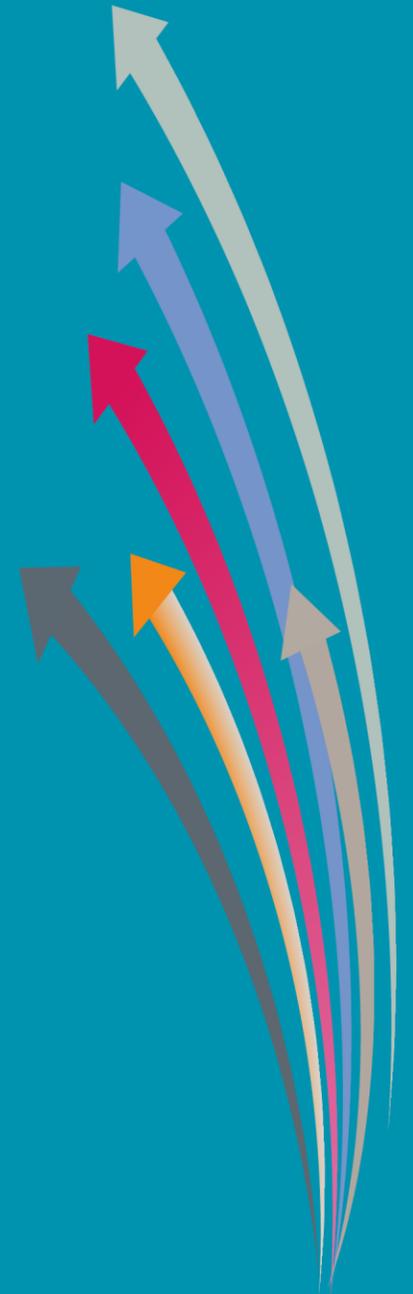


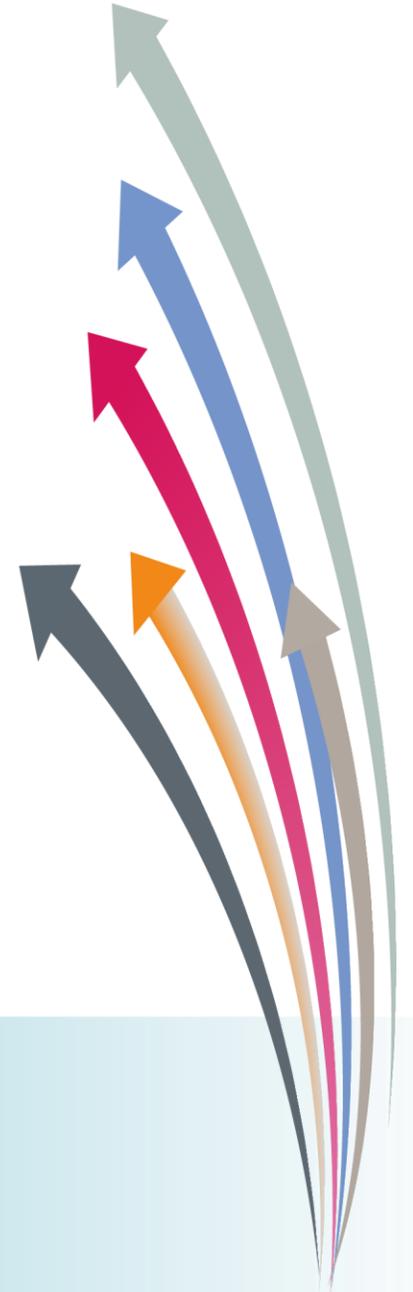
A whole institution approach to Social Mobility

Nicola Sinclair and Dr Anna Mountford-Zimdars
Directors, Centre for Social Mobility



Introduction

- Context
- Key themes for HE providers
- Building a whole institution approach
- Centre for Social Mobility
- Evidence based practice



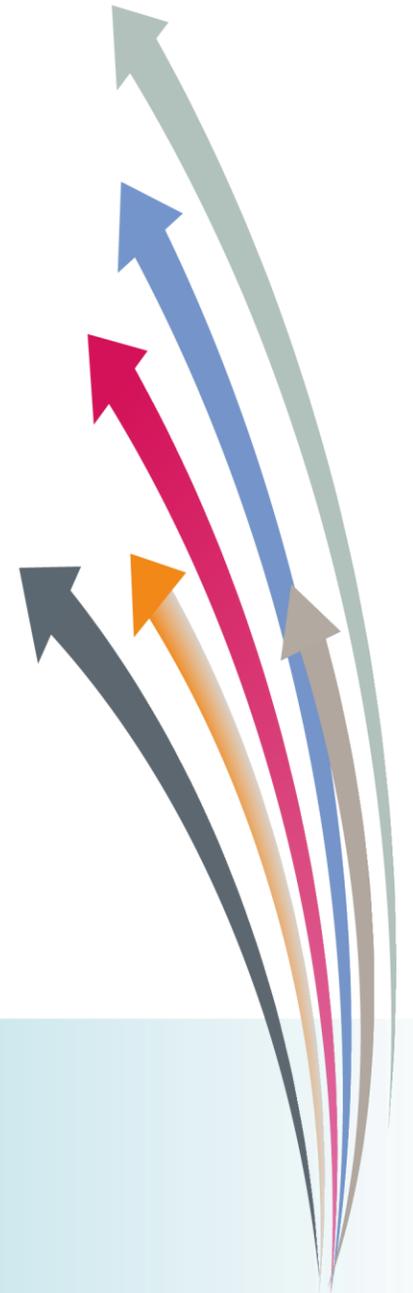
There is a fracture line running deep through our labour and housing markets and our education system. Those on the wrong side of this divide are losing out and falling behind.

There remains an entrenched and unbroken correlation between social class and educational success In short Britain's deep social mobility problem, for this generation of young people in particular, is getting worse not better.



