Connect to London’s Global University

TEACHER & PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT TEAM
Widening Participation

A NATIONAL PICTURE

Widening Participation (WP) and fair access to universities have long been issues in the UK. Progress has been made across the sector with UCAS figures showing that disadvantaged young people (in England) are now 73% more likely to enter higher education (HE) than they were in 2006. However, research shows that the gap between these students and those from advantaged backgrounds progressing to HE, is still great. Students from certain backgrounds are still under-represented in higher education, including those who are:

- the first in their family to enter HE
- from low income backgrounds
- from Black African and Black Caribbean backgrounds
- white working-class males
- looked after children and care leavers
- estranged students
- students with disabilities
- young carers
- refugees
- from gypsy/traveller backgrounds

Universities not only monitor the progression of under-represented students to HE but also retention and postgraduate outcomes. Universities look at the entire student life cycle and think about how they can support students once they have enrolled.

To tackle these issues, university WP teams around the UK run projects and activities to engage students, teachers and parents/carers with HE. These include aspiration and attainment-raising activities and projects to help students decide which course is right for them. The activities usually include elements of advice, information and guidance, ensuring students are in a position to make informed decisions, which, in turn, will help convert applications into offers.

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp
WE KNOW THAT TEACHERS, PARENTS AND CARERS ARE INTEGRAL TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR WORK

Widening Participation AT UCL

UCL’s Access and Widening Participation Office has been working with schools for more than 30 years. Today we run over 50 programmes and projects for students at all stages of their school and college education, with the aim of increasing the number of students from under-represented backgrounds at UCL. We strive to be innovative in our approaches and our work is evidence-led with a strong focus on impact.

Our varied programme includes summer schools, taster days, conferences, evening courses and Saturday schools, all of which are targeted at students from under-represented backgrounds or their teachers and parents/carers.

We know that teachers, parents and carers are integral to the success of our work. In addition to working with school and college students, we run dedicated programmes to support teachers, parents and carers with advice and resources, all aimed at helping people from under-represented groups fulfil their potential.

Our team AND ACTIVITIES

Teacher & Professional Engagement Team /

There is more choice in HE today than ever before and working with teachers is key to ensuring students receive the most up-to-date, accurate information. UCL’s Teacher & Professional Engagement team is dedicated to connecting teachers and other professionals working in schools to the latest HE sector information. The team helps to put you in the best position to advise your students on HE choices with regular communication, course information and updates.

Drawing upon expertise from the UCL Institute of Education, the world’s leading centre for education, the team also offers a varied programme of CPD training opportunities, providing ideas and strategies you can use in your work with students.

The team focuses on building strong relationships with teachers and HE advisers. This brochure outlines the activities designed specifically for teachers in 2017–18. If you would like information on the activities we offer for students, please visit our website www.ucl.ac.uk/wp.

We look forward to working with you.

Caroline Fionda Dedman
Our activities /
We have a wide range of teacher and professional engagement activities, from one-off events for you to learn more about UCL and WP to certified CPD programmes that allow you to build your professional skillset.

Subject-focused events /
- Teacher Taster Days
- Back to University – masterclasses

CPD programmes /
- Teacher Summer School
- Teacher CPD Day
- Teacher Takeaways

Longer-term CPD programmes /
- Enabling Mobility through Social Mobility (ESME)
- Reading Recovery

Off-campus events /
- UCL Visits You
- Teacher Takeaways and In-School Masterclasses

Networks /
- Professional Learning Network (PLN)

Subject-focused EVENTS

Back to University – masterclasses /
Those who look back fondly on their university days may be interested in attending one of our subject specific “Back to university” masterclasses for teachers. These bitesize twilight sessions will focus on the following academic subjects:

- English
- Maths
- Physics
- Chemistry
- Biology

The 2017–18 programme will include two sessions on each subject. One session provides access to new research and teaching ideas with a UCL academic and the other is designed to complement the KS5 syllabus, providing practical ideas for you to use in your teaching.

Teacher Taster Days /
Spend the day with an academic department to get a ‘taste’ of studying the subject at UCL and to gain new ideas and approaches for your classroom. Run by UCL academics, these events will invigorate your passion for your subject and give you an insight into university teaching.

Taking place in Spring 2018 our Taster Days will run across a number of similar subjects, including a Humanities Taster Day, providing information on the subject, facilities and admissions. A full list of participating subjects will be available in December.
Teacher Summer School / 
Our Teacher Summer School provides an opportunity for teachers and careers staff to immerse themselves in a two-day programme, which includes an exploration of the UCL campus and meeting academics across a range of different subject areas. Summer school attendees will also have the opportunity to hear from UCL admissions and careers staff offering advice about the application and admissions processes.

The Teacher Summer School includes workshops that support colleagues’ wider work in raising attainment and supporting progression, for example previous sessions have focused on collaborative learning, critical thinking and oracy.

