



openawards

Impact Report

2017-2018

Introduction

At Open Awards, our learners' aspirations are at the heart of what we do. As a not-for-profit organisation and a registered charity, we are all passionate about our organisation's mission to change lives through learning. This manifests in our flexibility and creativity when it comes to working with our centres and learners.

We know our centres want to support their learners to achieve the very best outcomes and, as a small team, we pride ourselves on having the flexibility, knowledge and passion to react quickly and intelligently to individual learners' and employers' needs.

By reinvesting in our products and services and working closely with our centres and employers, we continually improve our systems and innovate our portfolio. This flexibility is underpinned by robust quality assurance systems for both our product development and delivery. This enables us to support our centres to deliver the highest quality learning experiences, which have clear routes into meaningful employment.

Heather Akehurst,
CEO



Open Awards has a proud history of designing qualifications and services that meet learners needs. From our beginnings as the first provider of unit based qualifications to this year when we became the first external organisation to provide external quality assurance for The Institute for Apprenticeships we truly believe that we can 'change lives through learning'.

As our services change and diversify from simply qualifications we know that our continued success rests on supporting people through all the learning opportunities that make their hopes and aspirations become reality. We will continue to work with Ofqual, QAA and the IFA to ensure our learners have access to the best possible experiences and support their lifelong learning.

OPEN AWARDS

Our Mission, Visions and Values

VISION

To Change Lives Through Learning



MISSION

To Support Educational Achievement For All

VALUES

Excellence
Innovation
Respect
Aspiration



OPERATIONAL PLAN

Developing Products & Services
Building Relationships
Increasing Our Voice

Our Values Are:

- **Excellence**

To exceed standards in all we do, inspire excellence in our staff, centres and learners, and to deliver a personalised customer service that surpasses expectations.

- **Innovation**

To listen, learn, discover and develop; to respond effectively to and invest in our staff, centres and learners

- **Respect**

To foster a culture of respect and inclusiveness, being receptive to each other and customers, acting with integrity.

- **Aspiration**

We strive to be visionary and influential

What We Offer

We are a national Awarding Organisation, approved by the regulator Ofqual and the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA). We have an extensive range of RQF qualifications, from Entry Level 1 to Level 4, and Open Awards Quality Endorsed courses.



PREPARATION FOR LIFE
AND WORK



AGRICULTURE,
HORTICULTURE AND
ANIMAL CARE



ARTS, MEDIA AND
PUBLISHING



CONSTRUCTION,
PLANNING AND THE BUILT
ENVIRONMENT



EDUCATION AND TRAINING



HEALTH, PUBLIC SERVICES
AND CARE



INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGY



LEISURE, TRAVEL AND
TOURISM



RETAIL AND COMMERCIAL
ENTERPRISE



ENGINEERING AND
MANUFACTURING
TECHNOLOGIES



FUNCTIONAL SKILLS



SKILLS FOR FURTHER
LEARNING AND
EMPLOYMENT



SCIENCE AND
MATHEMATICS

Qualifications by Sector

We have an extensive range of RQF qualifications from Entry Level 1 to Level 4

PREPARATION FOR LIFE AND WORK

66%



FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

13%



AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE AND ANIMAL CARE

7%



ARTS, MEDIA AND PUBLISHING

4%



HEALTH, PUBLIC SERVICES AND CARE

3%



OTHER*

7%



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registered learners
30067



full qualifications achieved

12469

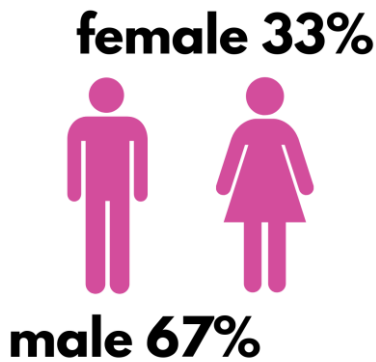


* other subjects include; science and mathematics, education training, construction, business, administration and law, engineering, retail, ict

