

Part Two: Fee and Access Plan (required for publication)

Fee and Access Plan	
Name of institution	University of South Wales
Duration of the fee and access plan	1 August 2025 to 31 July 2027
Section 1 - Fee levels	
Section 1.1 – Fee levels or the determination of a fee level at each location	
Fee level	Location of course
£9,535	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years University of South Wales Campuses • First Degree (excluding sandwich year out, overseas placements, the final year of a sandwich course, the BSc Community Football Coaching and Administration (Top Up), the BA Sports Business and Management, and the BSc Sports Coaching and Development (Top Up)) commencing after 31/07/2025 • Integrated master's degree (excluding sandwich year out, overseas placements, and the final year of a sandwich course commencing after 31/07/2025) • First Degree level 5 or 6 for students progressing in a consecutive year from a University of South Wales non first degree course (e.g. HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education) taught by University of South Wales or a partner after 31/07/2025 • Post Graduate Certificate in Education (Qualified Teacher Status) (PGCE) commencing after 31/07/2025 • Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (PcET) commencing after 31/07/2025

	• Foundation Degrees excluding Foundation Degree Community Football Coaching and Development and Foundation Degree Sports Coaching and Development commencing after 31/07/2025 • Higher National Diploma commencing after 31/07/2025 • Higher National Certificate commencing after 31/07/2025 • Diploma of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama • First Degree commencing after 31/07/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Bridgend College Campuses • First Degree commencing after 31/07/2025 • First Degree level 5 or 6 for students progressing in a consecutive year from a University of South Wales non first degree course (e.g. HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education) taught by University of South Wales or a partner after 31/07/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Cardiff and Vale College Campuses • First Degree commencing after 31/07/2025 • First Degree level 5 or 6 for students progressing in a consecutive year from a University of South Wales non first degree course (e.g. HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education) taught by University of South Wales or a partner after 31/07/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Coleg Gwent Campuses

	• First Degree commencing after 31/07/2025 • First Degree level 5 or 6 for students progressing in a consecutive year from a University of South Wales non first degree course (e.g. HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education) taught by University of South Wales or a partner after 31/07/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Coleg y Cymoedd Campuses • First Degree commencing after 31/07/2025 • First Degree level 5 or 6 for students progressing in a consecutive year from a University of South Wales non first degree course (e.g. HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education) taught by University of South Wales or a partner after 31/07/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Gower College Swansea Campuses • First Degree commencing after 31/07/2025 • First Degree level 5 or 6 for students progressing in a consecutive year from a University of South Wales non first degree course (e.g. HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education) taught by University of South Wales or a partner after 31/07/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years The College Merthyr Tydfil • First Degree commencing after 31/07/2025 • First Degree level 5 or 6 for students progressing in a consecutive year from a University of South Wales non first degree course (e.g. HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education) taught by University of South Wales or a partner after 31/07/2025

	• Certificate of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years NPTC Group Campuses • First Degree commencing after 31/07/2025 • First Degree level 5 or 6 for students progressing in a consecutive year from a University of South Wales non first degree course (e.g. HNC, HND, Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education) taught by University of South Wales or a partner after 31/07/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing after 31/07/2025
£9,250	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years University of South Wales Campuses • BSc Community Football Coaching and Administration (Top Up) and BSc Sports Coaching and Development (Top Up) and the BA Sports Business and Management commencing after 31/07/2025 • Foundation Degree Community Football Coaching and Development and Foundation Degree Sports Coaching and Development commencing after 31/07/2025
£9,000	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years University of South Wales Campuses • First Degree excluding sandwich, overseas placements and final year of a sandwich course commencing before 01/08/2025 • Integrated master's degree excluding sandwich, overseas placements and final year of a sandwich course commencing before 01/08/2025 • Post Graduate Certificate in Education (Qualified Teacher Status) (PGCE) commencing before 01/08/2025 • Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (PcET) commencing before 01/08/2025 • Foundation Degrees commenced after 31/07/2020 and before 01/08/2025, Excluding Foundation Degree Community Football Coaching and Development and Foundation Degree Community Sports Coaching and Development • Higher National Diploma commenced from 31/07/2020 and before 01/08/2025 • Higher National Certificate commenced from 31/07/2020 and before 01/08/2025

