

Access and Participation Plan Summary (2026–27 to 2029–30)

1. What is an Access and Participation Plan?

An Access and Participation Plan explains how a university or higher education provider will make sure that all UK students from different backgrounds have a fair chance to:

- i. Apply to higher education (this is what we mean by *access*).
- ii. Stay on their course and feel supported (this is what we mean by *participation* and *continuation*).
- iii. Achieve good results (this is what we mean by *attainment*, such as achieving a First or 2:1).
- iv. Progress into a graduate job, apprenticeship or further study after they graduate.

Every provider approved by the Office for Students (OfS) must have a Plan like this. It is reviewed regularly to check that the actions being taken are making a real difference for you.

2. Where can I find the full Plan?

This summary gives you the main points from our Access and Participation Plan for 2026–27 to 2029–30. The full Plan is published on our [website](#) and is available on request if you would like to read it in more detail.

3. About us

We are a specialist higher education provider with a long history of professional education, dating back to 1879. We offer undergraduate degrees, degree apprenticeships and postgraduate courses focused on careers in finance, business and technology. Teaching takes place in the City of London and through flexible study options.

4. What are the key points of our Plan?

Our Plan focuses on supporting students who are more likely to face barriers in higher education, including:

- i. Students from lower-income backgrounds.
- ii. Women, who are currently underrepresented on some of our courses.
- iii. Students from Global Majority backgrounds (Black students).

We focus on:

- i. Helping you feel confident about applying.
- ii. Making sure you get the academic and personal support you need to stay on course.
- iii. Identifying where gaps in results emerge between different groups of students and acting to address the causes.

5. What do some of these terms mean?

You may see some terms used in the Plan:

- i. **Access** – who applies to and starts a course.

- ii. **Participation / continuation** – if you stay on a course from one year to the next.
- iii. **Attainment** – the grades you achieve, such as getting a First or 2:1.
- iv. **Low-income background** – often identified using measures like where you live or whether you were eligible for free school meals.
- v. **IMD Quintile 1** – a technical way of saying if you live in an area with the highest levels of deprivation in England. In this summary, we use the clearer term *students from low-income backgrounds* instead.

6. What fees will I be charged?

If you are studying a full-time undergraduate degree, we charge tuition fees in line with the maximum fee set by the government and the Office for Students.

If you are studying a degree apprenticeship, your tuition fees are paid through the apprenticeship levy or by your employer. You do not pay the tuition fees yourself.

Up-to-date fee information is always published on our [website](#).

7. What financial help is available?

We know that money worries can make studying more difficult. We offer a range of financial support, including:

- i. Bursaries and direct financial support for those who need extra help.
- ii. Emergency hardship funding for unexpected financial difficulties.
- iii. Help with travel and digital access, such as laptops or software.
- iv. Support with course-related costs, internships and work experience.
- v. Funded professional qualifications that can help you gain paid work alongside your studies.

8. What are we aiming to achieve?

Through this Plan, we aim to:

- i. Make sure if you are from a lower-income background and/or Global Majority background, you are just as likely to apply, stay on course and succeed as other students.
- ii. Increase the number of women studying with us, with a long-term aim of reaching 50% female students by 2032.
- iii. Address the causes for differences in results between different groups of students.
- iv. Make sure you feel supported, included and able to achieve your goals.

9. What are we doing to achieve this?

We are delivering three main sets of activities:

1. Helping you access higher education

This includes school and college outreach, clear information and advice before you apply, support with maths skills before your course starts, and programmes such as *Women in Finance* to build confidence and awareness of career options.

2. Supporting you academically once you arrive

We provide structured inductions, ongoing academic skills support, maths support linked to your modules, flexible teaching and assessment, and employability skills built into your course.

3. Providing tailored personal and wellbeing support

You will have access to a named Student Success Coordinator, mental health and wellbeing support, disability and inclusion services, inter-faith spaces, mentoring, networking opportunities and financial support when needed.

10. How will I know about this support?

Information about support available through the Access and Participation Plan is shared through:

- i. Our website.
- ii. Applicant and enrolment communications.
- iii. Induction and welcome activities.
- iv. Ongoing contact with Student Success Coordinators and teaching staff.

11. How can you get involved?

You play an important role in shaping this Plan. You can get involved through:

- i. Course and year-group student representatives.
- ii. Focus groups and surveys.
- iii. Student town halls and meetings with senior leaders.
- iv. Student Voice Co-Directors, who work closely with staff on improving the student experience.

12. How is the Plan checked and reviewed?

We regularly review how well the Plan is working by looking at:

- i. Application, continuation and achievement data.
- ii. Your feedback, surveys and focus groups.

We publish annual updates on progress and use what we learn to improve support for you. Senior leaders and our governing body oversee this work to make sure commitments are being met.

13. Who can I contact for more information?

If you have questions about our Access and Participation Plan or the support available to you, please contact:

Student Services Team

Walbrook Institute London

Website: www.walbrook.ac.uk

Email: studentservices@walbrook.ac.uk