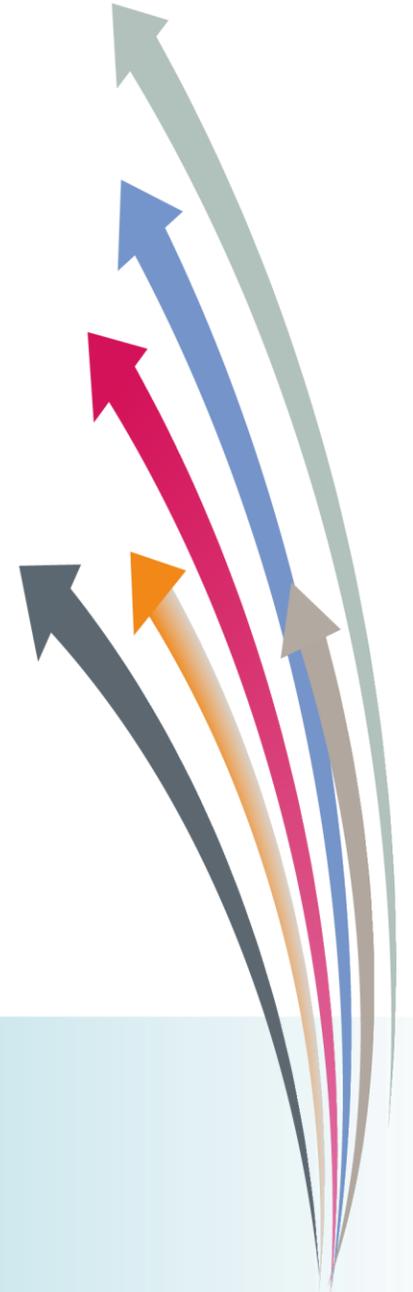
What do we mean by social mobility?

- Just 5 per cent of children eligible for free school meals gain 5 A grades at GCSE.
- Advantaged 18 yr-olds are x 2.5 more likely to enter HE; x 6 to the most selective institutions
- Only 6% of doctors, 12% of chief executives and 12% of journalists today are from working-class origins.

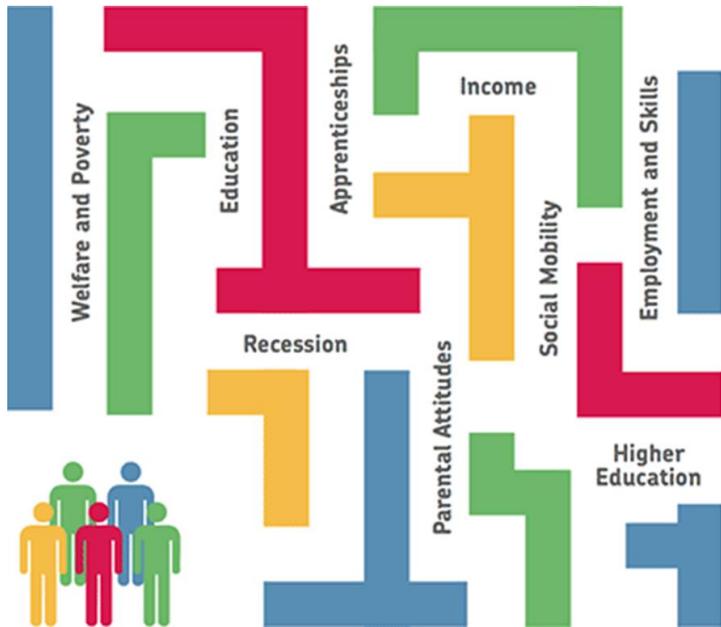


Local context: Is this relevant to us?

- 59 neighbourhoods within the most deprived 10% of areas in England – Stonehouse in 1% most deprived
- Includes 23% of England's coastal communities – Torrington highest unemployment; with Torbay and North Devon are amongst 10 worst for pay
- West Somerset – the worst performing area for social mobility - is on our doorstep

