

## 1. Assessment of performance

The School believes in the “unique artistic voice and the transformative power of the artist within society” developed through “a learning and teaching environment enriched by a diverse creative community”.<sup>1</sup> Since a diverse creative community is fundamental to its core strategic objectives, the School seeks to recruit, educate and train students from all walks of life both nationally and globally. The School has an open admissions policy<sup>2</sup>; regardless of previous qualifications, all who apply are auditioned, interviewed or have their portfolio considered by teaching staff. For those unable to meet the minimum entrance qualifications<sup>3</sup> there is an alternative non-standard entry procedure. The School has a good track record of making offers to those from under-represented groups as a proportion of those who apply but its performance in terms of the diversity of new entrants is hampered by the relatively low numbers of applicants from these groups.

There has been an ongoing decline in arts education, particularly in music, for a number of decades. Recently, this decline has been more acute with A level music entries in 2018 25.4% lower than in 2014 (against a 2.6% decline over the same period for A-level entries overall) and higher grade achievement has also been lower (20% of pupils achieved A\*-A grades in music compared with 26.4% for all subjects).<sup>4</sup> Similarly, there has been a decline in the uptake of music at GCSE level, with a decline of 22% in music GCSE entries between 2010 and 2018 and a 15.1% decrease since 2016.<sup>5</sup> Similar decline has been noted in entries for GCSE design and technology and performing and expressive arts, including drama. This decline impacts on the School’s potential pool of applicants, particularly from state schools.

The School, however, has not let this decline go by without committed action. Not only does it provide alternative under eighteen arts education in partnership with local music hubs, host schools and funding bodies via its Guildhall Young Artist provision (noted later), the School and its close neighbour and partner, the Barbican Centre, are both strong advocates for arts education, and their joint Creative Learning Department<sup>6</sup> has a particularly active voice (and will be hosting in 2020 a major national conference with the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) around the Creative Curriculum).

*Note on data analysis below: The School is very small and its total new entrant UK domiciled undergraduate population has not been more than 160 in any of the last five years in the data supplied by the OfS. This makes any analysis very difficult for two reasons: (i) the data provided by HESA to the OfS and then to the School has been rounded up or down (3s have become 5s and 2s have become 0s) and it is difficult to see the actual performance in some years for some categories, and (ii) with very small numbers as the starting point when the data is then sub-divided (e.g. BAME subdivided into Asian, Black or Mixed) statistical analysis is not always possible or meaningful. This also makes analysis across multiple characteristics extremely problematic. However, it emphasises the need for the School to make progress in recruiting students from under-represented groups as the priority. It should also be noted that the School only offers full honours degree programmes and has no part-time undergraduate provision; all data referenced is, therefore, for “all undergraduate” full-time.*

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<sup>1</sup> Guildhall School of Music & Drama: A Conservatoire for the 21st Century – see [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/fileadmin/user\\_upload/files/Policies\\_and\\_Reports/Guildhall\\_School\\_Strategic\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/fileadmin/user_upload/files/Policies_and_Reports/Guildhall_School_Strategic_Plan.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/fileadmin/user\\_upload/files/Policies\\_and\\_Reports/Admissions\\_Policy\\_revised\\_Dec\\_2016\\_reviewed\\_Jan\\_2018.pdf](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/fileadmin/user_upload/files/Policies_and_Reports/Admissions_Policy_revised_Dec_2016_reviewed_Jan_2018.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Two E grades at A level or equivalent

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ism.org/news/a-level-results-day-further-decline-in-music-uptake-1>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ism.org/news/gcse-results-day-2018-uptake-of-music-down-by>

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/youth\\_adult\\_learning/creative\\_learning/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/youth_adult_learning/creative_learning/)

## 1.1 Higher education participation, household income, or socioeconomic status

### 1.1.1 Access

#### (i) *Low participation neighbourhoods*

The School continues to struggle attracting UK domiciled students from low participation neighbourhoods. Its HESA performance indicator for POLAR 3<sup>7</sup> shows improvement from 2016/17 to 2017/18 but a performance still significantly below benchmark (5% against a location adjusted benchmark of 8.8%). The POLAR 4 data<sup>8</sup> shows that the new entrants ratio for students from quintiles 3 to 5 versus quintiles 1 & 2 has not improved over the five year period to 2017/18 (despite an improvement in year 3). The gap<sup>9</sup> between quintile 5 and quintile 1 is statistically significant ranging from 34.7% (2015/16) to 47.4% (2013/14); the gap for 2017/18 was 41.5% compared with a sector average of 18.3%.

#### (ii) *Indices of multiple deprivation*

The School has not had access to this data until recently as part of the preparation for the new transparency return. The data shows that for 2018/19 entry 25.7% of the School's English applicants came from a postcode within the lower two quintiles for multiple indices of deprivation, and 27.5% of new entrants (a good conversion). This is an indicator the School will monitor as more year on year data becomes available. Once we have three years' worth of new entrant data we can consider whether this would be a better indicator than POLAR 4 in terms of the reliability of identifying disadvantage individuals specific to our location and context.

### 1.1.2 Success

#### 1.1.2 (i) *Continuation*

The School performed better than its benchmark<sup>10</sup> for the continuation of all undergraduate UK domiciled new entrants in 2016/17.

For POLAR 4<sup>8</sup>, students from quintiles 1 & 2 have out-performed students from quintiles 3 to 5 in three of the last five years (2013/14 to 2015/16), and had a better continuation rate than the national average for each of the last four years. The average gap over 5 years was zero. There is no data in the OfS data set for the School's gap between quintile 5 and quintile 1 due to small numbers.<sup>11</sup> The sector gap average over five years between quintile 5 and quintile 1 is 4.7.

#### 1.1.2 (ii) *Attainment*

In the OfS data set there is no data showing the gap between quintile 5 and quintile 1. The gap between quintiles 3-5 and quintiles 1 & 2 was 10.9 in 2016/17 (year 4) and 0.9 in 2017/18 (year 5) there is no data available for the other years. Absolute performance for POLAR 4 quintiles 1 & 2 was showing 85.7% and 92.9% respectively for achievement of the higher degree classifications.

Whilst the gaps in year 4 and 5 were not considered statistically significant, the gap in year 4 was more pronounced and the School needs to achieve a more consistent performance. However, in both years 4 and 5 the School's performance for quintiles 1 & 2 was significantly better than the national performance of 75.2% and 76.4% respectively.

### 1.1.3 Progression to employment or further study

Available POLAR 4 data over the five-year period is limited.<sup>8</sup> However, for 2016/17 there is data for both quintile groups 1 & 2 and 3 to 5. With above average DLHE response rates for both groups, performance in terms of progression to further study or employment was significantly higher in absolute terms than the national performance rate, with an 84.6% progression for

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/news/07-02-2019/widening-participation-tables>

<sup>8</sup> OfS data set

<sup>9</sup> OfS Key Performance Measure (KPM); KPM 1

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/news/07-03-2019/non-continuation-tables>

<sup>11</sup> KPM 3

quintiles 1 & 2 and 87.8% for quintiles 3 to 5, but with the same performance gap (3.2) as the sector.

## 1.2 Black, Asian and minority ethnic students

### 1.2.1 Access

The proportion of new entrants from BAME communities was above target in 2017/18 and 2018/19<sup>12</sup> (as set out in the School's earlier Access Agreements) at 18.2% and 14.6% respectively. There is a good correlation for the School as a whole between the proportion of new entrants and the proportion of applicants from BAME communities (14.7% and 14.1% of UK domiciled applicants for 2017 and 2018 entry respectively<sup>13</sup>) with 2017/18 showing a particularly strong conversion rate (in both years there is a higher proportion of BAME entrants than applicants). However, in absolute terms when using the OfS data set this performance was significantly below the sector average which has seen circa 30% of new entrants from BAME communities over the last few years. An analysis of new entrant performance at programme level indicates a mixed performance across the disciplines.<sup>12</sup>

In the OfS data, the average gap over the five-year period was 72.78 compared with a sector average over the same period of 41.78. In 2017/18 the ratio of white new entrants to BAME new entrants was 4.5:1; when this is subdivided the ratio was 9.3:1 for black new entrants and 130:1 for Asian students.<sup>14</sup> The School recognises the need to make progress in respect of Asian students and will align its access activities towards this end. However, given the very small numbers, for the immediate future it will focus on recruitment targets for the broader BAME group. Looking ahead, the School will consider in year 3 of the plan, if sufficient data is available, the appropriateness of a target for Asian new entrants to meet or exceed the levels found elsewhere in Creative Arts and Design subjects (4.6% Asian undergraduate full-time students in 2017/18 across all year groups<sup>15</sup>).

### 1.2.2 Success

#### 1.2.2 (i) Continuation

In the OfS data set, there is a small gap between the non-continuation rate of white students and the non-continuation rate of BAME students but it is not statistically significant. There is no data for the gap in performance between white and BAME students for 2 of the 5 years, and where there is data the highest gap was 7.6 and the lowest gap was 3.5 (compared with sector performance in those years of 1.7 and 2.7 respectively). The School's gap for the latest OfS data year, 2016/17, was 4.7. In two of the three reporting years, where there is data, the School's continuation rate for BAME students was higher than the sector average for BAME, including the latest data year. However, there have been fluctuations in the absolute performance of BAME students and the School needs to achieve a more consistent performance.

The BAME numbers are too small to disaggregate into ethnicity type. Looking ahead, the School will consider in year 3 of the plan, if sufficient data is available, the appropriateness of a target specific for Asian students.

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<sup>12</sup> School data sets have been used as 2018/19 entry data has not yet been returned in HESA.

<sup>13</sup> School data sets have been used as the School is not part of UCAS.

<sup>14</sup> "Asian" is a broad term and includes students identifying as Asian or Asian British – Indian, Asian or Asian British – Pakistani, Asian or Asian British – Bangladeshi, Chinese and other Asian background

<sup>15</sup> HESA <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/students/whos-in-he/characteristics>

### 1.2.2 (ii) Attainment

There is only comparative data in the OfS data set for years 4 and 5, showing there is a small gap in year 4 (2016/17) between the attainment rate of white students and the attainment rate of BAME students and a larger gap in year 5 (2017/18) but they are not statistically significant; with gaps of 2.2 and 13.2 for years 4 and year 5 respectively (compared with sector performance for those years 13.8 and 13.2 respectively). Again numbers are too small to disaggregate and there is no OfS data for the gap between white students and black students only.<sup>16</sup> The attainment in absolute terms of the School's BAME students has been significantly better than the sector performance in both 2016/17 and 2017/18, and in 2016/17 performance was significantly better than the sector average for white students. The gap in performance in year 5 (2017/18), whilst not statistically significant, is a potential area of concern. The respective performance of BAME and white students will be monitored to see whether this is an outlier result or the beginning of a trend. It may be necessary in the future to set a target but currently there is insufficient data.