	• Diploma of Higher Education commenced from 31/07/2020 and before 01/08/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing before 01/08/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama • First Degree commencing before 01/08/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Bridgend College Campuses • First Degree commencing before 01/08/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing before 01/08/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Cardiff and Vale College Campuses • First Degree commencing before 01/08/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing before 01/08/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Coleg Gwent Campuses • First Degree commencing before 01/08/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing before 01/08/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Coleg y Cymoedd Campuses • First Degree commencing before 01/08/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing before 01/08/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Gower College Swansea Campuses • First Degree commencing before 01/08/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing before 01/08/2025

	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years The College Merthyr Tydfil • First Degree commencing before 01/08/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing before 01/08/2025
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years NPTC Group Campuses • First Degree commencing before 01/08/2025 • Certificate of Higher Education commencing before 01/08/2025
£8,535	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years University of South Wales Campuses • First Degree sandwich course final year of study for students having commenced their studies after 31/07/2025 • Integrated master's sandwich course final year of study for students having commenced their studies after 31/07/2025
£8,000	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years University of South Wales Campuses • First Degree sandwich course final year of study having commenced their studies prior to 01/08/2025 • Integrated master's sandwich course final year of study having commenced their studies prior to 01/08/2025 • Foundation Degree Community Football Coaching and Development and Foundation Degree Community Sports Coaching and Development commenced after 01/08/2020 and before 01/08/2025
£7,500	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Bridgend College Campuses • Foundation Degrees • Higher National Diploma • Higher National Certificate • Diploma of Higher Education

	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Cardiff and Vale College Campuses • Foundation Degrees • Higher National Diploma • Higher National Certificate • Diploma of Higher Education
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Coleg Gwent Campuses • Foundation Degrees • Higher National Diploma • Higher National Certificate • Diploma of Higher Education
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Coleg y Cymoedd Campuses • Foundation Degrees • Higher National Diploma • Higher National Certificate • Diploma of Higher Education
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years Gower College Swansea Campuses • Foundation Degrees • Higher National Diploma • Higher National Certificate • Diploma of Higher Education
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years The College Merthyr Tydfil • Foundation Degrees • Higher National Diploma

	• Higher National Certificate • Diploma of Higher Education
	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years NPTC Group Campuses • Foundation Degrees • Higher National Diploma • Higher National Certificate • Diploma of Higher Education
£1,350	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years University of South Wales Campuses • First Degree overseas placements • Integrated master's degree overseas placements
£1,000	2025/26 and 2026/27 Academic Years University of South Wales Campuses • First Degree sandwich placements • Integrated master's sandwich placements

Section 1.2 - Aggregate fee levels

Students entering full-time undergraduate courses in 2025/26 and 2026/27 who complete their studies in the prescribed course duration (i.e. who aren't required to repeat any stage of their studies) will be charged the fees outlined in section 1.1 per annum until completion. For example, a student enrolling on a three-year first degree (e.g. BA, BSc) at one of the University's campuses in 2025/26 that progresses through the course without having to repeat a module will be charged £9,535 in each academic year (subject to the paragraph below) and, if that fee remains the same in each academic year, amounts to an aggregate total fee of £28,605. A student enrolling on a four-year sandwich course will be charged £9,535 for the 2 non-placement years preceding placement year, £1,350 for the placement year and £8,535 for their final year of study (subject to the paragraph below), and, if that fee remains the same in each academic year, amounts to an aggregate total fee of £28,955. A student enrolling on a first degree (e.g. BA, BSc) with a foundation year will be studying for 4 years and will be charged £9,535 in

each academic year (subject to the paragraph below), and, if that fee remains the same in each academic year, amounts to an aggregate total fee of £38,140. Students will be charged for repeated studies and the aggregate fee could therefore be higher.

The maximum fee for home students on full-time undergraduate courses is governed by the Welsh Government. The maximum fee we may charge to a student for each year of a course may increase above £9,535 where the Welsh Government increases the permitted level of inflation for fees. While it is not possible to predict whether there may be an increase or how much the increase may be, please note that it was increased from £9,000 to £9,250 by the Welsh Government in February 2024 and from £9,250 to £9,535 in December 2024. Any change to fees will be communicated to students in good time before the start of the academic year in which the fee will change.

If the Welsh Government announces a permitted uplift, the Board of Governors of USW will make a decision on any uplift to be charged for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 academic years at the earliest opportunity. For any prospective student looking to commence their studies in 2025/26 or 2026/27, the decision for the relevant academic year will be made and communicated by USW before the applicant has been made an offer of a place. For any returning students in 2025/26 or 2026/27, the decision for the relevant academic year will be made and communicated to the student before the start of the relevant academic year. We will ensure that students are given clear, intelligible, unambiguous and timely information about any increase in fees in good time, ahead of the next academic year.