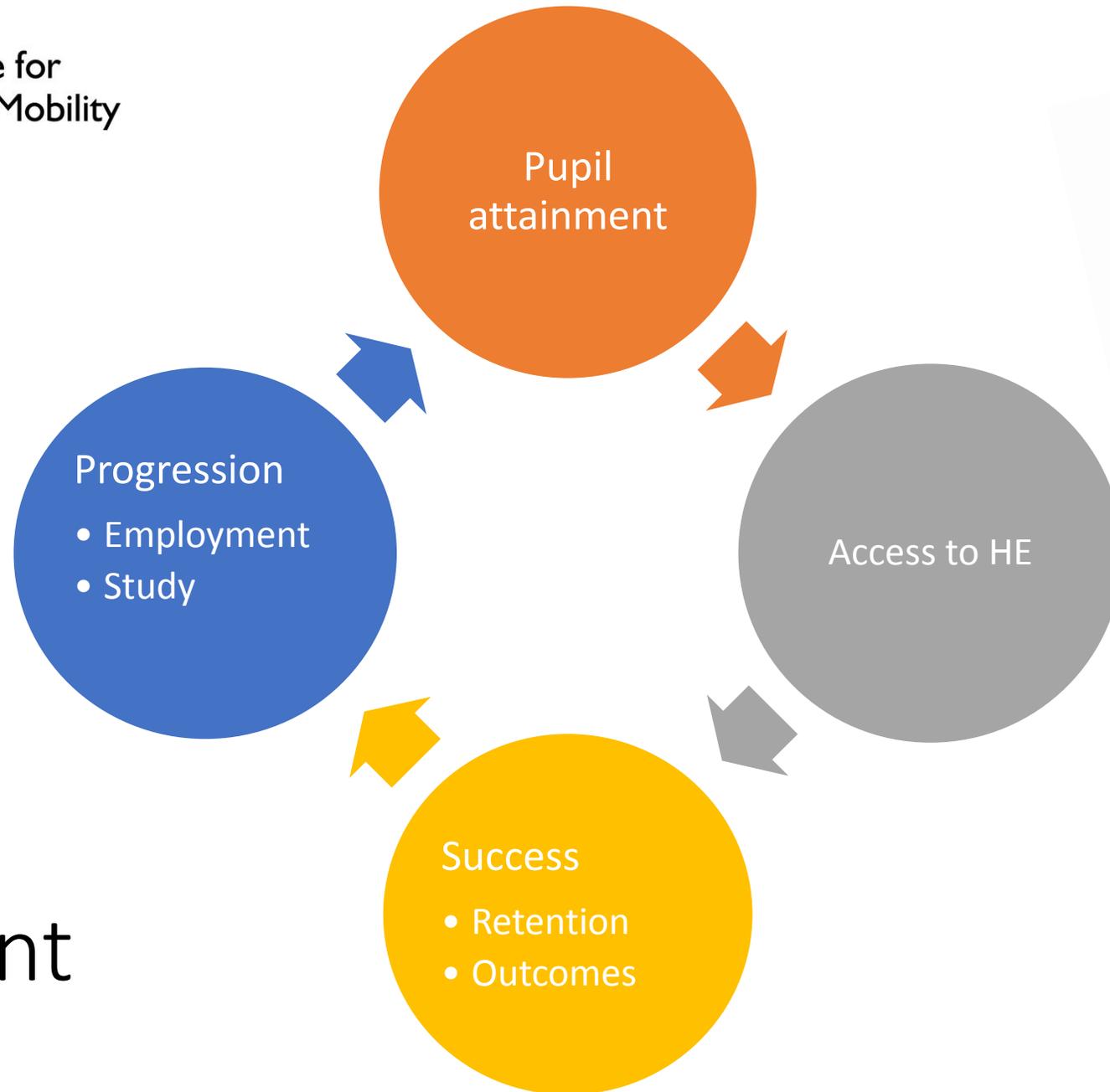


Implications for UoE



- Right and ethical thing to do
- Central to our regulatory and performance framework
- Bottom line / licence to operate depend on our impact
- OfS expectations are high
- **WP is not a marginal activity**





Theme 1: Whole student lifecycle

“I didn’t feel like I was disadvantaged until I started university

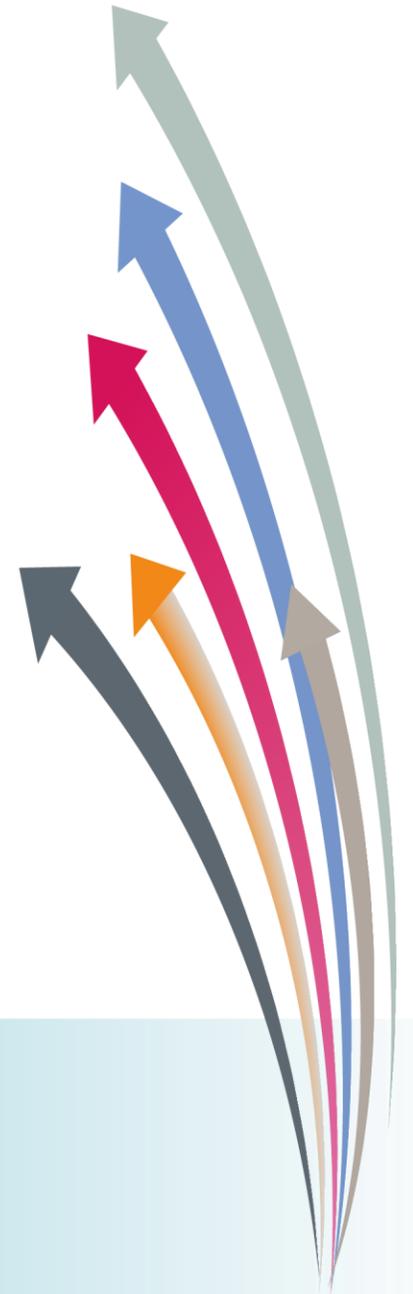


Theme 2: Broadening definition

Disadvantaged and/or under-represented

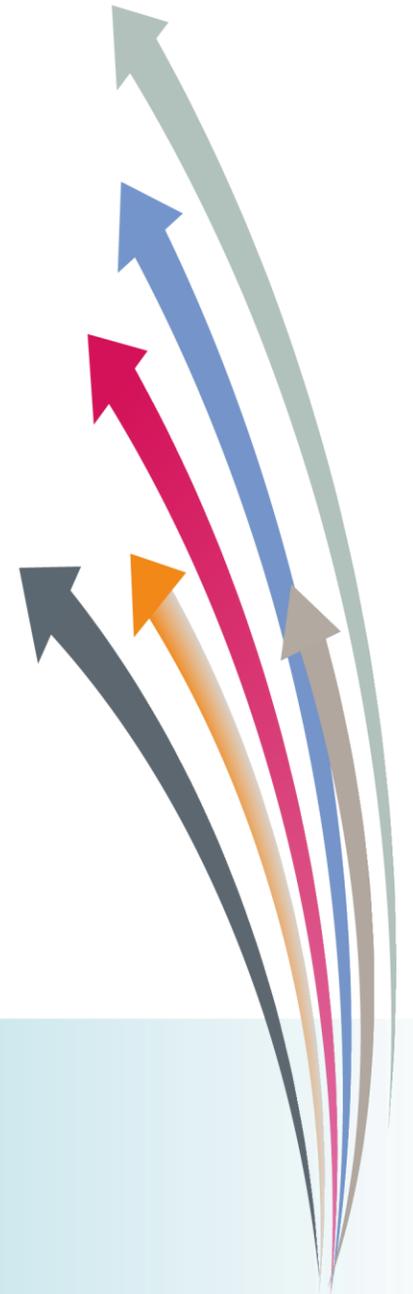


- Household income
- Low socio economic
- Neighbourhood
- Ethnicity
- Disability /learning difficulties/ASD
- Carers
- Care leavers
- Mature
- Gender
- First generation
- Refugee/asylum
- Military families



