

ACCESS TO HE:

HOW CAN WE BEST SUPPORT ACCESS LEARNERS  
THROUGHOUT THE STUDENT LIFECYCLE?

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# AIMS

- To facilitate you to share your views and ideas about the challenges and opportunities in relation to supporting Access to HE students
- To offer you four case studies of Access to HE 'journeys'
- To introduce to you some of the ways we support Access to HE students at a university



# WHO ARE YOU?

**People Bingo is an induction activity we use to support our students in the first day at university.**

**Please speak to people in the room and try to find someone who can say 'yes' to each statement.**

**Write their name in the box.**

**You can't use the same name twice!**

**When you have filled every box, shout BINGO!**



# WHO HAS A ROLE IN SUPPORTING ACCESS TO HE STUDENTS?

**Who are the 'stakeholders' in an Access to HE students' journey?**



# CASE STUDIES

**Please consider your case studies and the three questions provided.**

**Please be prepared to summarise your case study findings with the rest of the group.**



# FEARS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE COURSE



**How to manage finances as a student, as a single parent, dealing with debt**

**Struggling to keep up with the work load and meeting deadlines**

**Failing the access course and not making it into Uni**

**Failing to accomplish goals due to factors such as English not being first language**

**Fears of a mature student- too old to attend uni after a long gap in education**

**Fear of presentations and speaking in public**

**Fear of not finding employment after graduating**

**Fear of not getting on the course**

**Fear of making wrong course choice / unsure what degree to choose**

**Fear of lectures**

**Fear of being in an unfamiliar environment with unfamiliar people**

**Not understanding UCAS and how to apply to uni/not having enough UCAS points/qualifications to attend uni**

**Fear the university interview**

**Coping with uni and family commitments/work**

# HOPES AT THE BEGINNING OF THE COURSE

**Providing a better future  
for family**

**To be prepared for the  
dream job**

**To pass course**

**To graduate with good  
marks**

**To go onto uni**

**To achieve goals**

**To be successful**

**Understand everything  
correctly**

**Learn about money**



# TRANSITION TO HE EVENTS

## **A partner college's outreach calendar for access students**



**Sep 2015 Welcome event on the campus**

**Nov-Feb Subject specific sessions in college**

**Nov-March Tasters and tours on the campus**

**Jan-March Library and resources session on  
the campus**

**Jan-March Academic skills sessions in  
college**

**July Graduation event on the campus**

**Sept 2016 Access all areas**



# COMMON THEME

**Supportive staff are what make the difference!**

**All of the people we spoke to emphasised the individuals who had helped them feel confident, supported, inspired and motivated.**

**Even when times are tough and we face many challenges –we can and do still make a difference by being supportive, committed and professional in our roles.**

**Teaching as an act of love (Freire, 1970; hooks, 1994; De Lissovoy, 2010) and a way of working within an imperfect system.**



**WELL DONE and THANK YOU for the support you offer students. It makes an INCREDIBLE difference!**