USW is committed to ensuring that the information we provide to prospective and current students is both transparent and accessible and in line with sector good practice as defined by 'Information for Students: A guide to providing information to prospective undergraduate students'¹. We provide accurate and timely information on the costs students are likely to incur over the period of their course, what is covered in the fees charged, and the financial support available. Each course webpage provides detail on the tuition fee chargeable and any additional costs of study (for example please see [MChiro](#)).

The University uses a variety of communication methods to provide information that can be accessed from websites, social media platforms and printed materials. This is accompanied by explanatory information, advice and guidance provided orally to prospective students, parents (where relevant) and their advisors. We ensure that students can access information on fees in various formats which best meet their needs: online, on paper and face to face. Communications are undertaken in-line with the University's Student Charter, Welsh Language Scheme and Strategic Equality Plan.

❖ **Our Website** is the main source of up-to-date information on tuition fee levels for prospective and current students. Every course offered is listed on our website and the UCAS/CUKAS website where the maximum fee will be shown. **We are compliant, and have an on-going commitment to, our obligations under consumer protection law (the Consumer Rights Act 2015) and Competition & Markets Authority (CMA) guidelines for higher education.** We will continue to ensure that prospective students are given clear, intelligible,

¹ https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/2db81e6b-e4c7-4867-bc5d-ff67539d13e8/guide_to_providing_info_to_students.pdf

unambiguous and timely information about our courses and costs ensuring they are fully informed at the application, offer and enrolment stages.

- ❖ **Franchised students** – we ensure that our further education partner colleges are fully consulted on fee levels to be charged for our provision and this is then relayed by the colleges to prospective students through website or one-to-one discussion. All colleges invest an agreed amount of tuition fee income into equality of opportunity and promotion of H.E. at their own campuses and this is reflected in the total investment for USW and monitored and evaluated accordingly.

We also provide information through:

- ❖ The University prospectus.
- ❖ The University's schools and colleges liaison programme (encompassing on and off campus visits, newsletters and specialist events).
- ❖ Communications to prospective students via email campaigns and social media.
- ❖ Open days and applicant days; and
- ❖ Via our Student Money Advice Team.

In accordance with our Fees & Debt Management Policy (August 2023)², some postgraduate and part-time tuition fees are subject to annual increases. We will ensure that there are no hidden costs to study. Where additional mandatory costs by exception are unavoidable, e.g. international field trips, the purchase of instruments, DBS checks etc., these costs are clearly identified.

Financial Support Available to Students

- ❖ A dedicated Student Finance section on the University website, managed by the University's Student Money Advice Team³, provides detailed information and guidelines on the financial support packages available to USW students.
- ❖ We will note any changes to the DSA support arrangements in Wales and ensure that we continue to fulfil our commitment to the Equality Act 2010.
- ❖ Links are provided to other sources of information including the Student Finance Wales website (and equivalents).
- ❖ The Student Money Advice Team at the University is also available for prospective students who might wish to seek advice on the specific financial support available to them, or who might have an issue regarding financing their studies, and can also assist students in applying for support.
- ❖ Franchised students will be able to access financial support at their Colleges. We ensure that tuition fee income is invested by all FE partner colleges into equality of opportunity and promotion of HE. We encourage partner colleges in particular to set aside tuition fee income for hardship funding, alongside continuing their support for access and student experience.

² [Fees Debt Management Policy 2023-24_x6wXFFw.pdf \(uswvarious1.blob.core.windows.net\)](#)

³ <https://www.southwales.ac.uk/study/fees-and-funding/>

Communication of Change

- ❖ Any formal changes to courses will be undertaken in line with the University's Academic Regulations procedures and processed throughout the University's Committee Structures which include student representatives.

Changes are communicated to students through course handbooks and online through the student portal, our course pages on Blackboard and through our network of course representatives.

Section 2 - Student Partnership

The University of South Wales and the University of South Wales Students' Union work in partnership to support the recruitment, retention, attainment, experience and voice of our student body. This is manifested in several forms and the partnership is embedded in our formal governance mechanisms; our operational working; and throughout the representative mechanisms that exist for our students which are led by the Student Union. The University supports the work of the Student Union financially and as such, a Relationship Agreement exists between the two parties. This document confirms: 'the University and its SU share a commitment to developing and improving students' experiences of academic life, extra-curricular aspects of the student experience and employability opportunities irrespective of the length, mode, level or location of study'.