Theme 3: Evidence-based practice

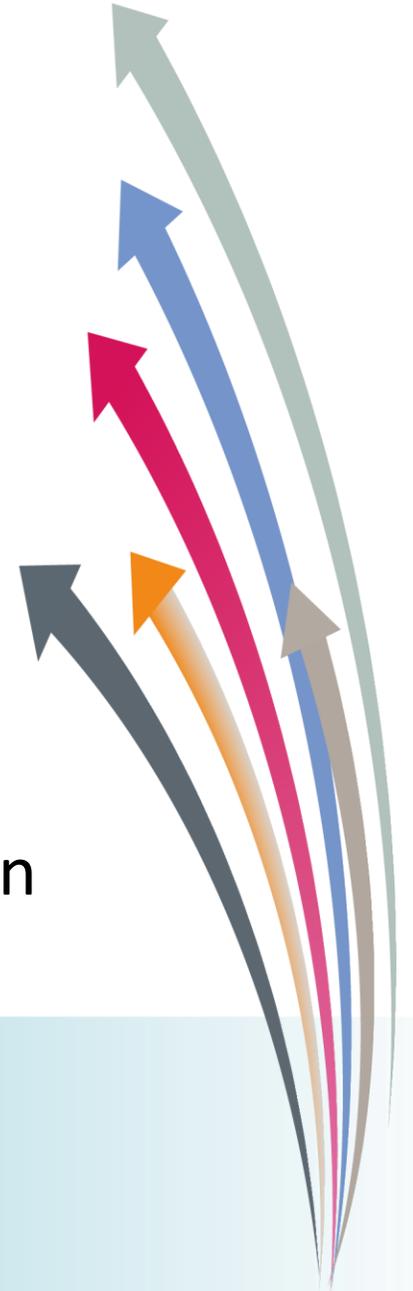
- Activity \neq impact
- Informed decision-making
- OfS will apply much higher level of scrutiny
- Investment reflects priorities
- Evaluation - proof we are making a difference

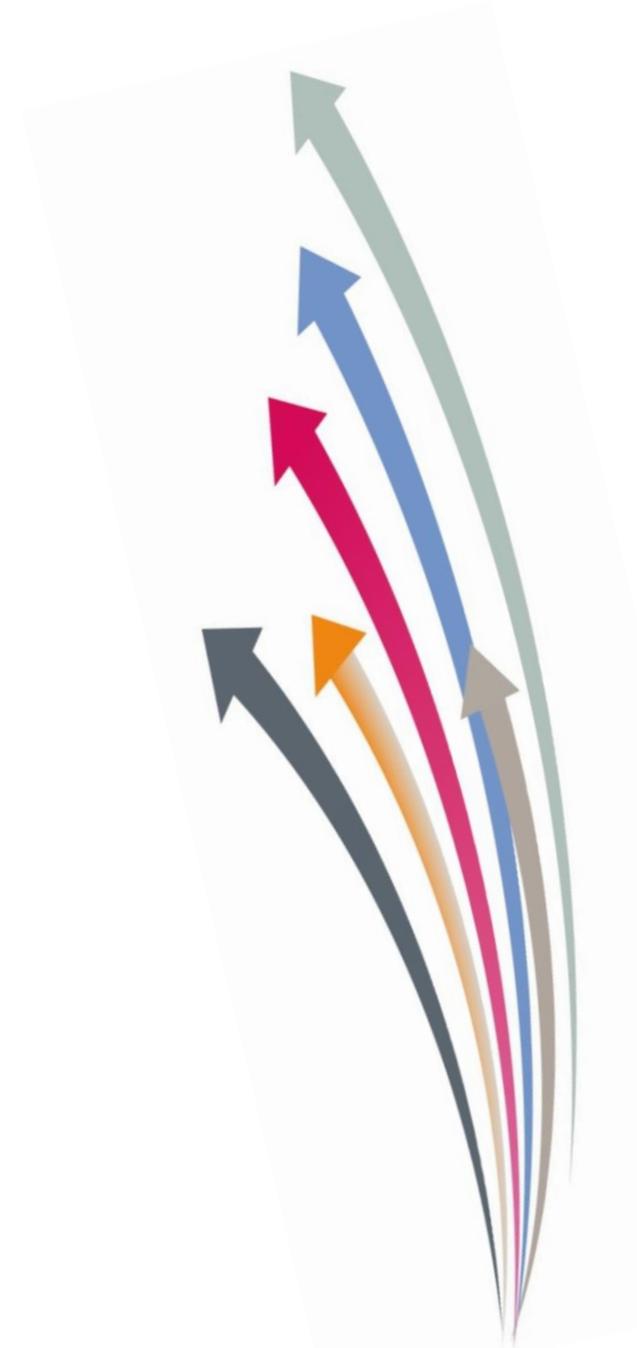
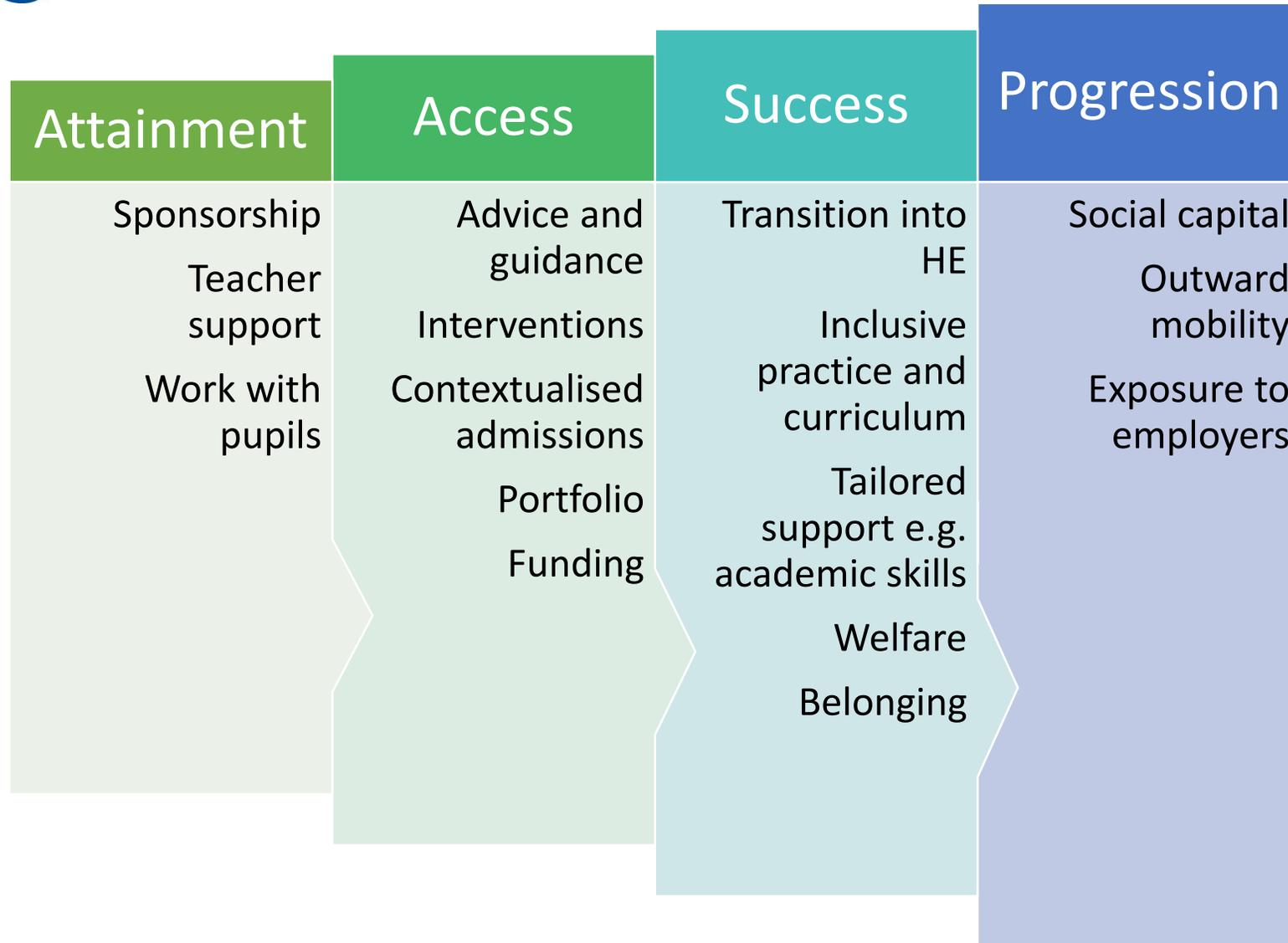