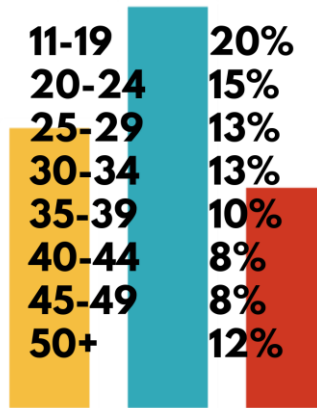
Demographics



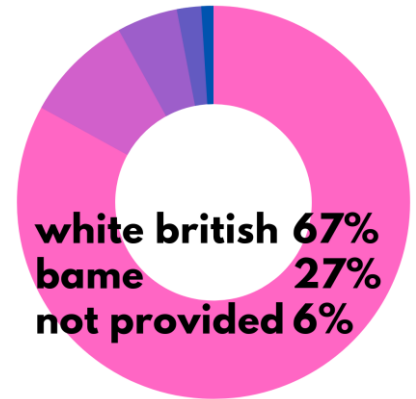
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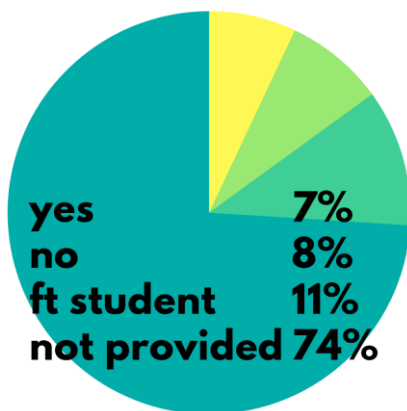
gender



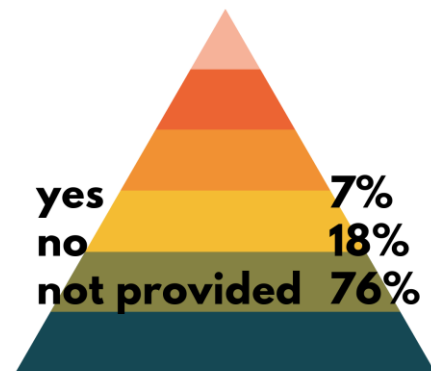
age



ethnicity



employment



disability /
learning difficulty



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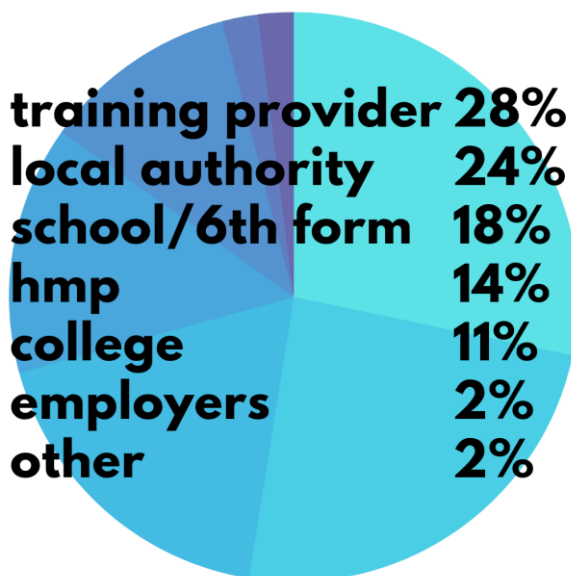
Centres

331 UK centres

london	19
midlands	46
east anglia	30
north west	192
north east	10
yorkshire	28
other	6



Centre by Type



new centres recognised

58



Training & Events



We strive to provide our colleagues with as much help and support we can, therefore we hold regular stakeholder engagement events through out the academic year.

stakeholder engagement events

75



Training & Events Feedback



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94% would recommend our training to others

97% feel more confident in their abilities after our training

94% said the training met needs and expectations

92% said the training was well organised

Training & Events

Feedback



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“

The tutor was very clear and offered lots of help and support throughout the training

”

“

Very knowledgeable trainer, great quality of materials

”

“

A good introduction to Open Awards - Clear & well organised training, very informative

”

“

Overall an excellent session. Very well delivered. Many thanks

”

“

Very informative. A clear presentation and helpful support

”

Good News Stories

manor college - a tight-knit team with big ideas



supported workplace placements in action with 'bridging the gap' programme



scarborough south & filey young leaders receive their badge of excellence certificates



Access to HE



The Open Awards Level 3 Access to HE (Higher Education) Diploma is a life-changing qualification specifically designed for adult learners, as an alternative route to A-Levels onto university degree courses.

The Diploma is composed of a number of units with a level and credit value. Students must achieve 60 credits in total. 15 of the credits are from ungraded units and 45 are graded and are awarded at Pass, Merit or Distinction. On average it takes a year to complete, though some courses work on different timescales.

Like A-Levels, the Diploma is a full Level 3 qualification, available in a wide range of subjects, that is accepted by most universities and other HEIs, to meet their course entry requirements. HEIs work with us on the development of the content for our Diplomas, to ensure they provide a sound basis on which to progress onto a degree course. The Diploma is regulated by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA), to ensure it meets rigorous quality requirements.