The BAME numbers are too small to disaggregate into ethnicity type. Looking ahead, the School will consider in year 3 of the plan, if sufficient data is available and suggests a concern, the appropriateness of a target specific for Asian students.

### 1.2.3 Progression to employment or further study

There is only OfS data for all groups for year 5 (2016/17). The progression of BAME students to employment or further study was better (at 92.9%) than it was for white students (at 85.4%). Both rates are significantly above the sector average. The School gap in 2016/17 was minus 7.5, comparing positively to the sector gap of 3.9.

## 1.3 Mature students

### 1.3.1 Access

The School's undergraduate new entrants are predominantly under 21, and the OfS data shows that the proportion of new entrants over 21 years of age on entry is less than the sector average, ranging from 8.5% to 13.4% in the last five years, with 11.3% in 2017/18 against a sector performance of 27.8% for full-time students. The gap is considered significant with a five-year average of 76.6 compared with the sector average of 46.74. When the over 21 years on entry age group is broken down further, the students are predominantly under 31 years of age.

Whilst the School encourages and supports any mature student wishing to study here, and through the Access Bursary has made special provision to support "independent" students, the undergraduate programme offer is by its nature less likely to be attractive to the older age group who are more likely to have competing commitments. "Drive time" and the ability to live at home are factors for mature applicants<sup>17</sup> and, additionally, mature applicants are typically drawn to a smaller range of degree courses, predominantly subjects allied to medicine (including nursing) and education (although Creative Arts & Design subjects are very slightly more popular amongst mature applicants than some subjects).<sup>17</sup>

- (a) The School's conservatoire model of training for the professions is intensive and only full-time at undergraduate level. Whether studying music, production arts or acting all the programmes are intensive and currently extend over 36 weeks of term-time. There is a strong ensemble ethos and students work together on projects from the outset (from small scale chamber music projects, to jazz bands, to large drama productions and full-size orchestra rehearsals). The School does not have the space resources to replicate these programmes or projects on an economic scale to run them at half speed for twice the length of time for a part-time mode (nor is it likely that there

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<sup>16</sup> KPM 4

<sup>17</sup> UCAS: Admissions patterns for mature applicants 2017 cycle [June 2018] see <https://www.ucas.com/file/175936/download?token=UVSBJLVD>

would be sufficient interest for academic or financial viability to fill the programmes even if the space was available). HESA data shows<sup>18</sup> that within Creative Arts & Design subjects where part-time is offered, mature students comprise over 87% of the total UK student body compared with 36% of the full-time student body.

- (b) The School has an open admissions policy and will consider non-standard entry for those without formal qualifications at taught postgraduate level as well as undergraduate. For instance, an established musician without formal qualification could find a place on the extended Guildhall Artist Masters programme with recognition of prior experiential learning, rather than starting their musical journey from scratch on the BMus.

Whilst the School will do its utmost to support mature entrants, setting a target does not seem appropriate in the context of the School's offer. However, it committed in its 2019/20 Access & Participation Plan to look at the pattern of offers and enrolments to establish whether there were any patterns of concern and this remains a commitment under this plan.

### **1.3.2 Success**

#### *1.3.2.2 (i) Continuation*

OfS data is not available for all years for mature students and numbers are too small to break down the mature student group further. For the three years' OfS data that is available, mature students have underperformed when compared against those under 21 years on entry but the gap is not considered significant (small numbers again). For those years where there is data, the School's mature students performed in concrete terms better than the sector in two years and the same as the sector in the third year. However, the gap has been mixed, with gaps of 1.9, 8.9 and 11.8 compared with sector gaps of 6.8, 7.1 7.4 for the same years.

#### *1.3.2.2 (ii) Attainment*

OfS data on attainment is only available for the years 2016/17 and 2017/18. In 2016/17 the performance of mature students was better than the under 21s on entry with this positive performance gap being of statistical significance. The gap was not considered significant in 2017/18 (a 7% gap for the School and 10.3% for the sector), and absolute performance of the School's mature students far exceeded the sector average for young or mature in both 2016/17 and 2017/18.

### **1.3.3 Progression to employment or further study**

There is only OfS progression data for year 1 (2012/13), which shows that a greater proportion of those aged 21 or over on entry progressed to employment or further study when compared with the under 21 years on entry. (A gap between young and mature of minus 6.1). Both age groups performed worse than the sector average. TEF 3 metrics show that the School performed above benchmark for high skilled employment or further study for under 21 years of age on entry and with no negative indicators for the mature age group.

## **1.4 Disabled students**

### **1.4.1. Access**

The OfS data shows that the proportion of new entrants declaring a disability has declined over the last five years (2013/14 to 2017/18), with the ratio of new entrants with no disability to new entrants with a disability changing from 2.5:1 to 6.6:1. In years 1 to 4 the School's performance was better than the sector average but in year 5 it was worse. The average gap over the five years was 63.92 comparing favourably against the sector performance of 73.84 over the same period. In absolute terms the number of new entrants reporting a Sensory, Medical or Physical disability, and those reporting a Social or Communication disability are very small.

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<sup>18</sup> <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/students/whos-in-he/characteristics>

Due to the change in the rules for Disabled Students Allowance (DSA), new entrants in 2017 in receipt of DSA amounted to just six students – too small a number for further analysis.

However, the School has more generally seen an increase in both students accessing disability support and accessing mental health services including those who did not declare a disability on application. Internal data shows that 24.5% of the student body requested counselling in 2017/18 up from 18.7% in 2012/13. The School will endeavour to ensure that students seeking disability support also self-declare.

## 1.4.2 Success

### 1.4.2 (i) Continuation into year 2 of studies

The performance of those students declaring a disability and those with no known disability was the same, and higher than the sector average in Year 1 of the OfS data (2012/13) and fluctuated over the following four years, with a better performance for those declaring a disability in Years 3 and 4. The average gap over the five-year period was 3.8 for the School and 1.14 for the sector. The School's gap for 2016/17 was its highest at 14.1. The School's own data indicates that for 2017/18 entrants declaring a disability, 95.5% started year 2 compared with 96.6% for all UK domiciled entrants. Numbers are too small to subdivide the data for meaningful analysis.

### 1.4.2 (ii) Attainment - the award of a higher classification

The relative performance of those students declaring a disability and those with no known disability has in four out of five years of the OfS data set been lower than for those with no known disability. The exception year was 2014/15. The gap between those students with no known disability and those with a declared disability has ranged from -3.3% to 10.3%; the latter in 2017/18 is a particular concern.<sup>19</sup> The OfS data set indicates there is no statistical significance (probably due to the small numbers involved). Over the five-year period, actual performance has ranged from 91.7% to 97.5% for students with no disability, and 84.6% to 95% for students declaring a disability, with 84.6% recorded for 2017/18. The comparable sector data shows a range of 74.2% to 78.7% for those students without a disability, and 70.7% to 75.9% for those declaring a disability. Given the sector concerns about grade inflation, which the School is actively considering, a 97.5% attainment rate would not necessarily be the School's target for either group but the School is committed to improving the attainment rate for those declaring a disability (target viii) and thereby closing the gap.

## 1.4.3 Progression to employment or further study

In year 1 of the OfS data set (2012/13) those students declaring a disability performed better than those with no known disability in terms of progression to employment or further study but performed less well in the following 4 years with a particularly concerning performance in 2014/15. The response rate for those declaring a disability is also consistently and noticeably lower than for those with no known disability, with a particularly low response rate in the year of worst performance.

The average gap over 5 years was 10.68 compared against a sector gap of 1.64. The OfS data set indicates there is no statistical significance in the gap in performance (again probably due to small numbers) but this does not alter the need to look at this going forward. The School gap for the latest OfS data year, 2016/17, was 7.4.

## 1.5 Care leavers & estranged students

The NNECL<sup>20</sup> "Moving on up" report highlights the particular difficulties of care leavers entering and staying at university. They may have had disrupted schooling which has limited their opportunities, they are more likely to have a special educational need, they are more likely to

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<sup>19</sup> KPM 5

<sup>20</sup> The National Network for the Education of Care Leavers

enter university at an older age, and feel more isolated when they get there. Maintaining sustained musical training during a disrupted education is also a significant additional challenge.

In addition to care leavers being able to access GYA assisted places support (see section 3 below), the School makes special provision for care leavers<sup>21</sup> which includes identified staff to provide support at application and beyond and the Access Bursary (which it intends to continue under this Access & Participation Plan). Those with a learning disability or in need of mental health support can also access the School's extensive support services.

Whilst the School does have care leavers within its undergraduate population, numbers are too small for any sort of analysis. The School will continue to encourage and support care leavers, and will work with arts organisations who specialise in working with this group of individuals. The Access Bursary also makes special provision for estranged students and similar support provision is available to them.

Data about care leaver and estranged student status is given voluntarily as part of the application for the Access Bursary. Numbers are far too small (ie less than 5 in total across all years) for any sort of analysis in terms of new entrants. Care leavers' and estranged students' continuation and attainment is monitored as part of the Access Bursary but again as numbers have been less than five in total across all four years of undergraduate study, data is suppressed to protect the data of individuals. It will be many years before there will be sufficient data to aggregate across years for statistically significant analysis. There is no data in respect of progression and with possibly only one care leaver in a graduating cohort it is highly unlikely that given the HESA rounding rules any data will be forthcoming from the HESA Graduate Outcomes collection, even when looking over a five-year period. If qualitative information about graduating care leavers' further study or employment is made available to the School via the alumni service (and we will encourage all those in receipt of an Access bursary to stay in touch), this will be considered but the attainment of such data cannot be guaranteed and any information used for Access & Participation monitoring and evaluation purposes will need to be mindful of privacy requirements.