Theme 4: Whole institution approach



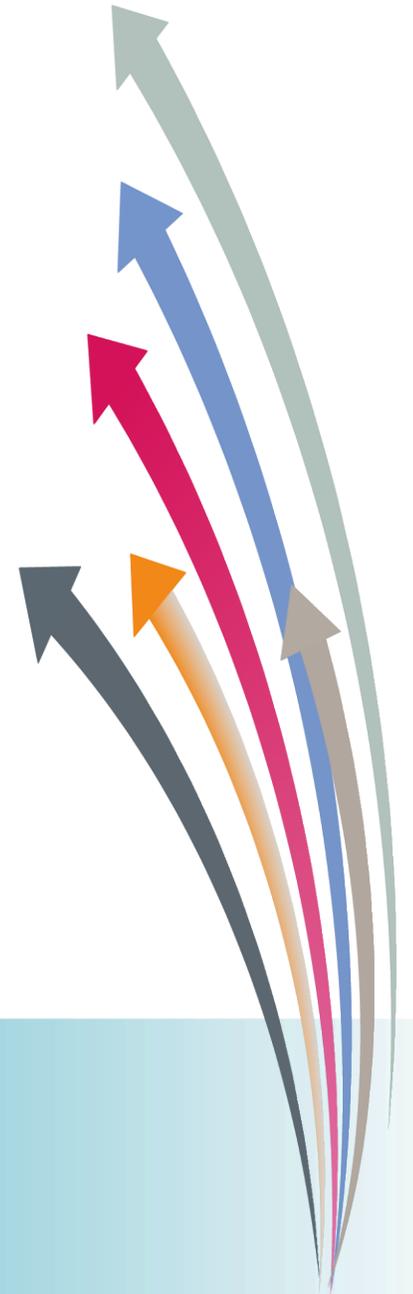
- WP embedded across the student lifecycle
- Top level commitment across the organisation; prioritised; planned
- Co-ordinated / seamless student experience
- Shared ownership/resources
- Knowledge, learning and recognition
- Decision-making is evidence driven





So how does UoE measure up?

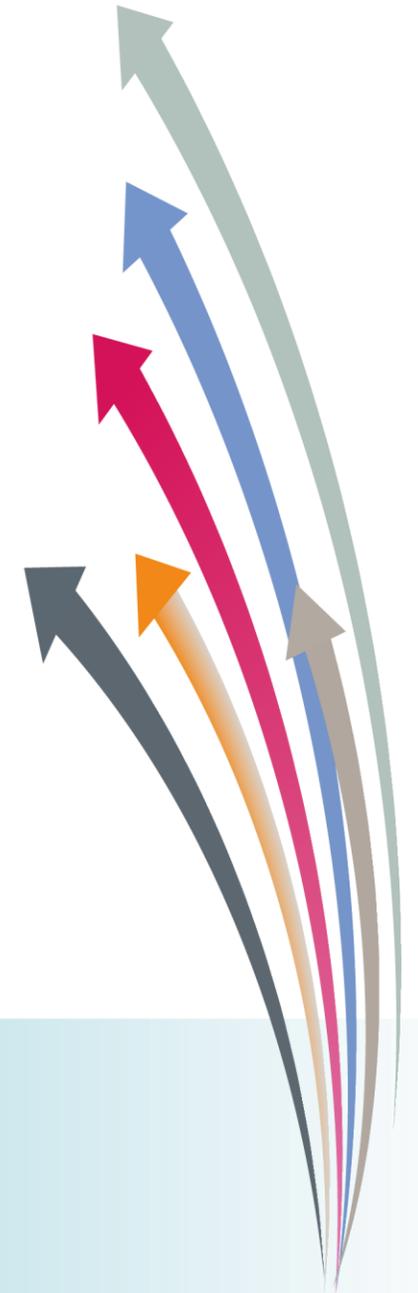
- **Is WP across the student lifecycle?**
 - School sponsorship
 - Coherent fair access programmes drawing on best practice / evaluation
 - Contextualised admissions
 - Transition support
 - Dedicated resources – academic skills, employability, peer support, welfare



Prioritised, planned?