The providers we work with set entry requirements to their Diploma courses that make sure that individuals are ready for the demands of the course and are able to fulfil the requirements for progression onto their intended degree course. For example, a GCSE C, or above, in English, Maths and Science for primary school teaching.

Perhaps more than any other qualification, the Access to HE Diploma has the power to change lives.

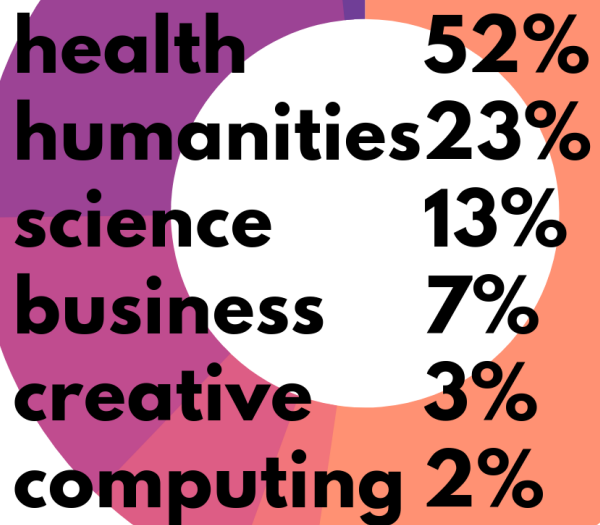
**registered
learners**



2193



subjects



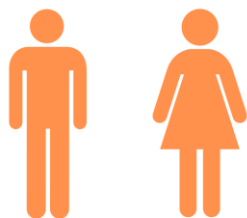
**diplomas
achieved**

1955



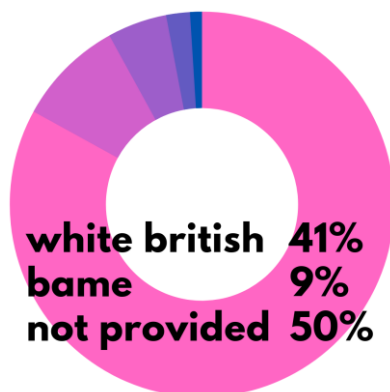
Demographics

female 71%

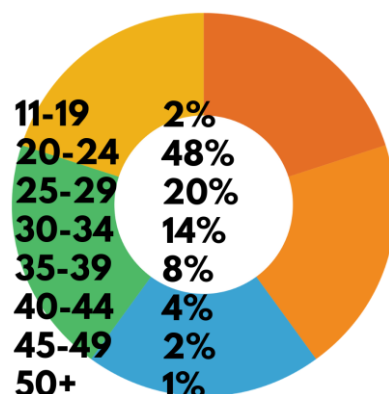


male 29%

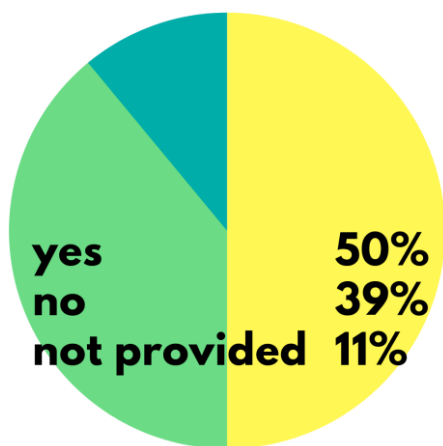
gender



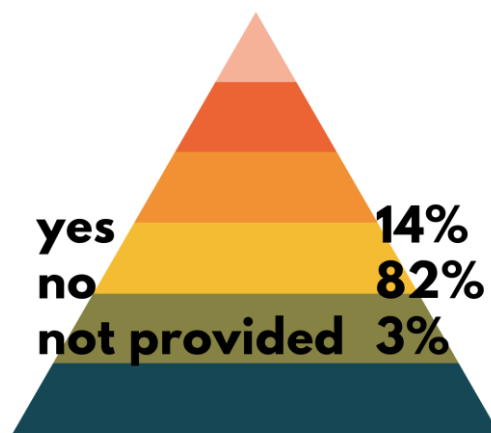
ethnicity



age



employment



**disability /
learning difficulty**

Training & Events



We strive to provide our colleagues with as much help and support we can, therefore we hold regular stakeholder engagement events through out the academic year.