## 1.6 Intersections of disadvantage

As noted above, the School's population is small and the total UK domiciled new entrants has not been more than 160 in any one year. Given the small numbers involved, it is not possible to analyse intersections of disadvantage for each group or at each stage of the student life cycle, particularly as we do not have data for all years in many of the larger categories and this again highlights the need to increase the overall representation of these groups within the School.

There will always be difficulties for the School in analysing intersections of disadvantage due to very small numbers and this will not change for some years. Whether we have sufficient data going forward to average across five-years will very much depend upon our success or otherwise in meeting our targets and it is will probably be only towards the end of the five-year period, in year 4, that there will be sufficient data that will provide analysis with statistical significance. For instance, if we achieved our September 2023 target on BAME new entrants this would amount to only 35 new entrants in total that year in that category, too few for a more detailed analysis that subdivides the group across the Polar quintiles for instance, assuming similar progress had been made in POLAR 4 quintile 1 and 2 targets to show significance. We would need at least four years' worth of data at this level to make a start.

The only OfS data available for intersectional analysis related to BAME students and POLAR4 quintiles 3 to 5.

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<sup>21</sup> See [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_school/shared\\_left\\_nav/life\\_at\\_the\\_school/care\\_leavers\\_looked\\_after\\_children/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/shared_left_nav/life_at_the_school/care_leavers_looked_after_children/)

## 1.7 Other groups who experience barriers in higher education

### 1.7. Access: State school and state supported new entrants (UK domiciled)

Given the decline of arts education, and music education in particular, in the state school system (noted earlier in this section), state school and state supported<sup>22</sup> new entrants are under-represented in the School and this remains an indicator for the School particularly given its significant under 18 sustained training. State school and state supported new entrants for 2017/18 and 2018/19 formed 75% of the School's UK domiciled cohort each year (falling short of targets, 78% and 79% respectively, under its previous Access Agreements).

Whilst not all pupils in state schools will be materially disadvantaged, the decline in music education in state schools is a general disadvantage for all and one that is more pronounced in state schools in areas of economic deprivation where parents do not have the resources to bridge the lacuna in main stream education. Even where there is free musical instrument loan and discounted music lessons this can still be too costly for many parents as this has to be sustained over seven to ten years, with sheet music costs and examinations costs an additional burden. *Music Education: State of the Nation Report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Music Education, the Incorporated Society of Musicians and the University of Sussex*<sup>23</sup> provides information on the respective take up of music education via the graded examination system (an indicator of sustained training) in the state school and independent schools, and also how recent government directives in respect of the EBacc have created a negative impact on children and young people's entitlement to a broad and high-quality music education exacerbating existing inequalities between those attending state schools and those attending independent schools.

This lack of access to high quality musical education is noted in the School's supporting statement provided by the Students' Union. The Guildhall Young Artist department is, however, aiming to bridge this gap, providing affordable high quality training for those that can pay, and for those that cannot assisted places through the Access & Participation Plan (see below), and other assisted places provide by government funding under the Music & Dance scheme<sup>24</sup> and fundraising (eg recent Leverhulme and Wolfson Foundation grants). The CYM regional centres in Taunton, Peterborough and Norwich are either in government opportunity areas or linked to government opportunity areas and provide a local, high quality option for music education for disadvantaged groups.

A similar disadvantage is also apparent in Production Arts which struggles to attract state school pupils. As well as the decline in GCSE design and technology and performing and expressive arts (as also noted earlier), not all state secondary schools or colleges have the ability to offer the expressive arts as an extra curricula activity and there is less access to working theatres in schools than is found in the independent school sector.

## 2 Strategic aims and objectives

All of the School's degree programmes have the same objective; to train for the professions and careers advice and guidance is embedded in each programme. However, beyond this training the **School's mission** is to empower artists to realise their full potential and to develop distinctive artistic citizens who enrich the lives of others and make a positive impact in the world. Within its strategic plan<sup>25</sup> it sets out how it values a learning and teaching environment enriched by a diverse creative

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<sup>22</sup> State supported new entrants are those new entrants coming from specialist independent music schools who were supported by the UK government to attend the school under the Music & Dance scheme, see <https://www.gov.uk/music-dance-scheme>.

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.ism.org/images/images/State-of-the-Nation-Music-Education-WEB.pdf>

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/music-dance-scheme>

<sup>25</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/fileadmin/user\\_upload/files/Policies\\_and\\_Reports/Guildhall\\_School\\_Strategic\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/fileadmin/user_upload/files/Policies_and_Reports/Guildhall_School_Strategic_Plan.pdf)

community and seeks to create opportunities for all to engage with the arts and the pursuit of life-long creative learning. One of the emerging strands is a broad **Widening Participation Strategy** of which the Access & Participation Plan is one aspect and the **Equality & Diversity Scheme and Action Plan** (currently being revised) is another. This wider strategy includes staff recruitment from a diversity perspective, inclusivity issues in the curriculum and repertoire, and access to an arts education in its broadest sense. The Equality & Diversity Scheme and Action Plan sits under the wider widening participation strategy and seeks to address specific issues at a very practical level. The Scheme and Action Plan supports a whole School approach with actions related to inclusivity champions, staff and student data collection and monitoring (which cross references to section 3 and students declaring a disability), the provision of information, and the employability of disabled students (which cross references target (ix)).

## 2.1 Target groups

Since 2012, the School's Access Agreements have identified the need to diversify the student body, ie Access has been identified as the primary challenge over and above success and progression. This has been recognised as a fundamental element in the School's strategic plans for some years. Performance towards this objective has fluctuated year on year making forward projections extremely difficult and this fluctuation is also seen in the OfS data set. Within the context of Music, this challenge has increasingly been compounded by declining music education generally and the more specific decline in state schools (section 1 of this Plan refers). In preparing for this Plan, data analysis and the participatory process, has confirmed that the direction of travel remains the same, namely that to achieve a diverse creative community, in respect of undergraduate UK domiciled students, the School needs to prioritise access measures to support the recruitment of under-represented groups. However, this back-to-basics scrutiny has also highlighted the need for the School to tailor its access activities in a much more targeted fashion.

The majority of the School's financial commitment under this Access & Participation plan will go towards access measures rather than success and progression measures and the School intends to continue to commit a significantly high percentage of its additional fee income to this activity. As the School has a long way to go in respect of Access, it will not be able to close the gap in the five-year period of this Plan, but hopes to make significant progress although its milestones are challenging. In respect of Success and Progression the School already has parity in some areas (known continuation rates and progression rates for POLAR 4 quintiles, and progression rates for BAME students). In other areas the School is performing better than the sector, although there may be gaps internally, and in some areas the gap is not statistically significant or there is no data available due to small numbers. The School anticipates achieving the milestones identified for Success and Progression by the end of the five-year period but if it is significantly successful at Access this may identify other issues once there is a larger cohort of under-represented groups in the School. A revision to this Plan may be required after Year 3. In terms of access the School anticipates achieving parity across a longer time frame, probably at least over a further five years to 2029/30 as work in the relatively new regional centres (Taunton, Norwich and Peterborough) and other activities outside of London (that seek to address POLAR 4 Quintile 1 and BAME targets) need to be established.

The School will be setting targets as follows:

### **Access**

- New entrants from POLAR4 Quintiles 1 & 2
- New entrants from state schools and state-supported independent schools via Music & Dance Award (MDA) scheme
- New entrants from Black and Minority Ethnic groups, particularly from the Asian communities but given small numbers will not be setting a specific target for the latter.

- New entrants declaring a disability, particularly those with a Sensory, Medical or Physical disability and those with a Social or Communication disability
- Activity targets in respect of long term, sustained collaborative activity with GYA.

### Success & progression

The School will continue its current level of investment under the Access & Participation Plan in this area both to maintain performance and to try and gain a more consistent year on year performance where there have been notable fluctuations. However, the School will be giving particular attention to:

- The continuation of mature students
- The attainment of students declaring a disability
- The progression of students declaring a disability

*Please note: as there is no data for the School in respect of the relative non-continuation rates of POLAR 4 quintiles 1 and 5 (KPM3) or in respect of the attainment gap between white and black students (KPM4), the School has not set targets in these areas.*

## 2.2 Aims and objectives

### Access (UK domiciled new entrants)

- (i) **To reduce the gap in participation in HE from low participation neighbourhoods (POLAR 4 methodology)**

Baseline (ratio quintile 5 and quintile 1)	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	Based on data for entry...				
Entry Sept 2017	Sept 2020	Sept 2021	Sept 2022	Sept 2023	Sept 2024
9.4:1	6:1:1 <sup>¥</sup>	5.8:1	5.4:1	5.2:1	5.0:1

<sup>¥</sup> This would bring the School back to its best position in the five-year period 2013/14 to 2017/18

- (ii) **To increase the proportion of new entrants from low participation neighbourhoods in quintiles 1 and 2 (POLAR 4 methodology)**

Baseline (quintiles 1 and 2)	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	Based on data for entry...				
Entry Sept 2017	Sept 2020	Sept 2021	Sept 2022	Sept 2023	Sept 2024
12%	16.9%*	18.5%	20.5%	23%	26%

\* This would bring the School back to its highest point in the five-year period 2013/14 to 2017/18.

**(iii) To increase the proportion of new entrants from UK Black & Minority Ethnic communities**

	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>Baseline</b>	Based on data for entry...				
<b>Entry Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2020</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	<b>Sept 2022</b>	<b>Sept 2023</b>	<b>Sept 2024</b>
18.2%	19%**	20%	21%	22%	23%

\*\* Note proportion of new entrants in 2018/19 was 14.6% so this represents a stretching milestone

**(iv) a. To increase the proportion of new entrants declaring a disability**

	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>Baseline</b>	Based on data for entry...				
<b>Entry Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2020</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	<b>Sept 2022</b>	<b>Sept 2023</b>	<b>Sept 2024</b>
13.1%	16%***	17%	20%	22%	25%

\*\*\* The School has seen a decline over the five-year period 2013/14 to 2017/18 and needs to rebuild its previous good performance

**b. To increase the proportion of new entrants declaring a Sensory, Medical or Physical disability**

	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>Baseline</b>	Based on data for entry...				
<b>Entry Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2020</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	<b>Sept 2022</b>	<b>Sept 2023</b>	<b>Sept 2024</b>
0.6%	2.1%	2.5%	3.0%†	3.5%	4.0%

† The School's peak was 3.1 in 2015/16 so there is some way to go to recover ground.