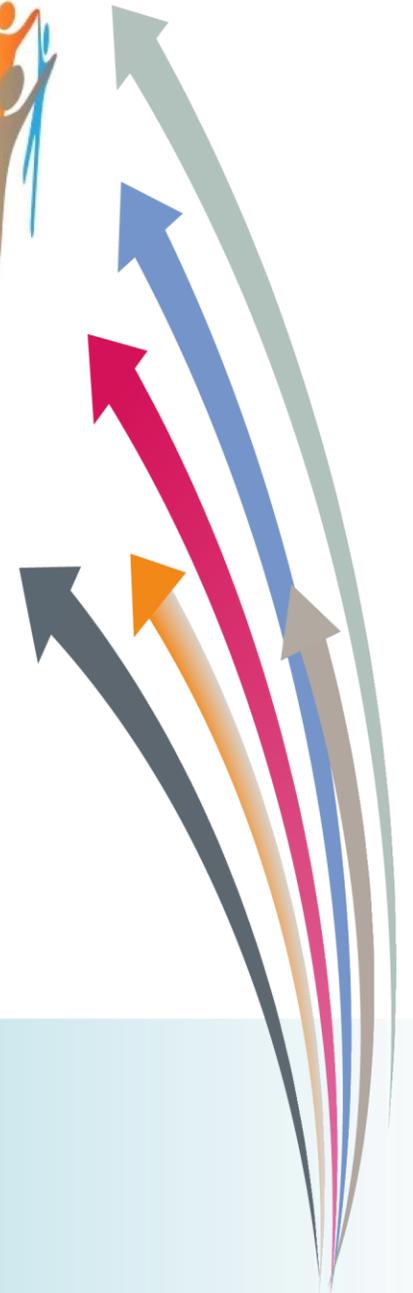


- High level commitment
- Access & Participation Plan investing £14m 20/21
- Core to developing Education Strategy – student hubs, learning analytics, tutor support
- Governance structure / implementation plan
- New college support and plans
- Developing business intelligence and datasets



Joined up?

- Improving transparency and governance
- Sharing/developing best practice across teams/Colleges
- Increasing examples of joint working between teams e.g. transition, fundraising, carers policy, estranged students
- Developing research and links to practice

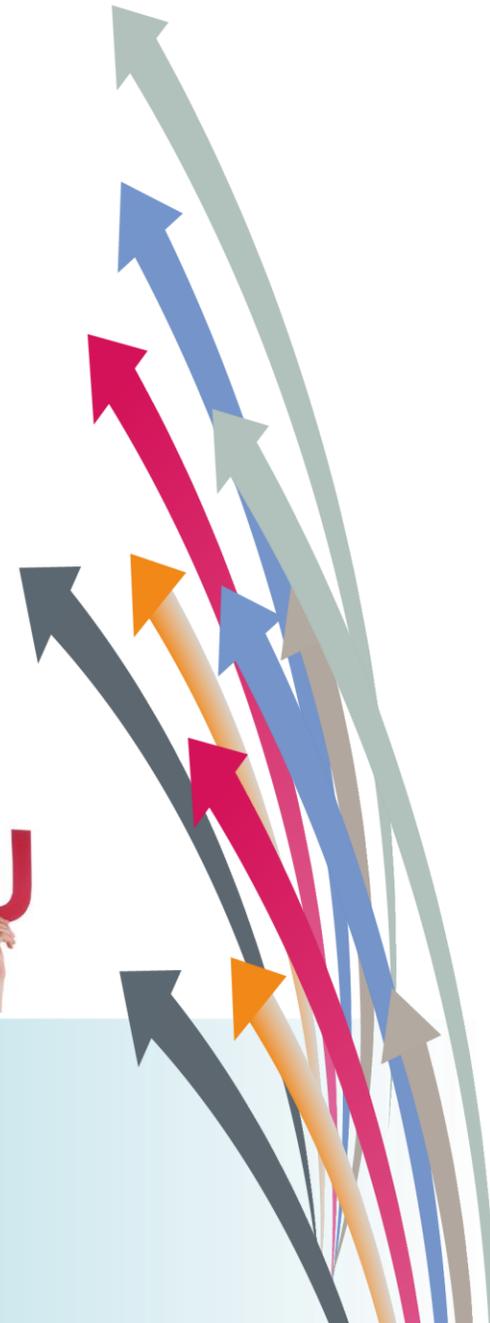


And there is a lot more to do ...

