

Schools and colleges in the West Midlands



The Outreach team has a focus on working with state schools and colleges in the West Midlands to raise aspirations and improve guidance and motivation among local students in order to widen participation in Higher Education. We seek to provide impartial information and advice to support subject choice for GCSE and A level options and future Higher Education progression. We also work with teachers and advisors so that they can provide appropriate guidance to their students. For those whom progression to a research intensive university, and in particular progression to the University of Birmingham, is an option we also manage the University's flagship Access to Birmingham Scheme (A2B).

When selecting students for participation in activity, we ask schools to give priority to students who are currently under represented in Higher Education and who have the potential to progress to university. This would include:-

- Students with no parental history of Higher Education
- Students eligible for Free School Meals or in receipt of the 16-19 bursary
- Students who live in postcodes where there are low progression rates to Higher Education and a high index of multiple deprivation
- Students with disabilities or who have been in local authority care

Lloyds Scholars Programme

The University of Birmingham is proud to announce its continued involvement in the award-winning Lloyds Scholars programme for the upcoming 2014/15 academic year. Along with seven other leading universities across the UK, the University of Birmingham will partner with the Lloyds Banking Group to offer students from lower income households a complete package of financial support, paid internships and the opportunity to develop their employability skills. To find out more information please visit the [Student Funding Office \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/undergraduate/funding/lloyds-scholars.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/fees/undergraduate/funding/lloyds-scholars.aspx) pages.

HSBC Scholarship

We are delighted to announce our third cohort of students who are recipients of the HSBC scholarship, whereby HSBC will match-fund their tuition fees for the duration of their course. We have selected five students via an interview process from our A2B cohort who are:

Pavanjit Kaur (Medicine and Surgery MBChB. From Wodensborough Community Technology College and Sandwell College Central Sixth)

I would like to say thank you for this wonderful opportunity. As a result of receiving this scholarship, my self-confidence has increased and I feel that I am taking the right step by going in to higher education. Additionally, it makes me feel immensely proud that others have faith in my ability and potential. I am looking forward to working with the Outreach team and becoming an ambassador so that I can help other students who are entering higher education.

Shoshanna Clay (BSc Psychology. From Edgcliffe High School and King Edward VI Sixth Form College, Stourbridge)

I'm delighted to have been awarded this scholarship. It has given me the confidence and reassurance to focus on my studies and work towards realising my goal of becoming a psychologist. I'm exceedingly excited that my journey is beginning to start!

Jade Taylor (BA English Literature and Hispanic Studies. From Redhill Secondary School and King Edward VI Sixth Form College, Stourbridge)

When I applied to university, the aspect that worried me the most was not the amount of work or meeting new people, but the debt. I am immensely grateful and feel very lucky to have been awarded this scholarship, and am even more excited now about beginning my journey at the University.

Rahul Kumar (BSc Mathematics with Business Management. From Sandwell Academy)

I feel honoured to have been selected for this scholarship, which will allow me to fully concentrate the most important aspect of university, learning. I chose Birmingham for a number of reasons, including the number of sports which are on offer to students and I am looking forward to making the most of this whilst studying here.

Nicole Scarfe (BA Social Policy. From King Edwards Sheldon Heath Academy and Sixth Form)

This scholarship will make an incredible difference to my life as a student and in the future! Tuition fees can be a concern for students and I'm incredibly grateful that this is no longer the case for me. I'm looking forward to starting my degree course, which I chose as I think it will enable me to have freedom in my career choice after I graduate.

Outreach Activities

We have a wide and comprehensive range of activities which are available free of charge including:

- **[Raising Aspirations in Secondary Education \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/raise\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/raise)** (RAISE) a programme of events throughout the year for years 7-12
- On campus school visits – we will tailor a programme to suit the age and interests of your pupils
- Attendance at guidance and progression evenings
- Talks in schools and colleges on the benefits of Higher Education, Student Life, How to Apply, A2B, Finance and Support
- **[Summer Residentials \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/summerschools\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/summerschools)** for year 10 students with particular focus on health careers or humanities and social science subjects
- **[Academic Enrichment Programme \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/aep\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/aep)** – for year 12 students aiming to apply for a selective research university
- **[Masterclasses \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/masterclasses\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/masterclasses)**
- **[Academic and Progression Mentoring \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/mentoring\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/mentoring)**
- **[Access to Birmingham \(A2B\) \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/a2b\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/a2b)**
- Primary Engagement Programme
- Online resources - **[skills4uni \(http://www.skills4uni.bham.ac.uk\)](http://www.skills4uni.bham.ac.uk)** and **[tips4uni \(http://www.tips4uni.bham.ac.uk\)](http://www.tips4uni.bham.ac.uk)** - to support project work and the application to university process

For full details of our Outreach activities and how to arrange them, please have a look at our new Outreach Activities Guide.

We are a member of the local Aimhigher Partnership where we work with Aston University, Birmingham City University and University College Birmingham to deliver a range of partnership activity in Birmingham and Solihull for the benefit of Aimhigher partner schools and colleges. Further details can be found on the **[Aimhigher website \(http://www.aimhigherwm.ac.uk\)](http://www.aimhigherwm.ac.uk)**.

We are also member of the Realising Opportunities pilot programme involving 15 other research intensive universities. Further details can be found on the **[Realising Opportunities website \(http://www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk\)](http://www.realisingopportunities.ac.uk)**.

Contact us

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