Access to HE stakeholder engagement events

48



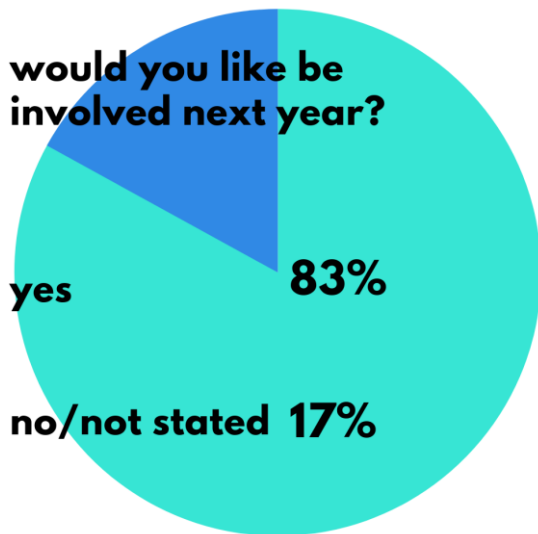
Admissions Fair



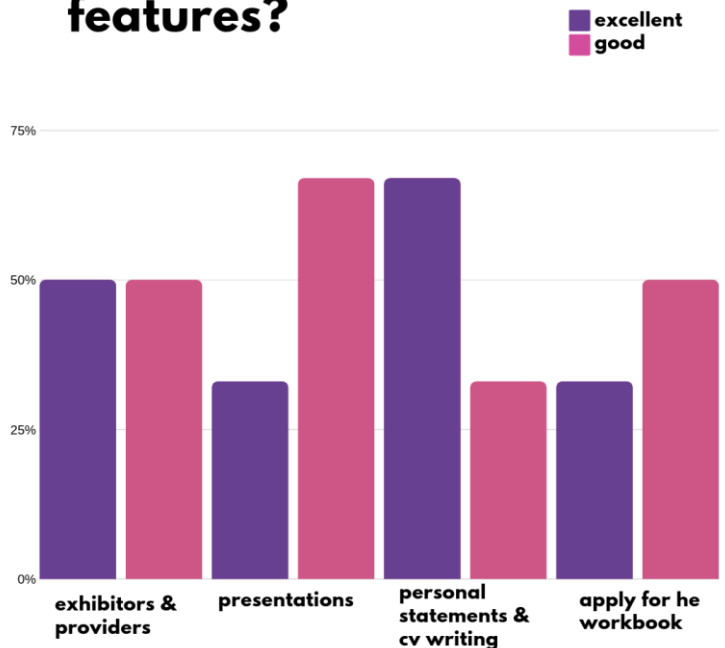
Our first Access to HE Admissions Fair, held on Tuesday 9th October 2017 in Manchester, gave Access Learners, from across the North-West, the opportunity to meet with top UK Universities to explore funding opportunities available; find out support available at universities for mature students; and attend workshops and presentations.

exhibiting universities 25

learners attending 211



how were the event features?



Feedback



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'Very well organised event. Great Open Awards staff! Thanks'

'Really great event. Students really well informed.'

'Event was well organised both before and on the day. Open Awards staff very helpful.'

'Really good idea - great to have event dedicated to non-traditional students. Will definitely attend again!'

'Really good event with lots of interest from learners.'



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Learner Stories

"DOING THE ACCESS DIPLOMA WAS AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE AND MET SOME FANTASTIC PEOPLE ALONG THE WAY."

"THERE IS NOTHING STOPPING YOU, EXCEPT YOURSELF, FROM ACHIEVING GREAT THINGS. SO, TRUST IN YOURSELF AND GO FOR IT, YOU WILL BE AMAZED BY WHAT YOU CAN ACHIEVE."

"BECOMING A STUDENT AGAIN AND BEING THE ELDEST IN MY CLASS DID NOT BOTHER ME, AS I HAD MORE LIFE EXPERIENCE THAN MOST OF MY FELLOW CLASS MATES, WHICH ALSO HELPED WHEN ENGAGING IN DEBATES AND CONVERSATIONS."

"I INQUIRED AT MY LOCAL COLLEGE, AND THEY TOLD ME ABOUT THE ACCESS TO HE. I APPLIED, AND IT WAS THE BEST DECISION I MADE."

"THERE ARE SO MANY AMAZING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ME THAT I WOULDN'T HAVE IF IT WASN'T FOR ACCESS."

Case Studies

- MAY WOODWARD
- NURSING & MIDWIFERY
- SOUTHPORT COLLEGE



MAY WOODWARD LEFT SCHOOL AT 16 UNSURE ABOUT HER FUTURE AND ENDED UP WORKING IN A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT ROLES FROM SELF-STACKING TO ENGINEERING BUT NEVER FELT CHALLENGED OR FULFILLED. AT 35, MARRIED WITH 2 CHILDREN MAY DECIDED IT WAS TIME FOR A CHANGE.