**(v) To increase the proportion of state schools and colleges new entrants and new entrants state-supported at independent school (under the Music & Dance Award scheme)**

	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>Baseline</b>	Based on data for entry...				
<b>Entry Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2020</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	<b>Sept 2022</b>	<b>Sept 2023</b>	<b>Sept 2024</b>
75%‡	81%	82%	83%	84%	85%

‡ The School's target was 78% for 2017 entry and 79% for 2018 entry which it also did not achieve. The targets for reporting years 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23 replicate the targets stated in the 2019 Access & participation Plan and remain ambitious given the lack of sustained music education in the state school system.

**(vi) Access: sustained outreach via Guildhall Young Artists (GYA)**

- a) Collaborative activity target: To achieve and maintain an 80% completion rate at the end of each year of study (including passing of end of year examinations where relevant) for all participants in receipt of a Guildhall Young Artist assisted place.
- b) Collaborative activity target: To achieve an 80% conversion of Year 13 (and year 14 and gap year students) leavers into university entrants for all participants in receipt of a Guildhall Young Artist assisted place in Year 13 (or Year 14).

Baseline	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	Based on data at end of year and previous year's gap students				
<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
66% <sup>∞</sup>	70%	73%	75%	80%	80%

<sup>∞</sup> This does not include participants who at the end of 2017/18 decided to take a Gap year in 2018/19. These will be included in the 2018/19 assessment. Given the time-consuming nature of music auditions, it is not uncommon for participants to take a year out to prepare for, and attend, their conservatoire auditions.

Qualitative information about ABRSM grades achieved (or equivalent) and success in national and international competitions will also be collected to inform the impact and evaluation of this activity alongside qualitative information from participants and their parents.

Additionally, the broader impact of all GYA activities in terms of applications and new entrants to the School's undergraduate programmes is evaluated annually with particular attention given to state school applicants and new entrants from this source; this supplements the broader evaluation of GYA work submitted in the annual reports to the School's Academic Board.

**Success (UK domiciled)**

**(vii) To improve the continuation rate of mature undergraduate students**

Baseline mature (over 21)	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	Based on data for entry ...				
<b>Year of entry</b> <b>2016/17</b>	<b>Sept 2018</b>	<b>Sept 2019</b>	<b>Sept 2020</b>	<b>Sept 2021</b>	<b>Sept 2022</b>
84.2%	86%	88%	90%	92%	94%

**(viii) To improve the attainment rate for students declaring a disability**

Baseline	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
	Based on data for academic year assessment cycle...				
<b>2017/18 cycle</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>
84.6%	88%	89%	90%	91%	92%

## Progression (UK domiciled)

(ix) *To improve the progression outcomes of students declaring a disability*

	Reporting year milestone				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Based on data for graduating cohort in...</b>				
<b>2016/17 cycle</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
80.6%	81%	82%	82.5%	83.5%	84%

## 3. Strategic measures

### 3.1 Whole provider strategic approach

The School has embraced the Theory of Change in developing its Access & Participation Plan; it has defined the School's long-term goals and has mapped them backward to identify necessary preconditions, drawing upon data analysis and self-evaluation within a participatory process involving a broad range of staff and students that has both confirmed and challenged assumptions and has garnered support and enthusiasm. The student consultation is noted below in section 3.2. The staff consultation involved two quite detailed discussions at the Academic Board, a focused meeting with the Principal, Vice-Principals, Secretary & Dean of Students, and senior staff involved in under 18 and access activities<sup>26</sup>, and a broad information sharing/consultation session at the "All-Staff" meeting in May which attracted around one hundred members of staff (about 15% of the total establishment and hourly paid staff population). The Board of Governors was briefed at its February meeting about the new approach to Access & Participation Plans but the regulatory advice and guidance had not been issued at that point. In early June, the Board of Governors and senior staff were invited to comment on the almost final draft, and provided with a briefing document on the process. More recently the Board has been involved with a broader discussion on the Widening Participation Strategy at the Board's away day.

#### Alignment with other strategies

These participatory sessions have demonstrated that there is considerable enthusiasm for the diversity agenda across the School with a shared sense of ownership and a willingness to be open to new approaches. It has resulted in new project proposals, it has opened up networks, and it has suggested new and additional ways of aligning current work in the School with access and participation objectives. Ideas have come from students and all levels and types of staff (not just from teaching staff) and access, particularly, is seen as a whole School responsibility. Garnering this enthusiasm will come more to the fore as the broader **Widening Participation Strategy** develops which, as noted above, will look at curriculum, repertoire, and staffing issues – and there is already proactive engagement with this agenda. The lack of a visibly diverse teaching staff is noticeable to all and was mentioned during the student consultation as one of the barriers for under-represented groups; staff are being proactive in their recruitment of staff and external specialists (directors, conductors, designers etc) to try and address these imbalances. The School's overarching strategy, **Guildhall School of Music & Drama: A Conservatoire for the 21st Century**,<sup>27</sup> has much in it to support the Access & Participation agenda. It anticipates new programmes and pathways (subject to additional space being found) which will assist in broadening the reach of the School (Strategic goal one). There is also investment in digital

<sup>26</sup> This meeting looked at current performance, and the self-evaluation mapping exercise noted below in section 3.3, and determined the broad direction of travel that would be tested with other staff and students,

<sup>27</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/fileadmin/user\\_upload/files/Policies\\_and\\_Reports/Guildhall\\_School\\_Strategic\\_Plan.pdf](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/fileadmin/user_upload/files/Policies_and_Reports/Guildhall_School_Strategic_Plan.pdf)

technology (a “cross-cutting” initiative) and it is possible that some of the technology being looked at for teaching and artistic purposes could be utilised to facilitate live auditions remotely. It reasserts the School’s commitment to under-eighteen education (Strategic objective three, and detailed below), to its partnership with the Barbican (Strategic objective two), and to leading positive cultural change which impacts on society, industry and the wider world (Strategic objective 4).

The next **Teaching & Learning Strategy**<sup>28</sup> will expand upon the objectives under Strategic aim one, namely “*We will deliver distinctive degree programmes which enable our artists to be world-class; virtuosi in their field; adaptable, purposeful and responsible artists in society*”. It is expected that there will be a strong emphasis on digital (cross referencing the new digital strategy in development), on student wellbeing and support, and student employability within the context of artists in society.

The School’s commitment to under eighteen education deserves particular attention as it goes directly to the heart of countering the decline of arts education in state schools. The scale of the School’s commitment, both monetary and in terms of senior staff time, should not be underestimated. The School’s Guildhall Young Artist (GYA) provision is, in student numbers, on a larger scale than its higher education provision. Every Saturday, the School, through Junior Guildhall and the Centres for Young Musicians in London, Norwich, Taunton, Peterborough, and Saffron Walden, provides high quality and sustained training to nearly one and a half thousand young people (mainly in music but some drama). This compares to just over one thousand students in the senior school. The centres involve the partner schools/academies where the activity is based, local music hubs, and other funding partners such as the Department for Education and the Arts Council, with the School’s higher education students and teachers providing linked activities. Add to this the development of Music Education Islington<sup>29</sup> (in partnership with Islington Council), the School’s joint outreach department with the Barbican under the *Creative Learning*<sup>30</sup> umbrella, and an expanding short course and summer school provision,<sup>31</sup> and the scale of the School’s commitment is huge for its size and reflects a whole School engagement. GYA as a whole makes a positive contribution to the School’s state school and state supported new entrants (8.3% for 2017 entry and 4.4% for 2018 entry). Even though Year 13 leavers who had been in receipt of an access assisted place may not have gone onto study at the Guildhall School, there has been a good correlation with university entry. (Of the Year 13 assisted places recipients in 2017/18 77% went to university or conservatoire or took a year out to audition, and for 2016/17 100% went to university or took a year out to audition.<sup>32</sup>)

Even within the small and specialist sector the School is small, but it continues to punch above its weight by its careful alliances and partnerships. Whether formal partnerships with the Barbican or local music hubs, as noted above, or alliances with organisations already working with under-represented groups, or fundraising to support scholarships at junior and senior level there is a lot of activity ensuring that the widest possible audience can benefit from the work of the School. Examples of these alliances are acting workshops offered via Open Door<sup>33</sup> in London and the East Midlands, acting workshops offered in collaboration with RADA via the Theatre Royal Stratford East<sup>34</sup>, and music workshops in schools in London and the North East and at GYA regional centres and linked schools. Fundraising to support places at both the junior and senior

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<sup>28</sup> To be developed by the new Associate Dean for Teaching & Learning once appointed who will report to the Dean of Students who also has overall responsibility for Access & Participation.

<sup>29</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/youth\\_adult\\_learning/music\\_education\\_islington/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/youth_adult_learning/music_education_islington/)

<sup>30</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/youth\\_adult\\_learning/creative\\_learning/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/youth_adult_learning/creative_learning/)

<sup>31</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/youth\\_adult\\_learning/short\\_courses\\_summer\\_schools/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/youth_adult_learning/short_courses_summer_schools/)

<sup>32</sup> Given the time-consuming nature of music audition it is common for students to take a year out to prepare repertoire and attend auditions.

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.opendoor.org.uk/>

<sup>34</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_school/news/view/article/guildhall\\_partners\\_with\\_theatre\\_royal\\_stratford\\_east\\_to\\_deliver\\_acting\\_course\\_for\\_young\\_people\\_in\\_ea/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/news/view/article/guildhall_partners_with_theatre_royal_stratford_east_to_deliver_acting_course_for_young_people_in_ea/)

level is year round and ensures that there is a significant scholarship fund (outside of access) to support other assisted places in GYA and maintenance and fees for senior students (see below), with recent major gifts from Leverhulme, Wolfson Foundation and some of the City livery companies (eg Goldsmiths, Leathersellers and Fishmongers), and targeted scholarship gifts from D'Addario Strings, Howarth of London, Sax.co.uk and other local companies and individuals.

