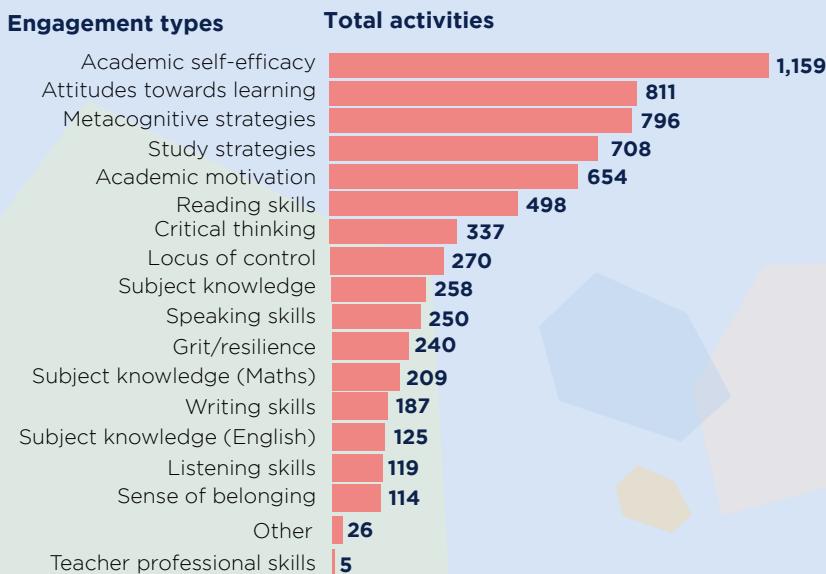
Teacher

“The students who have engaged with their [Uni Connect] sessions have developed their confidence, communication skills, and subject knowledge to an impressive degree, making them much stronger candidates for university, apprenticeships and careers.”

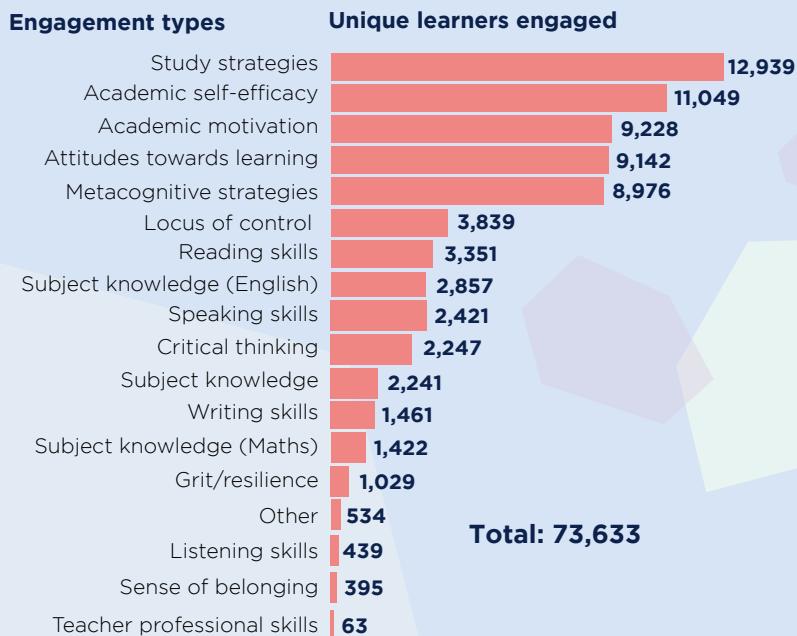
Teacher

Attainment-raising intended outcomes

Total number of activities focused on these outcomes



Total number of unique learners engaged focused on these outcomes



“The programme gave me a bit more motivation and information about how to revise. Before, I didn't really think it was that important but then I started revising and now I'm ready.”

Uni Connect learner

“[The Uni Connect programme] definitely had a positive impact on the learners. It's also had a positive impact on the school in terms of the way they engage themselves in lessons, but also in the fact that they're willing to be more ambitious.”

Teacher

“I think they gave us an insight into what we could do for our future... when I saw [the Law] one, I thought oh, that's pretty cool because now I can see what I want to do.”

Uni Connect learner

Future priorities



For 2024-25 and 2025-26, Uni Connect will continue to provide impartial information, advice and guidance on the different options and pathways to higher level study, alongside delivering a range of experiences of higher education and activity to help raise attainment to eligible learners.

Uni Connect partnerships will also continue to work with schools, colleges and other local partners to coordinate activity in their area to support equal access to higher level study for learners most at risk of not accessing higher education.

“What a brilliant idea this is. To some children, it can be very daunting going to university and this may just change their minds and show them they can achieve it if they want it.”

Parent of Uni Connect learner

“This programme has offered 30 of our year 10 learners a fantastic opportunity to find out more about university and higher education opportunities, talk to student ambassadors and experience a campus visit – the engagement on the day was very positive.

Taking them on campus started conversations about future careers and the atmosphere on the coach journey back to school was incredible, listening to the young people being more curious about higher education and where it could take them in the future.”

Teacher