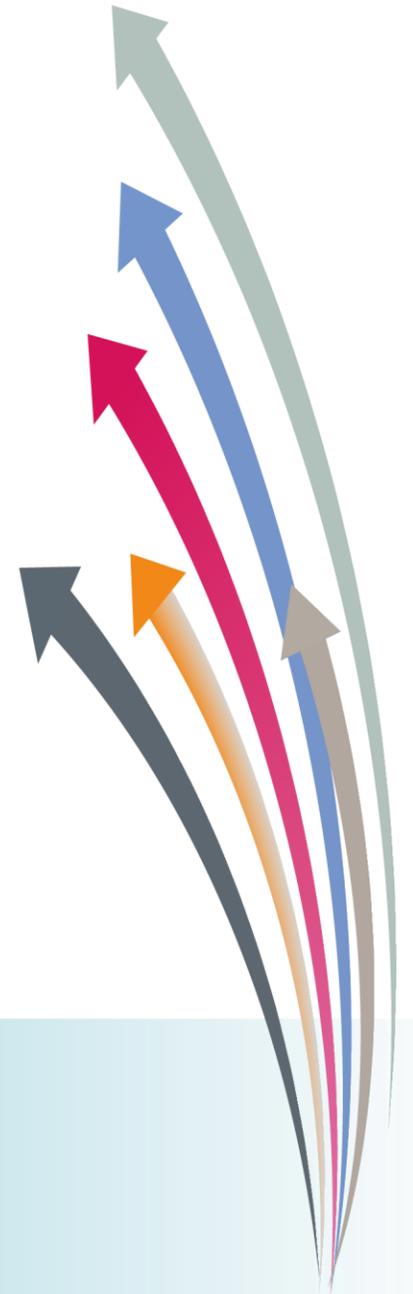
- **How can you help?**
 - Help us join the dots
 - Be a Social Mobility champion
 - Share your knowledge, expertise and skills to support this agenda



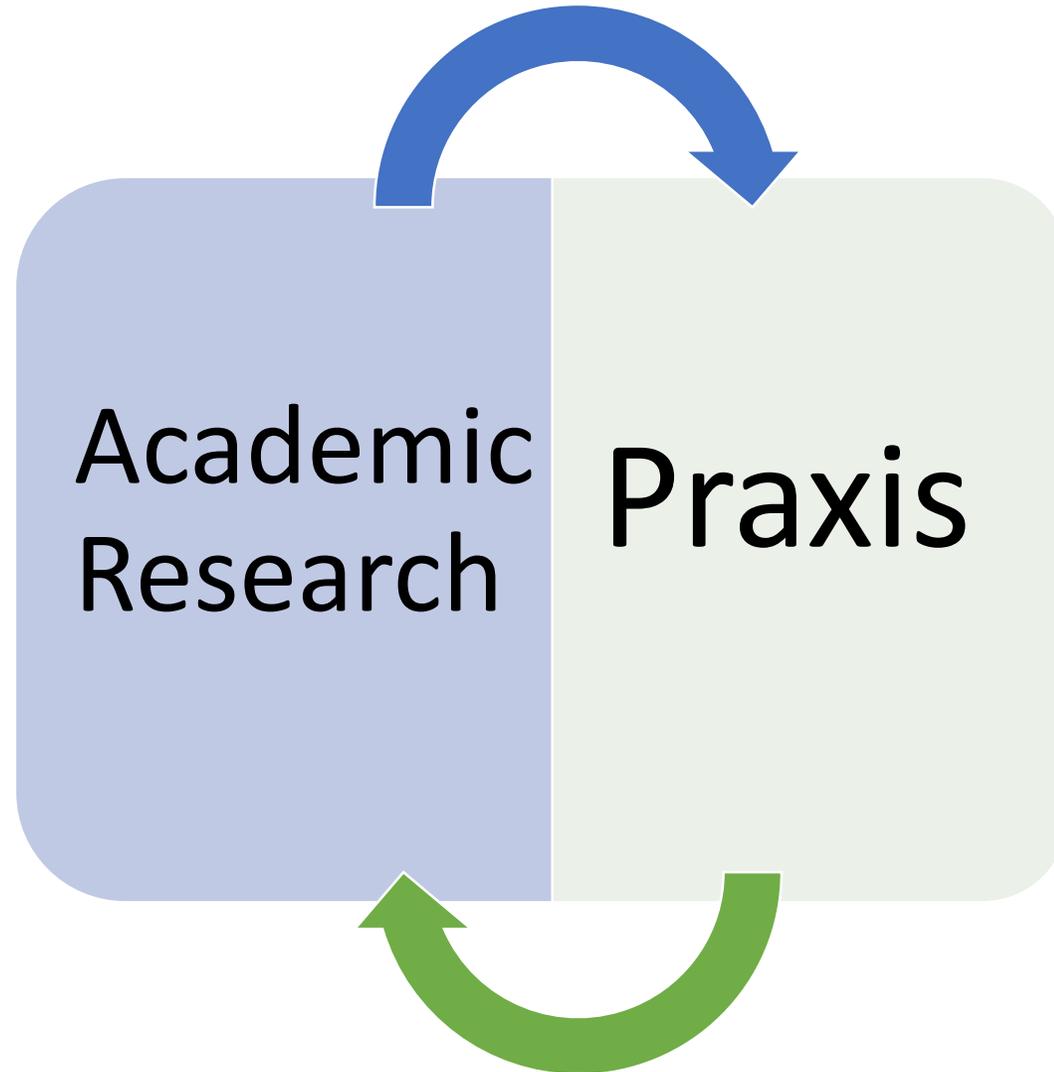
WE WANT YOU



Introducing the Centre for Social Mobility



Our Vision



Combine practice and research insights

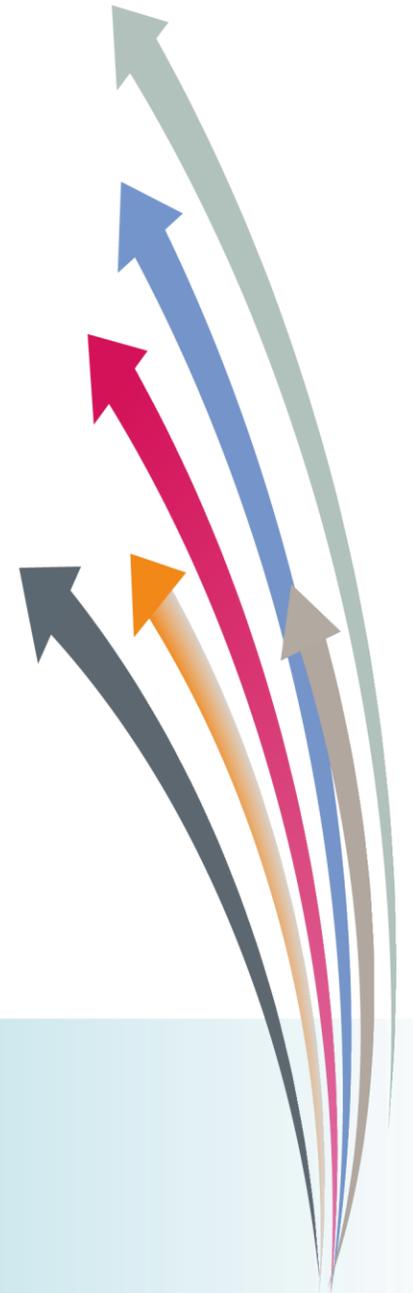
... for the benefits of students, prospective students, staff and partners to support social mobility through higher education