The School's commitment to the social mobility agenda permeates its work at every level from first interactions with the arts at primary school level with Creative Learning (outside this Access & Participation Plan) to research activity. The Guildhall School was recently awarded a grant of nearly a million pounds by the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) for an international consortium, led by the School,<sup>35</sup> to investigate the social impact of making music. It is anticipated that the research will be a flagship project of Guildhall School's new Research Institute for Social Impact, expected to launch in 2020.

### Strategic measures

However, despite all its good works, there has been a lack of progress in bringing under-represented groups into the higher education provision of the School and access must remain the primary focus until a better mix within the student body has been achieved. The analysis and consultation has indicated that the School's financial commitment and scope of its **access activities** under the Access & Participation Plan should encompass:

- The continuation of support for sustained long term musical training for children from low income households via assisted places, with the Guildhall Young Artists Division (GYA) best able to supply that training. The assisted places scheme will support musical training from age 11 to 19, with the notable exception of the string training programme where younger children will be eligible for an assisted place. For Norwich, Taunton and Peterborough particular attention will be given to attracting new starters in the local government opportunity areas and POLAR 4 quintiles 1 & 2. *[This activity supports targets i, ii, iii, v and vi particularly]*
- A refocusing of Access funded *Creative Learning* outreach so that access activities are concentrated at ages 14 to 18 plus. There may be opportunity for some of this work to link to Norwich. Previous work across all age groups diluted effort and whilst having merit in generally raising aspirations, building confidence and some upskilling data analysis showed it was not having a particular impact on actual applications to the School. Analysis also showed that it did not offer good value for money where its provision overlapped with GYA. *[This refocused activity supports targets iii and v particularly]*
- The continuation of support to participants from low income families to attend summer schools, with additional support to parents and participants to anticipate settling-in issues and to help transition to other activities (see section 3.3). Analysis has shown that there is good correlation between summer school engagement and state school new entrants (9.1% of state new entrants in 2017 and 7% in 2018) *[This broadened activity supports targets i, ii, iii, v and vi particularly]*
- The continuation of support for young people with disabilities to train in music, via the School's partnership with the Barbican and the National Open Youth Orchestra (NOYO, a new project in 2018/19). This project only launched in 2018/19 and is too early in its inception to monitor impact. *[This activity supports targets iv(a) and iv(b) particularly]*
- The development of a more extensive programme of degree programme-specific activities building on the success of the Acting workshops. This will link to engaging our students more directly in projects (see section 3.3) and also in developing partnerships that mirror the School's partnership with Open Door.<sup>36</sup> This builds on the School's existing commitment to Access Partner Schools in its previous agreements and links to directly to the supported

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<sup>35</sup>[https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_school/news/view/article/guildhall\\_school\\_of\\_music\\_drama\\_awarded\\_pound984000\\_to\\_lead\\_3\\_year\\_international\\_research\\_project\\_on/?utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=news](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/news/view/article/guildhall_school_of_music_drama_awarded_pound984000_to_lead_3_year_international_research_project_on/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=news)

<sup>36</sup> See <https://www.opendoor.org.uk/>

application below. *[This expanded provision supports targets i to v]*

- The development of a broader “supported application” programme building on the success of the application fee waiver scheme. For 2018 entry there were 81 applications fee waivers processed resulting in 67 full applications leading to 11 offers and 7 enrolments. For 2019 entry 143 fee waiver requests were processed, leading to 120 full applications with additional support to applicants provided by the Access & Participation Officer; this resulted in 13 offers (+4 reserves) being made and 10 acceptances (it is too early to know the enrolment rate). The School will commit to at least 220 supported applications each year. *[This expanded provision supports targets i to v]*
- Ensuring every individual who engages in an access activity has a sustained involvement with the School in some way (i.e. no one-off engagements). This is in line with OfS research that shows outreach is most effective when delivered as a progressive, sustained programme of activity and engagement over time.<sup>37</sup> *[This intention supports targets i to vi]*

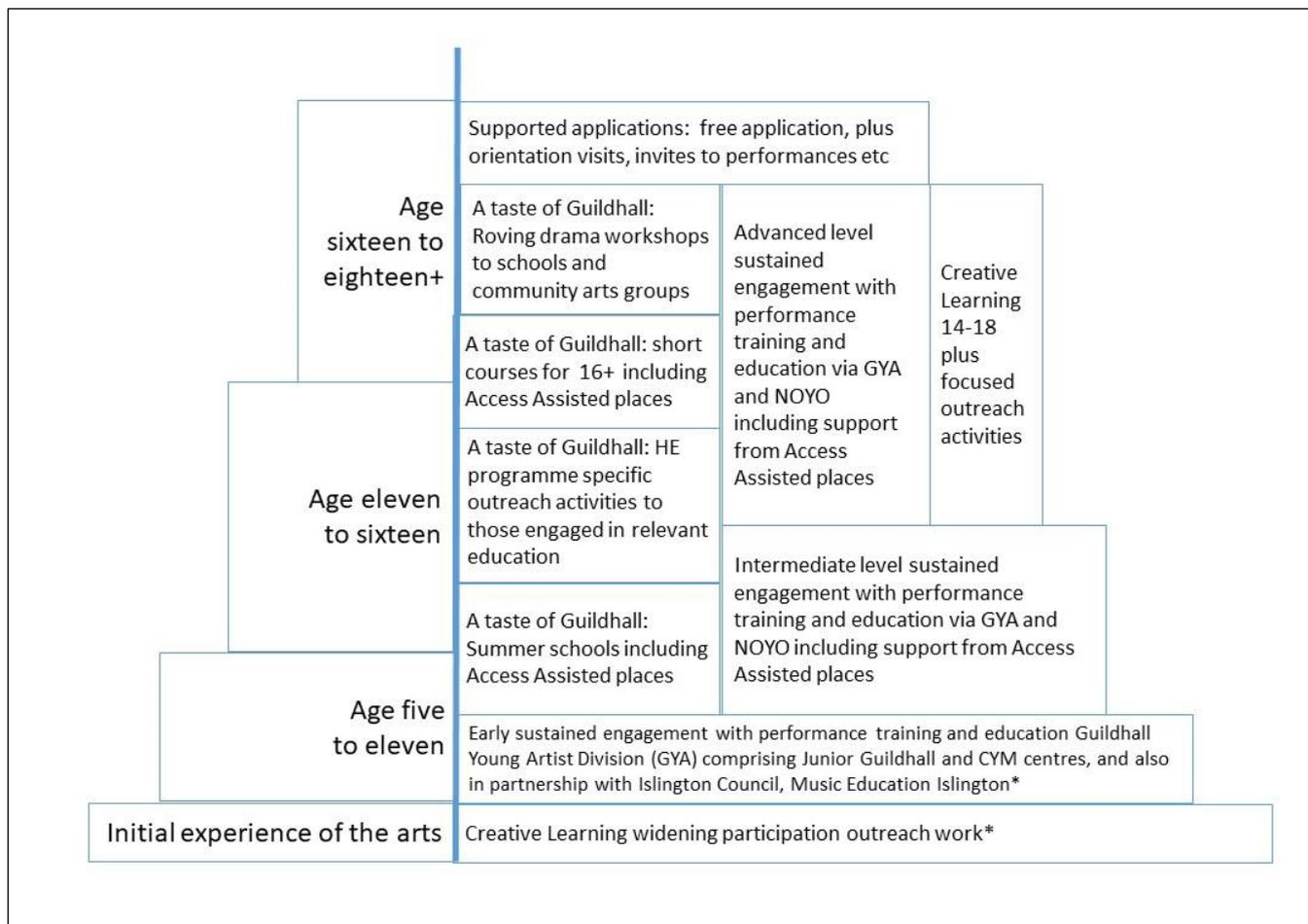
Additionally, the analysis and consultation indicated the need for:

- A reorganisation of the infrastructure supporting Access & Participation to bring into the School a senior, Higher Education focused and experienced, Access practitioner with strong evaluation skills to be recruited latter end of 2019. The School’s self-reflective process indicated the need for senior staff time to be solely dedicated to this increasingly complex process, to meet the expectations for data analysis and evaluation (including impact assessment), and to provide appropriate steerage to those shaping, delivering and evaluating access and participation activities. As an example, the Evaluation Self-Assessment toolkit highlighted naiveté in some areas about how well staff thought they were planning and shaping and evaluating projects given the lack of impact on the School’s targets. *[Supports all targets, access, success and progression]*
- More access activities in the regions in order to work with participants in POLAR 4 quintiles 1 & 2 areas and to work with British Asian communities. Previous Access Agreements have focussed on boroughs in the East of London. Regional work will include the CYM centres (particularly those in, or linked to a government opportunity area, i.e. Norwich, Taunton and West Somerset, Peterborough and Fenland & East Cambridgeshire). However, new regional outreach work will also include the North East, Bradford, Sheffield and Doncaster. *[Supports targets i, ii, iii and v particularly]*
- During the lifetime of this plan, devise and implement an audition/interview strategy that will reduce the costs of audition, particularly in terms of cost of travel. A working group under the Widening Participation Strategy umbrella will meet in early September 2019 to start the process, looking at application fees (which includes the audition) in the first instance. Any changes to application or audition will be for the 2021 or 2022 entry cycles. *[Supports targets 1 to v]*
- Building on the work of the 2019/20 Access & Participation Plan, the School will continue to look at its mature student entrants to identify whether there are any patterns in its offer and enrolment that might highlight a barrier (section 1.3.1 refers).
- An institution-wide evaluation and impact framework for use from 2020/21 which incorporates an assessment of value for money. Use of the Evaluation self-assessment showed a varied interpretation of how well the School was doing, particularly in programme design and evaluation design, and all users found it difficult to map evaluation activities against the evaluation types. Individual activity evaluations have also failed to address the issue of value in a consistent way and it would be useful internally to devise guidance that looked at type of activity, cost per head and impact.

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<sup>37</sup> OfS; NCOP first annual report, 2018. [https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/2d64895c-74b8-4993-ac60-6bc65d14fe00/ofs2018\\_25.pdf](https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/media/2d64895c-74b8-4993-ac60-6bc65d14fe00/ofs2018_25.pdf)

The School's **anticipated Access activities for 2020/21-2024/25** are presented below. Starred items (\*) are not funded under the Access & Participation Plan 2020 (with the exception of the String training programme) but form a part of the School's overall commitment to widening participation.



