

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance

Summary of 2020-21 to 2024-25 access and participation plan

What is an access and participation plan?

Access and participation plans set out how higher education providers will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented groups to access, succeed in and progress from higher education.

You can see the full access and participation plan for Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance at <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/about-us/governance/policies-and-freedom-of-information/access-and-participation/>

Key points [See pages 1-13 of the full plan]

Our Access and Participation Plan aims to make Trinity Laban's student population more diverse and representative of the UK population. In particular, data shows that we need to increase the number of students coming to the Conservatoire who are:

- From deprived areas and neighbourhoods where not many people go on to higher education
- From Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds
- Care leavers

We also need to improve outcomes for some groups of students once they are with us:

- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic students are more likely to drop out in their first year
- Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic students and students with a disability are less likely to achieve a degree award of 2.1 or above
- Graduates from neighbourhoods where not many people go on to higher education and graduates with a disability are less likely to progress to highly skilled employment

Fees we charge [see fee information appended to the plan]

At Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, the maximum fees charged are:

- £9,250 for full-time undergraduate degree programmes
- We do not offer part-time undergraduate degree programmes. We offer a part-time, one-year level 6 Certificate: The Practice of Music Making for which the fee in 2022-23 is £3,940.

You can see a full list of fees for programmes at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance at: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/fees-and-finance/>

Financial help available [see page 30]

We provide financial aid to students from low-income backgrounds. This helps students access higher education and continue studying until their course is completed. The support includes:

The Trinity Laban Undergraduate Bursary Scheme gives **an annual bursary** of £1,250 for the duration of the programme if a student's net household income is £30,000 or below.

An audition fee waiver for applicants from low income backgrounds. The Conservatoire will offer free audition/interview places to Contemporary Dance, Music and Musical Theatre programme applicants from low-income backgrounds who may not otherwise be able to make an application. Full details can be read here: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/fees-and-finance/audition-fee-waivers/>

The **Trinity Laban Welfare Fund** provides grants to students experiencing financial hardship. All students are eligible to apply to the fund, and awards are based on the difference between incomings and outgoings over a year.

Information for students [See page 29]

Prospective students receive information on our programmes, fees and financial support from our prospectus, our website and at in-person open days. This information covers:

- Course fees, including estimates of likely annual increases during the programme
- Illustrations of estimated living costs
- Details of financial support available throughout their programme

Enrolled students are sent financial information annually in August with their pre-registration packs. Advice is also posted on the student portal and in student handbooks.

Trinity Laban's Student Services Department provides financial information and guidance to both prospective and enrolled students.

For the most up-to-date information, see our website: <https://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/study/fees-and-finance/>

What we are aiming to achieve [See pages 12-13]

Our overall aims are to remove barriers to engagement with the Conservatoire; to close gaps in participation and achievement between groups; and to meet the needs of all our students.

Based on assessment of our performance, we have identified the following areas on which to focus our work:

Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic students – By 2025, we shall:

- Increase the percentage of entrants from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds to 20%
- Eliminate any difference in the continuation rates of White and Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic students
- Halve the difference between the percentage of White and of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic students receiving a good degree of 2.1 or above, and eliminate the gap by 2030

Disabled students – By 2025, we shall:

- Eliminate the gap in progression to highly skilled employment for disabled students
- Eliminate the gap between the percentage of disabled students receiving a good degree of 2.1 or above and those with no disability

Students from deprived and low participation neighbourhoods – We shall:

- Increase the percentage of entrants from low participation neighbourhoods to 40% by 2030 and from most deprived areas to 20% by 2025
- Eliminate the gap in progression to highly skilled employment for students from low participation neighbourhoods by 2030

Care leavers – By 2025, we shall double the number of care leavers among our students

We also intend to increase the diversity of our teaching staff, improve our use of data and evidence, and make sure our whole institution understands and promotes our commitments in our Access and Participation Plan.

What we are doing to achieve our aims [See pages 13 – 25]

We are taking forward a broad programme of activity to deliver our Access and Participation successfully which focuses on our specialist expertise in dance, music and musical theatre, including:

- **Targeted work with schools** to support pupils' engagement, progression and attainment in music and dance – this helps young people from under-represented groups to access our art forms and develop the skills to move on to higher education study
- **Work with external partners** such as local authorities, orchestras and arts companies, arts-based charities and other higher and further education providers to increase and widen participation in music and dance
- Providing **out of school classes and projects** locally to give young people sustained access to high quality dance and music training, and **extending the reach** of our work to areas of the country with fewer opportunities in our art forms
- **Developing new and flexible routes** into study at Trinity Laban
- **Co-research with students** to understand and address reasons behind different outcomes between groups of students
- **Financial aid and advice** for students with low incomes including bursaries and hardship funds

How students can get involved [See pages 26 - 27]

Students are widely involved in discussion, delivery and evaluation of access and participation work at Trinity Laban. Students helped us to prepare the Plan through workshops and as representatives on steering groups and committees.

Students can contact the Students' Union #StudentUnion@trinitylaban.ac.uk to find out more about representing student views on access and participation.

The variety of opportunities to be involved in access and participation projects and research programmes are communicated to all students by the relevant departments via email bulletins, the student portal, noticeboards and classroom announcements.

Evaluation – how we will measure what we have achieved [See pages 27-29]

We have decided our activities using evidence from our own research and evaluation findings, national guidance on what works, and from our active engagement in arts and arts education sector forums and networks. We shall use data, research and feedback to monitor how well our programme of work is succeeding and to change things if we need to in the best interests of our students. Our evaluation will cover:

- The design of our programme
- The impact of our projects
- The impact of our programme on achieving the aims, milestones and targets in our plan

Our Access and Participation Steering Group oversees the evaluation programme, reporting on activity and results to the Learning and Teaching Board. Progress reports on performance against targets, investment and delivery commitments are reviewed by the Principal's Management Group, the senior Executive body of the Institution, and then presented to the Board of Governors.

Contact details for further information

You can email Contact@trinitylaban.ac.uk for further information.

Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
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