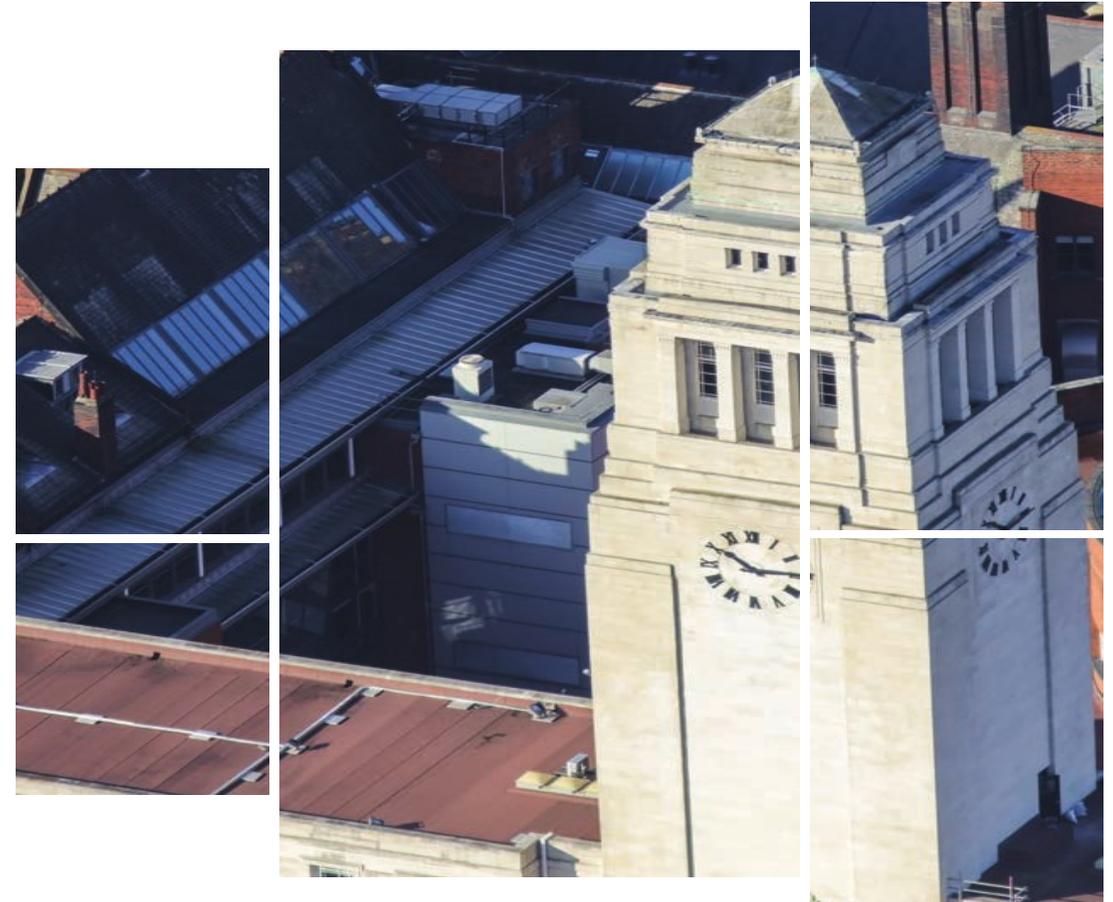




Enduring Inequalities and New Agendas for Widening Participation in Higher Education: Student Access, Mobilities and ‘Success’

*Supporting widening participation
students through university and beyond’*

Investing in
Knowledge and Opportunity



What is student success?



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1. Retention
2. Attainment
3. Progression to graduate employment
4. Progression to further study

Student Success – progression to postgraduate study



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The number of postgraduate taught students has increased by 8.4% over the last ten years. (Patterns and Trends in UK Higher Education, 2015, UUK)

Mature students make up 57% of the UK domiciled taught postgraduate body

Mature entrants' transitions to Postgraduate Taught Study, 2016, Pollard, E)

Differences in intention to study at postgraduate level by socio-economic background. (Learning from Future Track: Deciding to undertake postgraduate study, 2016, Ball, C)

Varied reasons for undertaking postgraduate study



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-Stepping stone/access to a profession

-Development of cultural capital

“I worked for 2 years, applied for various jobs in science, without much luck. I need a postgraduate degree to break into the jobs market”

- Addressing a deficit at degree level.

Barrier to progression are financial and non-financial

Targeted and segmented IAG used to help make decisions



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b) Sources to help decisions with the head – internet, open days, roadshows/PGT fairs, advice from family, employers, university staff

c) Sources to help with decisions with the heart – advice and guidance from university staff, alumni, colleagues, regular communications from the institution of interest, case studies and personal stories

What can HEIs do to encourage progression to PGT?



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- A whole institution approach
- Provision of opportunities to access a wider range of Information, Advice and Guidance
- “It shouldn’t be the proactive ones. There should be a supportive ethos relating to postgraduate study and careers, instead of survival of the fittest”*
- Advice and guidance available for those studying in your institution and outside of education
- Understanding of the needs, forms of access for target groups



What does student success look like in
your institution?