In respect of Participation (success - **continuation and attainment**) there are already strong links between those responsible for the Access & Participation Plan and those delivering services to students whether in Registry, Student Affairs, the Library, or in academic departments.

#### **Additional strategic and operational measures, building on existing activity**

- Development of strong synergies between the **new Teaching & Learning Strategy** and the commitments in this Access & Participation Plan. The new strategy is expected to cover the broadening of the music offer which is already underway in Jazz and Electronic Music to attract a wider range of students [*supporting targets (i) to (iv)*], the development of new programmes in participatory and collaborative practice [again broadening the offer and *supporting targets (i) to (iv)*], decolonising the repertoire within a western classical context [*generally supporting access, success and progression of BAME students*], embedding wellbeing into the curriculum [*supporting targets (vii) and (viii)*], the further development of the digital learning infrastructure with the potential to support access targets, POLAR particularly, if it can aid digital or remote auditioning, as well as supporting the attainment and progression of disabled students [*targets (vii) and (ix)*].
- All administrative managers supporting the HE student experience meet monthly as the Operations Board, chaired by the Secretary & Dean of Students, and going forward this forum will be used to help shape, and co-ordinate success and progression activities under the Access & Participation Plan and keep staff informed of progress [*supporting targets vii-ix*]

- Additional support for students with disabilities in the form of learning support will continue under the Access & Participation Plan given that students reporting a cognitive or learning disability form the largest proportion of the School's students declaring a disability (*target viii*). However, the analysis of the data in respect of disability within the home UK domiciled population, has highlighted some issues for immediate action: from the mundane (ensuring all those receiving disability support have declared a disability) to the practical (putting in place sessions to help with CVs, applications and interview techniques for final year students who have been in receipt of study skills support – *target ix*).
- Additional support for students with mental health disabilities is embedded within the general, and extensive, support available from the counselling team and others within the Student Affairs Department [*supporting target (viii)*].
- Student Funding advice and support is also embedded within the Registry department. Given the interest in more transition activities (see student consultation section below), the Student Affairs Department, working with the Access & Participation Officer, will look at extending the existing programme [*target vii also refers*].
- Self-evaluation has highlighted the need for more defined data in respect of the School's Student Affairs activity so that this can be mapped precisely against our under-represented groups and intersections of support can be considered. This will require changes in working practices and use of the student record system. We are committed to collecting better data by start of 2020/21. [*supporting targets vi, viii and ix*]
- All the School's programmes train for the professions; careers advice and guidance is embedded in the curricula and all programmes have strong links with the professions in terms of visiting artists (directors, composers, conductors, animateurs etc). However, the data shows that action needs to be taken in respect of the **progression** of students with a disability and this should be achieved by a better co-ordination between the Student Experience Directorate and the Enterprise & Employability Co-ordinator in the Innovation Department so that the particular needs of these students are being met on all fronts [*target (ix)*].

The School will continue to make provision for **care leavers** and offer a bespoke support service to applicants and students. Both the Student Affairs and Registry Departments have named roles to support care leaver applicants and students. The School will also retain the current Access Bursary scheme<sup>38</sup> for care leavers, estranged and independent students - the only **student financial support** offered under the Access & Participation Plan – but it will not expand it beyond the existing commitment in the 2019 Access & Participation Plan unless evaluation going forward indicates a larger need (care leavers and *target vii*). Given the low proportion of mature students, the School will advertise more widely the support that mature undergraduate students can receive both from the School and the government.

Given the very large scholarship fund which is fundraised each year for general maintenance and fee support, over £3million per annum<sup>39</sup> (open to all students regardless of level of study or domicile), student support is already well provided for and there is no need for the Access & Participation Plan to duplicate effort. The Access Bursary is for the specific additional costs for undergraduate students without family support (see below) and it is intended to support the continuation and attainment of these students. The City of London Corporation continues to fund the School's Hardship Fund (again open to all HE students regardless of level of study or domicile) and it is currently adequate to support the existing student population. As noted earlier, as the population changes there may need to be a readjustment of resources away from Access and towards Success and Progression measures.

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<sup>38</sup> For 2020/21 and each subsequent year, up to 15 bursaries of £3,000 minimum to care leavers, or estranged and independent students from low income backgrounds

<sup>39</sup> Based on actual expenditure in 2018/19 as at 24 January 2019 of which over a third went to undergraduate students.

### **Access Bursary**

The Access Bursary is intended to mitigate against the extra costs that students have who have no family support, particularly the additional costs incurred during vacation periods, and to ensure good retention and attainment for these students. At the end of the first year of operation, there were good results with all non-final year students progressing to their next year of study, and graduating students on track<sup>40</sup>. Some of the current recipients engaged with the student consultation for this Access & Participation Plan and spoke of the difficulties of juggling study as a mature student and managing a family life, and the importance of this additional financial support.

New and continuing UK domiciled undergraduate students who meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for the Access Bursary:

- Care leavers with a low income in receipt of the maximum government maintenance loan
- Estranged students with a low income in receipt of the maximum government maintenance loan
- Independent students with a low income in receipt of the maximum government maintenance loan

A maximum of 15 bursaries will be offered each year with a minimum grant of £3K per recipient. Care leavers will be prioritised, followed by estranged students under 25 on entry, followed by independent students. All recipients must reapply each year (via the normal scholarship route) to be reassessed and prioritised and it is a requirement of the grant going forward to engage in evaluation and impact activities. The continuation and attainment of individual recipients is monitored each year, but as numbers are very small with the 15 students spread over the 4 years of the undergraduate life-cycle it will be 5 to 10 years before there will be a sufficient data set to analyse in any of the categories. However, qualitative evaluation will be undertaken each year.

The current level of support under the Access Bursary takes into account (i) the significant amount of scholarship already available to the whole School population, (ii) the number of students likely to be eligible (low income care leavers, estranged and independent students, and (iii) the anticipated difference in need between having family support and not having family support (particularly the additional vacation costs).

Every part of the School is involved in the delivery of the Access & Participation Plan; the diagram over shows the range and level of involvement of key departments for each of the main activity strands of this Plan. There is already a strong engagement between the Music faculty and the GYA with both senior school teaching staff and senior students adding value to the GYA training through visits, workshops and masterclasses. The summer schools reflect directly activity in the senior school and we will also be looking to build upon the existing programme related access activities, wherever possible ensuring alignment between the teaching and training in the senior school. The production schedule offers a wealth of opportunity for inspiring, for providing a real taste of the training, and for showing the range of careers available in the creative industries. The UK creative industries generate more than £100bn a year for the economy and employ more than two million people; and it is a growing sector providing real employment prospects.<sup>41</sup>

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<sup>40</sup> With deferred assessment yet to be reported further information cannot be given without mentioning individuals (an example of the problem with small numbers)

<sup>41</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/britains-creative-industries-break-the-100-billion-barrier>

	Under 18 departments		School Faculties			Student Experience Directorate*	Comms & Marketing	Innovation (incl Enterprise)
	Creative Learning	GYA	Music	Drama	Production Arts			
Community outreach (14-18)	D & E					M		
Sustained musical training: GYA		D & E	C			E & M		
Sustained musical training: NOYO	D & E	C	C			M		
A taste of Guildhall: summer schools	C	C	C	C	C	D, E & M	C	D
A taste of Guildhall: drama workshops		R		D & E		M	C	
A taste of Guildhall: programme related activities		R	D (& E)	D (& E)	D (& E)	E & M	C	
Supported applications & care leaver support	R	R	C	C	C	D, E & M	C	
Access Bursary						D, E & M		
Support for HE disabled students			C	C	C	D, E & M		
Employability activities			D	D	D	D & M		D & E
Impact assessment	C	C	C	C	C	E & M		C

D = delivery, E = evaluation, M = monitoring, C= contributing department, R= provider of potential recipients

\* Student Experience Directorate comprises Registry, Library Services (including the e-learning technologist), Student Affairs (including counselling, disability support, health & welfare), and also responsibility for the Access & Participation Plan

## 3.2 Student consultation

### Planning

The School has always been interested in the student voice, and at every stage in the student life-cycle from potential applicants to doctoral students there are opportunities to give feedback, make suggestions and get involved. In preparation for this Access & Participation Plan, a consultation strategy for involving students was agreed with the SU President<sup>42</sup>, who also assisted directly in encouraging students to be involved.

<sup>42</sup> Please note the School is small, and only has one sabbatical student officer, the SU President.

Nevertheless, meaningful student engagement in the development of this specific Plan has been challenging given the limited time frame and the busy performance schedule of the students at the end of the spring term and start of summer term, plus the Easter vacation in the middle. Using a set of questions agreed with the SU President, the Secretary & Dean of Students and the Access & Participation Officer met with some small groups and individual students, asking questions related to Access, Retention, Attainment and Progression. Altogether, the School obtained feedback from over 11 students<sup>43</sup> representing a broad spectrum. *[At least eight undergraduates, three postgraduates; six on Music courses, two on Performance and Creative Enterprise and 3+ on the Acting course (some Acting students completed the questionnaire together). The students included four students from BAME communities, at least one student with a declared disability, and 2 mature undergraduates.]* There was further consultation at the Academic Board in early May (which has student representation) and at the Staff Student Liaison Committee at the end of May.

Largely, student opinion aligned with the assumptions made in previous access agreements, viz that the priority should be to concentrate on Access and improve diversity within the student population, although surprisingly there was a greater desire for transition support than the School had anticipated, which we will follow up. The Staff Student Liaison Committee at the end of May highlighted the idea of expanding the “supported application” beyond application fee waivers; there was a real urging for more auditioning outside of London, and/or skype/video auditioning given the very real, and prohibitive costs of travel and hotel accommodation. It was felt that if support was offered at the early stage then some commitment from the applicant at a later stage would be appropriate<sup>44</sup>. There was keen interest in further engagement with Access and Participation, with strong support for a termly student steering group and significant interest in supporting activity when their availability allows.

The SU President, on behalf of the student body, has provided a statement in support of this plan (see annex).

### **Developments and monitoring**

Through the Academic Board and the Board of Governors, the student body has always seen a summary of the School’s performance in respect of its Access Agreements. However, going forward, the School will put in place a consultation and reporting structure that will involve a wider group of students and ensure student input into programme design.