Funding towards costs is also available to ensure that finance is not a barrier to participation. To enhance your university summer school experience, evening entertainment is provided free of charge as well as accommodation in university halls of residence for delegates who are not based within commutable distances to UCL.

Carly Sandy
Summer School Manager
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Teacher CPD Day / 
The UCL Teacher CPD Day is a day of talks, training and information sessions for teachers covering a range of in-school CPD areas. This will run in conjunction with UCL departments including the Institute of Education, UCL Access & WP staff and external contributors. It will include sessions on Raising Mental Health Awareness, Implementing Careers Guidance, and much more.

Matt Skidmore
Project Manager
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Teacher Takeaways / 
Teacher Takeaways are twilight CPD sessions that combine sector-leading research with concrete teaching and learning strategies, the events are open to teachers from all subject disciplines, and across all phases (primary to post-16). Each session focuses on a non-subject specific topic that integrates theory into practice, to support student attainment, progression and wellbeing.

The sessions are suitable for teachers at all stages of their career, and participants are encouraged to translate the learning into their own educational setting, and offered key ‘takeaways’ in the form of strategies and resources to support this. Previous Teacher Takeaways have included ‘Growth Mindset’, ‘Building Resilience in the Classroom’ and ‘Oracy’.

“...IT HAS MADE ME WANT TO EXPLORE THE AMAZING RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES THAT UNIVERSITIES OFFER”
Teacher Summer School Participant
Enabling Social Mobility through Education (ESME) / Enabling Social Mobility through Education (ESME) is an innovative, online CPD programme for professionals working in schools and colleges. You will learn more about the role of HE in the social mobility agenda and receive information, guidance and resources relating to the HE sector. The programme draws upon evidence-based strategies designed to support student progression, widen access and promote social mobility.

Enrolment is free and the programme is accredited by the CPD Certification Service.

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Topics include:
- An overview of the access and admissions landscape
- Supporting students’ progression to Higher Education and employment (with a focus on whole-school careers guidance)
- The role of HEIAG in schools and the importance of effective personal statement writing
- Strategies and resources designed to support students’ progress from academic, pastoral and extra-curricular perspectives
- The benefits of working in partnership with other organisations.

Reading Recovery / Reading Recovery is an accredited school-based literacy programme for the lowest achieving children aged five or six that enables them to reach age-expected levels within 20 weeks. The key to the successful implementation of Reading Recovery is in the model of professional development and quality assurance. The national infrastructure is led by Reading Recovery Europe, part of the International Literacy Centre at the Institute of Education.

The Access & WP Teacher and Professional Engagement team have committed to contributing some funding to the training costs for a number of teachers to train to become Reading Recovery teachers between 2017–2022.

For more information contact:
ioe.ilc@ucl.ac.uk
www.ucl.ac.uk/international-literacy/reading-recovery
Off-campus ACTIVITY

UCL Visits You /
Most of our activity happens on campus at UCL, however busy timetables and schedules mean a visit to central London is not always possible. As part of our commitment to connecting you to UCL, we’re happy to visit you and your colleagues on site at your school, college or academy. If you would like us to speak at a staff meeting or to talk about the activities on offer to your students please contact us on wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk

Teacher Takeaways and In-School Masterclasses /
We can also deliver Teacher Takeaways and In-School Masterclasses across the country in schools that are willing to host them on behalf of local authorities, teaching school alliances, multi academy trusts or school clusters. Hosting a Teacher Takeaway is a great way to support collaboration and build teacher networks across a geographical location, through subject areas, or between different sectors.

If you are interested in hosting a Teacher Takeaway at your school please contact us for more details about how we can support your event.

For more information on UCL Visits You activities contact wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk

“...IT FELT LIKE A TWO-WAY PROCESS – IN WHICH THE VIEWS OF THE TEACHERS/PRACTITIONERS WERE ALSO VALUABLE”
Teacher Summer School Participant

Networks

Professional Learning Network (PLN)
The Professional Learning Network (PLN) draws together academics, researchers, and teachers to explore pedagogies and tools that aim to close the attainment gap and support social mobility through education. Practising teachers form a powerful voice within the PLN, shaping content and the direction of the Network, which is open to teachers from all sectors (primary to post-16). A key aim of the PLN is to support collaboration between colleagues based on sector/subject specialism and also development/research interests.

The PLN forms part of UCL’s commitment to widening participation and fair access, is free to join, and is aimed at teachers working in state schools and colleges. Benefits include:

- Exclusive invitations to attend CPD events at UCL
- Access to Teacher Toolkits that support national curriculum subjects
- A half termly newsletter outlining opportunities for teachers and students at UCL

The chance to network with colleagues across the sectors

You can join the PLN at www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/pln
Get in touch with us...

Finding out more about our activities, or about widening participation at UCL is easy. You can get in touch with us at:

p 0203 108 8241 or 0203 108 6236

e wp.teachers@ucl.ac.uk

www.ucl.ac.uk/wp/teachers