"I INQUIRED AT MY LOCAL COLLEGE, AND THEY TOLD ME ABOUT THE ACCESS TO HE. I APPLIED, AND IT WAS THE BEST DECISION I MADE."

" I'M INCREDIBLY PROUD OF WHAT I HAVE ACHIEVED AND HOPE THAT I CAN BECOME THE BEST TYPE OF ROLE MODEL FOR MY CHILDREN. I'M EXCITED TO START A NEW CHAPTER IN MY JOURNEY TO BECOME A NURSE, SOMETHING THAT I COULD NEVER HAVE DONE WITHOUT THIS COURSE GIVING ME A STEPPING STONE INTO HIGHER EDUCATION."

"THERE IS NOTHING STOPPING YOU, EXCEPT YOURSELF, FROM ACHIEVING GREAT THINGS. SO, TRUST IN YOURSELF AND GO FOR IT, YOU WILL BE AMAZED BY WHAT YOU CAN ACHIEVE."

Blended Learning



We have been working on an exciting project through the Department for Education's Flexible Learning Fund, to bring our learners **new** Blended Learning materials for our Access to HE Diplomas in Health Pathway, including development units.



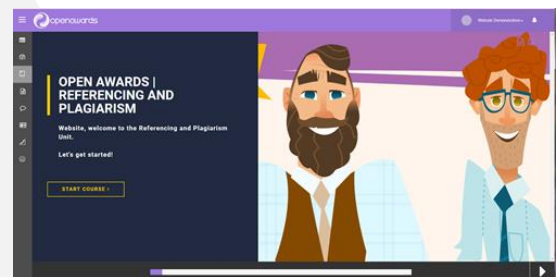
Blended Learning is where online learning is blended with classroom based learning. The aim of Open Awards' blended learning materials is to provide the online content part of this blend.



The Blended Learning team are able to convert your offline content or workbooks into digitalised interactive versions, whilst working to support tutors to ensure that they are comfortable with this delivery approach.



We have a total of 47 units in development in the following areas: Biology; Psychology; Criminology; Health Studies; Sport and Exercise; Sociology.



Getting Out There



At Open Awards, we aim to be as available as we possibly can. If that is at the end of a phone, computer or face-to-face engagements through our many events, meeting and training sessions.

GOING SOCIAL
Social Media Reach

TWITTER
 @openawards
@openawardsa2he

FACEBOOK
Open Awards 

INSTAGRAM
 @acesstohe

LINKEDIN
Open Awards 

YOUTUBE
 Open Awards

GET IN TOUCH
WE'RE HERE TO HELP

WEBSITE

www.openawards.org.uk

PHONE
0151 494 2072 

EMAIL
 info@openawards.org.uk

FACE- TO-FACE
Open Awards
17 De Havilland Drive,
Estuary Commerce Park
Speke, Liverpool, L24 8RN 

Open Awards Bursary



Our Vision is that Open Awards bursaries allow learners to access learning/further education by providing financial support, where the qualification is not fully funded, and/or to address specific barriers that are currently preventing them from studying. In offering bursaries, we are seeking to address barriers that may prevent people from accessing training/further education.

bursaries awarded 14

total amount awarded

£5290



EQA for IFA



Open Awards has been contracted by the Institute for Apprenticeships (IFA) to deliver an External Quality Assurance (EQA) service on behalf of the Institute for any apprenticeship standard where the Institute is the named EQA provider.

end-point assessment organisations

49



apprenticeship standards

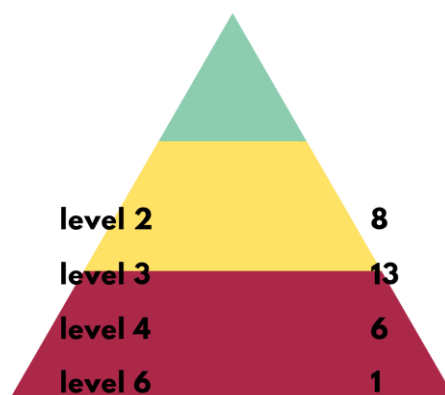
28



standard by sector

	engineering & manufacturing	7
	legal, finance & accounting	5
	construction	5
	creative & design	4
	business & administration	4
	transport & logistics	2
	health & science	1

standard by level



“It has been a fantastic opportunity for Open Awards to undertake this role on behalf of the Institute for Apprenticeships, gaining an understanding of this evolving landscape and sharing our experience from a quality perspective, as end-point assessment organisations embark on their EPA journey. We have received positive feedback from both IFA and EPAOs.” Anita Till – Open Awards

Other Charities Supported



We are proud to support other charities