The funding provided to the Student Union directly supports the following activities:

- Representative activities and payments
- Campaign costs
- Sabbatical officer salaries
- Support for societies and sporting activities

The Student Charter further confirms the University and Student Union partnership as follows:

'We believe that such success is best achieved through working together as partners in a spirit of trust and mutual respect, upholding at all times the values of the University. This is the basis of our Student Charter and is a result of the strong working relationship between the University and the Students' Union.'

The Contribution of the Student Voice to Governance and Quality

The University of South Wales' Students' Union are represented throughout the governance and decision-making structure of the university. They contribute to the development of policy and strategy, evidenced by their involvement in the creation of the USW 2030 Strategy. The student representative structure of the University is overseen by the Student Union; this included in 2022/23 the appointment and training of 580 Course Representatives with around 500 registered course reps currently in 2023/24. Course representatives have a vital role to play in gathering feedback on the delivery of courses and the student experience in general. In addition, they attend Staff-Student Course Liaison Groups which are held once per term and are a requirement of our quality processes. Students are at the core of our quality assurance mechanisms; as partners. Staff-Student Course Liaison Groups provide a regular forum for feedback to course leaders and provide information used to inform Continuous Monitoring. Course Validation, Review and Revalidation have Student Voice Reps participating as full panellists. Student Voice Representatives represent groups of Course Representatives. They have a formal seat on each of the Faculty Quality Assurance and Learning and Teaching Enhancement Committees. Students also form part of the University Quality Assurance Committee and the University's Learning and Teaching Enhancement Committee, where there is a Standing Item for 'Student Update' on each agenda. Students also support the quality enhancement agenda at the University. In addition, the responses received to the Student Union's Student Choice Awards (to which over 1,200 nominations were received by staff and students across all of USW's provision in 2022/23) are analysed to ascertain the attributes

of their academic staff that inspire their learning. This information is used to inform the content of the Annual Quality Report and the programme of work established for the University and the Students' Union for the following academic year. Information regarding the number of nominations for the current academic year is not available as we are still going through the nomination process; the closing date for this academic year is 3rd May 2024.

The Annual Quality Report is written by the Students' Union and presented annually to Academic Board. The primary purpose of this document is to highlight areas the Students' Union believe should be considered by the institution for investment and development, as well as to highlight areas of best practise. The 2022-2023 Annual Quality Report focused on three key main areas; the Student Voice, The Learning Community, and Learning Opportunities. The findings of the report had the following commendations for the University, which were noted at the November 2023 Academic Board:

- The close working relationship between the University, Chaplaincy and the Students' Union in continuing support for students during the Cost-of-Living Crisis
- The Students Union's ongoing work to work in collaboration with Operational Policing as recognised by being shortlisted at the University Alliance Awards in 2023.
- The recognition of the incorporating HE in FE partner colleges and Operational Policing in the Student Choice Awards
- The work undertaken by CELT in partnership with the Students' Union on developing flexible delivery models and contributing to the University's long-term strategy for 2030 and beyond

The Contribution of the Student Voice to Fee and Access Plans

The student voice is vitally important to the university and how it supports its students. The Director of Planning, Performance and Transformation, who develops the content of the Fee and Access Plan, also oversees the operations of the National Student Survey. All data captured from this survey is read and reviewed by the Director of Planning, Performance and Transformation and shared with the Student Union, the university's faculties and schools and professional areas. Thus, activities outlined in this plan reflect the student feedback mechanisms available to the university at a grass roots level and reflect the voice of the student body. The development and content of this Fee and Access Plan has been shared with the Student Union and its contents supported and endorsed. The process itself isn't seen as separate to the day-to-day relationship with the SU which, as noted above, plays an important part in all parts of the university's operations in relation to the student journey. The Fee and Access Plan is a shared document for delivery by USW and, in part, the Student Union particularly through their role as advocates, representatives and supporters of the student body and the student voice.

The Student Union are also represented on the University's Board of Governors which approves the content of this plan on behalf of the University. The Student Union also has representation on the University's Fees and Scholarships Committee; an executive committee which oversees the monitoring of this plan, as well as providing the decision making in relation to financial support available to students through bursaries and scholarships. The Student Union also form part of the membership of the sub-group of the Fee and Scholarship Committee

focussing on Widening Access. In essence the Student Union forms part of the governance committee structure (at all levels including locally within faculties) and project boards and groups of the University contributing to the shape and plans of the institution which drive the content of this plan.