How we will achieve this

Building a Community of practice

- Nurture dialogue and new ideas between students, researchers, practitioners and stakeholders
- Provide context and support for developing new evidence-based ideas for practice and research



How we will achieve this

Through our centre membership

Academic and Student Members

from

- GSE
- Q-Steps
- Medical Education
-
- *indeed, anyone can join!*

Practitioner Professionals

from

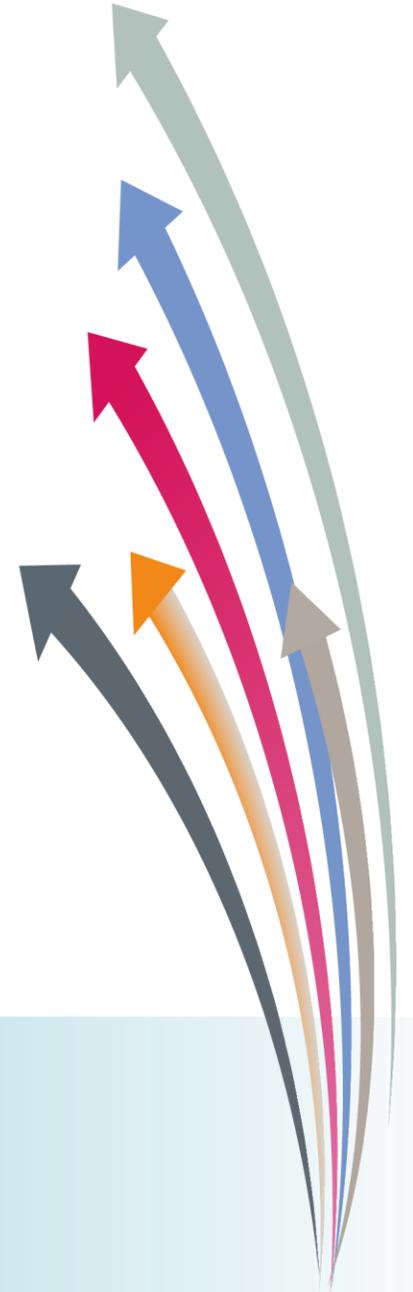
- Widening Participation
- Student Recruitment
- Academic Skills
- Employability
- Admissions
- Welfare
- ...
- *Others with an interest*



How we will achieve this

Building and sharing research and practice evidence

- Undertake institutional research
- Undertake externally funded research
- Conferences, talks, a network, centre meetings



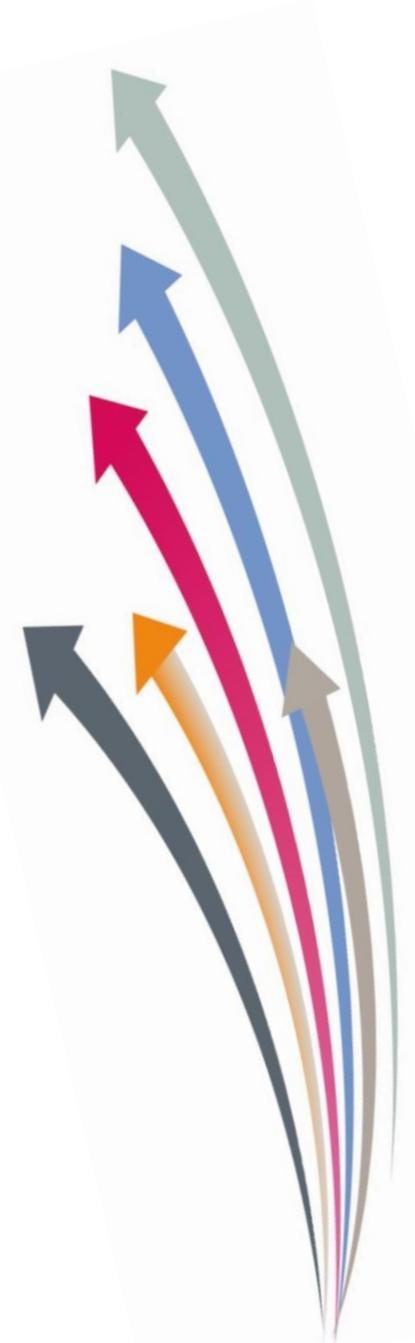


Please Come and Talk to Us:
Get to know us
Ideas
Advice
funding

WELCOME

Our Research Ambitions

- Applied policy research that develops resources with practitioners
- Theoretically rooted Research that relates to real-world issues in social mobility
- Empirical Research
 - Quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods
 - Ranging from large-scale data analysis to studies with several students
- Our research scope is:
 - Institutional, national, international
 - Pre-university, at university, post-university (access, success, progress)
 - Fundamental research into processes relevant to social mobility



Our Practice Ambitions

- Operationalise this research to have real impact for students
 - In access, progression, success
- Develop research questions in light of real life problems
- Ensure practice is based on evidence and robustly evaluated
- Use the national policy context as an opportunity to advance the student access and support agenda at Exeter



Our Hopes for Today

- Provide opportunities to meet others with an interest in social mobility
- Give a flavour of research and practice activities that are happening
- Launch the centre for Social Mobility with invitation to join us
- **Have an interesting day full of new ideas for practice and research!**