Formal reports to the Academic Board and the Board of Governors will continue but in addition:

- the Access & Participation Officer will provide a short report to every Staff/Student Liaison Committee meeting (this is at least twice termly) on activities in development and activities recently conducted, including reporting forward on the deliberations of the Student Access & Participation Steering group. The Staff/Student Liaison Committee comprises all the student representatives in the School and all senior managers.
- the **Student Access & Participation Steering Group** will meet at least termly (starting autumn 2019/20) to help scope and shape activities and to look at the School’s performance. Membership will be open to interested parties from all years and domiciles and it will be promoted at Freshers’ Fair and in the e-zine.
- regular updates, at least termly will appear in the student e-zine.

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<sup>43</sup> Approximately 10% of the student body

<sup>44</sup> Most programmes have just one audition/interview stage but the Acting programme has a three stage audition process in order that all 2,800 applicants have the opportunity to be seen in person.

## Evaluation

To date students have not been involved in the evaluation of Access activities unless they have been a leader in the specific activity. However, the Steering group will provide a useful forum for identifying what success look likes from the student perspective and how that might reasonably be measured. Evaluations of activities will also be shared with the Student Steering Group to inform future approaches.

## Access delivery

Students have for many years been involved in outreach and access projects. A few of these projects, like the roving Samba workshop in 2016/17 and a recent trip to the North East by one of the School's brass bands have been initiated by the students themselves, with the School helping them to scope the project and identify access objectives and the evaluation and impact methodology, as well as assisting with the organisation. We would like to encourage more of these projects as part of our expanded degree programme-specific activities.

In other cases, the project has been determined by the School and students have been approached to be involved, e.g. ambassador roles, or taking part in question and answer sessions for widening participation groups attending performances. Often recent graduates are used in projects, e.g. acting workshops, as given the portfolio nature of their working life they can have more availability than the current students (as the training here is very intensive). All students and graduates are paid for their time to ensure everyone who wishes to be involved can be involved.

Students are also involved in general outreach that has not been organised under the Access agreement:

- (i) through their programmes (e.g. the *Professional studies* module in the BMus, or the *Principal study* module for Leadership students, or the *Collaborative Practice: Education Contexts* elective module in the Guildhall Artist Masters programme),
- (ii) as extra curricula departmental activity such as visiting ensembles to the CYM centres or similar, and
- (iii) at Open Days as welcomers, stewards, tour guides, and workshop participants

Going forward, we are exploring the possible intersections between curriculum activity and access activity, so that where there is potential for an activity to have access objectives this can be exploited. As an example, an access project in development is linked to the *Beasts of London*<sup>45</sup> exhibition project with the Museum of London. Whilst this curriculum project primarily involved our video design students, it also involved some acting and music students and provides an ideal visual and audio explanation of the training on offer in a way that can excite and inspire. The exhibition will be the hook for visits to the School for those making their post-16 and post-18 education choices who might be interested in production arts; to explore the training on offer in the School and the careers that could be available.

## 3.3 Evaluation strategy

Attempting the Evaluation self-assessment has highlighted that the School's evaluation methodology is under developed not least because in the past there has sometimes been a lack of direct connection between some of the activities, particularly in access, and the targets of previous access agreements despite the overall benefits of the activities for the participants (see 3.1 above). Preparation for this plan has been extremely helpful in encouraging the School to conduct a thorough self-evaluation looking at value for money, efficacy and infrastructure.

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<sup>45</sup> See [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_school/view\\_all\\_events/event\\_single\\_view/?tx\\_julleevents\\_pi1%5BshowUid%5D=6003](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/view_all_events/event_single_view/?tx_julleevents_pi1%5BshowUid%5D=6003) for exhibition details

This self-evaluation comprised:

- Consideration of the context of the School including its vision and mission, the decline of arts education (see section 1), the high technical requisites for some programmes which are essential to support the School's world class status and world class outputs, the limited potential for expansion of student numbers in existing programmes, and the range of partnerships, formal and informal.
- A consideration of the School's performance to date against its targets, utilising the internal reports for Access monitoring for 2017/18 as well as the OfS supplied data. The report for 2017/18 was also more specific about the direct impact of activities on applications and new entrants, from the success of application fee waivers, to the lack of impact on applications and new entrants of Creative Learning activities (note this does not denigrate the importance of the personal impact in aspiration rising and skill attainment for the participants who undertook the activities).
- A mapping exercise of all types of access-funded activity in 2017/18, considering the relevant Access categories (e.g. post 16, adult and communities), the relevant target milestone(s) under the existing Access & Participation Plans (e.g. socio-economic, state school), potential for linkage to future targets under this agreement (e.g. POLAR 4 quintiles 1 & 2), and tracking capacity (i.e. how easy to follow the participant along the student journey). It then mapped the perceived efficacy, and potential efficacy, of the activity in respect of recruitment to each undergraduate programme, with an assessment of value for money based on type of activity (sustained or otherwise), cost per head and impact on targets.
- Using the OfS evaluation toolkit to assess the traditional outreach that has been provided by Creative Learning and funded under the Access Agreement since 2006. Whilst this highlighted that many areas were in the "emerging phase" it specifically highlighted a need for a greater concentration of access focussed practitioners within the broader arts outreach work of the department and greater support for evaluation.
- Using the OfS evaluation toolkit to assess more recent Access activities, such as application fee waivers, acting workshops etc. Again many areas fell in the emerging phase but these differed from the Creative Learning (each area having strengths and weakness). It specifically highlighted the need for an agreed and consistent approach to defining the evaluation at the outset and the resources that would be required.

This self-evaluation was discussed during the consultation, and highlighted:

- the need to refocus some activity away from early years and to move more activity out of London.
- the need for a School-wide understanding of evaluation within the context of the Access & Participation Plan and an agreed, scaled framework. For instance, there was an obvious difference in approach between the two parties using the toolkit.<sup>46</sup>
- the need for a dedicated higher education focused and experienced senior manager to work with the Secretary & Dean of Students to deliver the overall plan across the whole student life cycle. This will be implemented during 2019/20.

The new Head of Access & Participation, working with all departments of the School, will develop a new evaluation and impact framework for use in 2020/21 onwards, that will encompass the following:

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<sup>46</sup> Given the lack of internal consistency and the difficulties in completing the exercise these evaluations will not be uploaded.

## **Access**

- A scaled approach - not all elements of the toolkit will be relevant to every project – but there needs to be a clearly articulated School expectation of the type of evaluation that should be used for particular types of activity. This is likely to map to Type 1: Narrative and Type 2: Empirical Enquiry as randomised control trials are not suitable for the work undertaken by the School.
- Guidance on creating well-defined, and measurable, objectives for each activity directly related to at least one School target that will be informed by evidence and will help shape programme design.
- Guidance on interim measurable objectives for very long-term activities. For instance, a participant can receive up to 7 years of musical training from age 11 to 18 but during that time could drop out for a variety of reasons unconnected to the quality of the opportunity, e.g. because of GCSE or A level pressures. Also those progressing to university might not necessarily choose music for their degree even if they intend to continue with the practice (there have been applications for veterinary science and engineering) and then finally, those that do choose to progress to university to study music might not choose the School because they want a new environment or a different teacher. From 2019/20 all GYA assisted places recipients (or their parents) under the Access & Participation Plan will be required to engage with evaluation activities as a condition of the offer of a place – and this is likely to involve structured survey and more informal invitations to feedback meetings.
- A consistent approach to data collection across all activities – identifying the minimum participant record so that whole School data sets on access activities can be produced.
- A shared understanding of the standards of evidence in evaluation and how to measure impact.
- A shared understanding of the use of other evidence of success.
- A commitment to sharing evaluations, even where the activity has not been successful, with the wider sector.

## **Financial support**

The Access Bursary is only in its second year, and numbers have been very small (less than ten in each year) and split across all years of study. However, as we approach the third year we can start to build on the existing framework which has monitored continuation and graduation rates, and build up a strong evidence base for evaluating the whole bursary scheme at the end of the five-year period of this plan. The framework will encompass:

- Year on year monitoring of the continuation and assessment outcomes of the participants.
- Annual start of year survey of recipients and end of year structured interview with recipients (participation is now a condition of acceptance of the bursary from 2019/20 onwards)
- A gathering and monitoring of the demographic data of the participants including ethnicity, declared disability, previous school type, application fee waiver and/or involvement of other access activity (e.g. Acting workshop) to support the five-year evaluation.

Given the small number of students, the OfS Statistical Toolkit is limited in its use but elements will be incorporated where relevant.

## **Participation (success & progress)**

Participation measures are embedded within the extensive support offered by the School to all students. The School already monitors annually its continuation rates by home domiciled ethnicity and disability categories. The School already monitors attainment at undergraduate and postgraduate level by the following protected characteristics (age, ethnicity, disability status, sex). However, it has not subdivided this latter analysis to look at home domiciled and will do so in future.

The School's support services are subject to an annual student satisfaction survey, and broad service user data is provided in the service's annual report. There is also a self-evaluation of each strand of activity in the annual report. However, what is lacking is a detailed analysis of

service user by characteristic and the intersection of service use by characteristic. At the moment the service user data is not sufficiently robust for this purpose and the data infrastructure (and its use) is being examined to ensure that from the start of 2020/21 there is a data collection that will support this type of analysis. Going forward, the team will be asked to include in its annual report (for the 2019/20 cycle report) cross reference to the success and progression targets and work with under-represented groups generally.

Employability is embedded within the curriculum as all the School's programmes are aimed at training for a particular profession. Progression data (DLHE and Graduate Outcomes), alongside more qualitative evidence such as student and alumni professional profiles and success, is considered within the annual programme evaluation for each programme. Going forward, programme leaders in undertaking their evaluations (for 2019/20 cycle reports) will be asked to cross reference to the progression target and to the progression of under-represented groups generally.

### **All strands**

The Evaluation self-assessment highlighted the need for greater sharing cross-departmentally particularly to inform practice and programme design and this will be addressed via the groups mentioned in section 4. The self-assessment also highlighted the need for greater reference to external research findings and scholarly articles due to the dilution of effort and therefore limited capacity across multiple parties and this will be addressed by the new Head of Access & Participation role and the greater sharing across departments already noted. Key contributors within local departments will be identified to attend networking and conference events outside of the School to build up expertise.