The University of South Wales' Student Union leads on a range of initiatives that ensure that they represent the views of students at all levels. Key activities and areas of discussion in 2023/24 were as follows:

Student Council and Student Voice Forum

The Student Council and the Student Voice form serve as the main policy-making body of the Students' Union and is responsible for discussing the various issues that affect students. Meetings were held virtually and in person for the 2023-2024 academic year and focused on:

- Disability Awareness Week
- International Student Enrolment
- Contributions to the Universities Equality Diversity and Inclusivity Strategic Plan
- Student Accommodation
- Period Poverty

The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

In addition to the usual governance and committee membership, the following also occurs at the College:

- Twice termly joint meetings with the SU Executive and SMT, chaired by the SU President
- An SU representative attends every course board meeting
- Twice-termly meetings of the Student Council
- Weekly meetings between the SU President and the Director of Student Experience
- Annual all-student survey
- Weekly e-bulletins from SU and monthly from College and end of term "you said we did" communications

HE in FE

For our HE in FE students in Wales, each College has their own mechanisms for listening and responding to the student voice. Each course delivered through partners is required to have a representative system that mirrors USW. In the recent Annual Partner Review, it was identified that the Full Franchise partners employ a range of student voice mechanisms to show engagement with students:

- Active Student Academic Representatives, Ambassadors, and Course Representatives.
- Student representation on Forums, Programme Course and Board of Governors meetings.
- Programme evaluation and module feedback via VLE
- Weekly tutorials with course team and students
- Concerns recorded on Pro Monitor for actioning
- Termly Learner Voice meetings
- Internal surveys twice a year in addition to the completion of the NSS survey
- Operational Student Voice Policy
- Student Voice Forums
- Specific HE Student Teams site
- Student Voice emphasis in induction
- Enhanced student representative training and HE Tutorial Scheme of Work

Colleges will also often have NUS qualified representatives. Partner College students have access to a [‘USW Landing Page’](#) which provides details which provisions and services they can access from USW and from their college. The landing pages also provide details the USW Students Union and Course Representation guidance; and of how they can raise any issues or concerns during their studies. At induction students are also provided with details of representatives, course staff etc. along with contact details. There is also a landing page for USW students at [any partner institution](#) which details information on responsibilities, sources of advice and services.

Many colleges operate a HE Student Experience Group where issues are fed through college management structures. Where issues are local to the college these are resolved locally and fed back – often through ‘You Said, We Did’ campaigns. Themes are discussed within USW partnership networks, either at subject level through University and Partner Link Officers or at faculty/school level through Partnership Managers, Associate Deans (Business Development and Partnerships) or via the University’s Director of FE Partnerships and Degree Apprenticeships.

- Bridgend College has an established Student Voice Structure that covers FE and HE provision and provides a line to the Senior Leadership Team and Board of Governors via of a number of engagement opportunities. Under the cross-college banner ‘Be Heard’, all students are encouraged to feed back their views and experiences as outlined in Bridgend College’s Learner Voice Strategy. This is underpinned by a quality improvement process that allows changes and enhancements to be made in response to student feedback.

- Coleg y Cymoedd who have an active student voice forum. Mechanisms of engagement involve Student surveys being conducted twice year and HE students complete the National student survey of which a key indicator of measurement of engagement is the completion rate that has been typically the highest amongst USW partner colleges for the previous three academic years.

The Student Union also contributes to the evaluation and monitoring of Fee and Access Plans which in turn supports the development of future plans. The University will work with the Student Unions of USW and the RWCMD to develop a You Said, We Did activity to play back to the student body the impact of Fee and Access Plans when monitoring has been completed.

Section 3 - Under-represented groups

This Fee and Access Plan supports the following under-represented groups:

Groups identified by Medr as under-represented in higher education

- Students of all ages from the bottom two quintiles of the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014, including a sub-group of Children from Military Families
- Students of all ages from the bottom quintile of the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation 2014.
- Students of all ages studying part-time.
- Students of all ages studying through the medium of Welsh.
- People of all ages, including mature students, from UK low participation in HE areas.

Groups supported through the institution's institutional contribution to the Reaching Wider Programme

- Learners and students studying through all means and modes living in the bottom two quintiles of the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD), and *within these two quintiles in the RW Partnership region*, those that are:
 - care experienced and carer learners and students;
 - adults without level 4 qualifications;
 - learners and students with a disability;
 - learners and students from minority ethnic communities;
 - learners and students in Welsh medium learning, including supporting second language learning and Welsh cultures.

Groups identified by the institution as under-represented in HE.