## **3.4 Monitoring progress against delivery of the plan**

The School, as now, will provide an annual report to the Academic Board, Senior Management Team, Board of Governors and Staff/Student Liaison Committee, on progress against Access & Participation targets, a summary of the evaluation of activities, and the impact of access activities on recruitment. These reports have since 2010 identified static and worsening performance as well as improvements but going forward the action plan to address any shortcomings will be more defined. Performance against access targets is also included within the School's risk register<sup>47</sup> (monitored by the Audit & Risk Committee of the Board). Named Board members are assigned to every strand of the School's overarching strategy, including the Widening Participation Strategy (of which the Access & Participation Plan is a subsection).

### ***From 2019/20 onwards:***

- The Secretary & Dean of Students will be the responsible officer for all aspects of the plan, and, assisted by the new Head of Access & Participation (expected later end of 2019), will work closely with those delivering aspects of the plan across the School, ensuring the range and scope of projects are relevant to the Access & Participation Plan and activities are evaluated, progress is monitored, and impact on targets is measured.
- Those who deliver access projects will also meet termly (Access Practitioners' Group) so that project plans are shared earlier in the cycle to establish intersections, and evaluations of activity are more widely disseminated to influence and improve practice. It will also consider any issues or ideas arising from the Access and Participation Student Steering Group. It is expected that discussions will feed into the wider Widening Participation Strategy discussions. Where appropriate, inclusivity champions (part of the Equality & Diversity Action Plan) will be involved in these wider discussions.

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<sup>47</sup> Risk GSMD DDP 003

- Where progress is not being made, or not at a sufficiently rapid rate, the range and scope of projects will be reviewed utilising the effective practice resources available from the OfS and other resources available via networks such as Conservatoire UK, and HELOA.
- As Chair of the Operations Board, the Secretary and Dean of Students, will keep a watching brief on participation activities and their impact on improving performance against targets. Matters arising from evaluations and impact assessment along with review of annual reports will inform discussions at the Operations Board and future developments.
- The Staff/Student Liaison Committee will have Access & Participation as a standing item.
- The School will continue to monitor annually (in the Spring term for that year of entry) its applications, offers and entrants by programme against the following protected characteristics; age, ethnicity, disability status and sex, but will additionally subdivide the undergraduate analysis by home domiciled students.
- The School will continue to monitor annually (in the Spring term following the conclusion of the previous assessment cycle in the autumn) its attainment rates by programme against the following protected characteristics; age, ethnicity, disability status and sex, but will additionally subdivide the undergraduate analysis by home domiciled.
- Evaluations of activity will be more widely disseminated and will be considered by the Student Access & Participation Steering group and, where relevant, will feed into the wider Widening Participation Strategy discussions. Those offering insight to the wider sector will be circulated externally either informally through the Drama Access practitioner working group for small and specialist institutions<sup>48</sup> or formally via the OfS *Centre for transforming access and student outcomes in higher education*.

#### **From 2020/21 onwards**

Internally, there will be programme specific, access milestones in respect of state school (and state supported) entrants, entrants declaring a disability, mature entrants and entrants from BAME communities. Progress against these milestones will also be reported in the annual report noted above.

#### **Equality impact assessment**

An initial equality impact screening assessment has been undertaken and no negative impact on any of the equality target group is anticipated with positive impact expected for some equality groups. This will be kept under review.

## **4. Provision of information to students**

#### **Approved plan**

The School's Access & Participation Plan will be made available on the School's website alongside general information about Access & participation.<sup>49</sup>

#### **Fees**

The School's fees are published annually and can be found at [www.gsmd.ac.uk/funding](http://www.gsmd.ac.uk/funding). The fee schedule indicates that fees may change for each year of study.

#### **Financial support**

Also from [www.gsmd.ac.uk/funding](http://www.gsmd.ac.uk/funding) information is provided to prospective students about:

- UK Government loan support for UK and EU students
- Loan support from other governments for overseas students
- The School's scholarship programme and the School's Access Bursary

<sup>48</sup> It is hoped that a music equivalent under the CUK will also be established.

<sup>49</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_school/shared\\_left\\_nav/access\\_and\\_participation/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/shared_left_nav/access_and_participation/)

- **The Hardship Fund**  
There is a link from this page to the Widening Participation page<sup>50</sup> which includes information about application fee waivers, to be renamed supported applications (also available from the “apply” pages) and the School’s Access Bursary.<sup>51</sup>

The Student Funding Officer is available by phone or email to provide bespoke advice and guidance, and often assists applicants and students with difficult SLC applications. The role holder also gives funding talks at open days and provides particular support to care leavers. Additional support for care leavers is provided by the Student Life Officer. The support for care leavers is advertised on the website.<sup>52</sup>

Current students are advised annually of the scholarship and bursary support available from the School, and are referred to the Hardship Fund when need arises.

### **Assisted places**

Assisted places for summer schools are advertised on the School’s short courses webpages along with the application form. Assisted places for the Young Guildhall Artist Division are advertised and considered within the scholarship programme for each of the centres.

### **General advice and guidance**

Information about supported applications (previously application fee waivers) will be provided to target schools and youth and community organisations. Information about the assisted places for the summer schools is also circulated to these groups.

The School’s Access & Participation Officer works closely with the Marketing & Communications Manager (Student Recruitment) and provides general advice and guidance to prospective students on going to university and specific advice and guidance on the School’s programmes. As well as giving talks at open days the role holder is available to go out to target schools and organisations. Additionally, the role holder provides individualised help to young people from under-represented groups wanting to make an application to the School.

## **5. Appendix**

The OfS will append the following items from the fees and targets and investment documents when an access and participation plan is published:

1. Targets (tables 2a, 2b and 2c in the targets and investment plan)
2. Investment summary (tables 4a and 4b in the targets and investment plan)
3. Fee summary (table 4a and 4b in the fee information document)

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<sup>50</sup> To be renamed Access & Participation to avoid confusion with the wider WP Strategy initiatives

<sup>51</sup> Web pages are currently being updated in preparation for applications opening and the Access pages will be made easier to find.

<sup>52</sup> [https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about\\_the\\_school/shared\\_left\\_nav/life\\_at\\_the\\_school/care\\_leavers\\_looked\\_after\\_children/](https://www.gsmd.ac.uk/about_the_school/shared_left_nav/life_at_the_school/care_leavers_looked_after_children/)

**Summary of 2020-21 entrant course fees**

\*course type not listed

**Inflationary statement:**

Subject to the maximum fee limits set out in Regulations we intend to increase fees each year using the RPI-X

**Table 4a - Full-time course fee levels for 2020-21 entrants**

Full-time course type:	Additional information:	Course fee:
First degree		£9,250
Foundation degree	*	*
Foundation year/Year 0	*	*
HNC/HND	*	*
CertHE/DipHE	*	*
Postgraduate ITT	*	*
Accelerated degree	*	*
Sandwich year	*	*
Erasmus and overseas study years	*	*
Other	*	*

**Table 4b - Sub-contractual full-time course fee levels for 2020-21 entrants**

Sub-contractual full-time course type:	Additional information:	Course fee:
First degree	*	*
Foundation degree	*	*
Foundation year/Year 0	*	*
HNC/HND	*	*
CertHE/DipHE	*	*
Postgraduate ITT	*	*
Accelerated degree	*	*
Sandwich year	*	*
Erasmus and overseas study years	*	*
Other	*	*

**Table 4c - Part-time course fee levels for 2020-21 entrants**

Part-time course type:	Additional information:	Course fee:
First degree	*	*
Foundation degree	*	*
Foundation year/Year 0	*	*
HNC/HND	*	*
CertHE/DipHE	*	*
Postgraduate ITT	*	*
Accelerated degree	*	*
Sandwich year	*	*
Erasmus and overseas study years	*	*
Other	*	*

**Table 4d - Sub-contractual part-time course fee levels for 2020-21 entrants**

Sub-contractual part-time course type:	Additional information:	Course fee:
First degree	*	*
Foundation degree	*	*
Foundation year/Year 0	*	*
HNC/HND	*	*
CertHE/DipHE	*	*
Postgraduate ITT	*	*
Accelerated degree	*	*
Sandwich year	*	*
Erasmus and overseas study years	*	*
Other	*	*

# Targets and investment plan 2020-21 to 2024-25

Provider name: Guildhall School of Music &amp; Drama

Provider UKPRN: 10007825

## Investment summary

The OfS requires providers to report on their planned investment in access, financial support and research and evaluation in their access and participation plan. The OfS does not require providers to report on investment in student success and progression in the access and participation plans and therefore investment in these areas is not recorded here.

### Note about the data:

The investment forecasts below in access, financial support and research and evaluation does not represent not the total amount spent by providers in these areas. It is the additional amount that providers have committed following the introduction of variable fees in 2006-07. The OfS does not require providers to report on investment in success and progression and therefore investment in these areas is not represented.

The figures below are not comparable to previous access and participation plans or access agreements as data published in previous years does not reflect latest provider projections on student numbers.

Table 4a - Investment summary (£)

Access and participation plan investment summary (£)	Academic year				
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
<b>Total access activity investment (£)</b>	£381,925.00	£355,575.00	£355,575.00	£355,575.00	£355,575.00
Access (pre-16)	£175,946.00	£158,788.00	£158,788.00	£158,788.00	£158,788.00
Access (post-16)	£148,179.00	£147,777.00	£147,777.00	£147,777.00	£147,777.00
Access (adults and the community)	£53,800.00	£45,010.00	£45,010.00	£45,010.00	£45,010.00
Access (other)	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00
<b>Financial support (£)</b>	£45,000.00	£45,000.00	£45,000.00	£45,000.00	£45,000.00
<b>Research and evaluation (£)</b>	£54,825.00	£54,075.00	£54,075.00	£54,075.00	£54,075.00

Table 4b - Investment summary (HF1%)

Access and participation plan investment summary (%HF1)	Academic year				
	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
<b>Higher fee income (£HF1)</b>	£1,696,750.00	£1,573,350.00	£1,573,350.00	£1,573,350.00	£1,573,350.00
<b>Access investment</b>	22.5%	22.6%	22.6%	22.6%	22.6%
<b>Financial support</b>	2.7%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%	2.9%
<b>Research and evaluation</b>	3.2%	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%
<b>Total investment (as %HF1)</b>	28.4%	28.9%	28.9%	28.9%	28.9%