- Students with disabilities
- Students from Black and Ethnic Minority backgrounds for the University as a whole and for subject areas where populations are lower

In addition this plan will support any learners undertaking postgraduate studies from the above groups.

Section 4 – Objectives as they relate to supporting equality of opportunity and the promotion of HE

Section 4.1 - Equality of Opportunity

Objective 1	Increase the student population and enabling access to HE for designated under-represented groups (Widening Access)
Objective 2	Increase the student population and enabling access to HE for designated under-represented groups, including those studying for postgraduate courses: • students with disabilities. • students from Black and Ethnic Minority backgrounds, for the University as a whole and for subject areas where populations are lower. • care leavers and carers • students studying through the medium of Welsh • part time students
Objective 3	Provide to under-represented groups effective information and support, before and during their studies to support access and retention of under-represented groups.
Objective 4	Consideration of how investment can best support students most impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic where they are not already identified as under-represented groups.

Section 4.2 - Promotion of higher education

Objective 1	Promoting an excellent student experience in higher education in Wales.
Objective 2	Promoting the value added of higher education in supporting routes to employment.

Objective 3	Promoting Welsh HE in terms of its impact: • on an International marketplace • in the delivery of CPD support to the local economy • in relation to research and innovation • in generating new business in Wales and beyond
Objective 4	Promoting the progression of students to achieve level six qualifications.

Authorisation of the fee and access plan application to Medr (required for publication)

In authorising fee and access plan applications, the governing body:

- i. confirms that it continues to be an institution that provides higher education in Wales and is a charity;
- ii. has seen and considered appropriate evidence to support the declarations being made in this application;
- iii. confirms that there has been appropriate consultation with its students, both those studying at the institution and at other providers where education is delivered on its behalf;
- iv. confirms that the information provided in this fee and access plan application is accurate and current, at the time of writing, and is based on verifiable data;
- v. confirms that
 - a. it is acceptable for Medr to use financial, quality and/or other information/data that it holds about a currently regulated institution, regardless of whether the information/data was originally provided for purposes of regulation under the 2015 Act;
- vi. understands that Medr reserves the right to undertake a visit to the institution to better understand eligibility related to the organisation and management of financial affairs, the data submitted on fee and access plans and/or the quality of education provided on, or on behalf of, the institution;
- vii. understands that it must provide Medr and/or Medr's agent, with information, assistance and access to its facilities and the facilities of other bodies providing higher education on its behalf;
- viii. understands that Medr may carry out, or arrange for an agent to carry out, a review relating to the quality of education provided by, or on behalf of the institution, and its governing body must take into account any advice given to it by Medr or the body appointed by Medr for this purpose;
- ix. confirms that all education provided by, or on its behalf, regardless of the level or location of the provision has been taken into account in this fee and access plan application;
- x. confirms that the institution is at a low risk of failure on financial grounds over the medium-to long- term;

- xi. confirms that the accounts are audited each year by a registered auditor and that the registered auditor is not the same firm and/or individual that prepared the accounts;
- xii. confirms that the institution complies with Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) guidelines for higher education;
- xiii. understands that any financial commitments to students made in the fee and access plan, as approved by Medr, must be honoured;
- xiv. confirms that it will continue to invest the same proportion of full-time undergraduate fee income to promote equality of opportunity and promote higher education and not reduce invest to promote equality of opportunity which is intended to support only under-represented in higher education;
- xv. confirms that it will continue to invest its institutional contribution to the Reaching Wider Programme aligned to its agreed Reaching Wider Strategy and Implementation Plan;
- xvi. confirms that it will maintain student support levels;
- xvii. confirms that the institution will ensure that a copy of the fee and access plan can be made accessible to its students in any format;
- xviii. confirms that the institution will clearly signpost its students to Medr's complaints processes;
- xix. take all reasonable steps to supporting under-represented groups that are studying for postgraduate courses;
- xx. considers how investment can best support students most impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic where they are not already identified as under-represented groups; and
- xxi. gives due consideration to any guidance published by the Commission for Tertiary Education and Research as it discharges its duties in relation to the Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022, particularly in relation to learner protection, learner engagement, equality of opportunity, and the support and promotion of the welfare of its students and staff.

Fee and access plan application submission to Medr ⁴	
Date of Governing Body approval:	March 24 th 2025
Governing Body authorised signature:	
Date:	March 24th 2025
Final fee and access plan submission once Medr has confirmed it has no further issues (where applicable)	
Date of Governing Body approval:	
Governing Body authorised signature:	
Date:	

⁴ Fee and access plans published on the institution's websites must only include versions approved by Medr.