



# Outreach @Warwick

WARWICK  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Issue 9 Autumn/Winter 2017



## Foreword

from our Provost, Christine Ennew



*"Since the last academic year, there have been plenty of exciting developments within Widening Participation and Outreach here at Warwick,*

*including the launch of a new programme, Pathways to Banking, and the expansion of the National Collaborative Outreach Programme, Think Higher. Within this issue you can also read about our contextual offer policy which takes contextual data into account as part of the offer-making process. Ensuring the university is accessible to students from all backgrounds is one of the eight values set out in Warwick's University strategy, demonstrating our commitment to widening participation and the significance which the university places*

*on this important work. The opportunities provided to students by the team of great benefit in ensuring that students from all backgrounds gain a truly invaluable insight into higher education.*

*With 2018 almost on our doorstep, there are many interesting opportunities ahead for your students to be supported and engaged in their journey to university.*

*We look forward to welcoming you and your students to Warwick in the near future and would like to thank you for your continued engagement."*

## Introducing... Pathways to Banking & Finance



Pathways to Banking and Finance is a new programme for 2017/18 which targets Years 10-13 students interested in studying Business, Economics or pursuing a career within the financial services sector.

50 students successfully secured a place on the first 2 year programme which takes place during years 12 and 13, seeing off stiff competition from over 75 applicants for their places. Students on the post-16 programme and their parents/carers were welcomed on to Warwick's campus for the launch event on Saturday 11 November 2017. This included talks from Professor Robin Naylor of the Economics department; Majeed Iqbal, a senior manager at

Deutsche Bank in Birmingham; and Faryaal Aziz, a current first year student at Warwick who completed another Pathways outreach programme on what can be expected from the student perspective.

The first cohort of students will undertake a range of activities over the next 2 years to help them make an informed decision about their future study and career choices.

A two hour in-school session is also available to students in years 10 and 11 between January and March 2018. To register interest for in-school events, please e-mail [pathways@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:pathways@warwick.ac.uk) with suitable dates.

### Outreach Programmes in Numbers...

New students on our programmes are as follows\*

39 on Pathways to Law

53 on Pathways to Banking & Finance

84 on Unitracks

(Realising Opportunities and Warwick Sutton Scholars have yet to finalise their new cohorts)  
\*Accurate at the time of print

For further information about Pathways to Banking and Finance, please e-mail: [pathways@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:pathways@warwick.ac.uk) or visit our website at [www.warwick.ac.uk/pathwaystobanking](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/pathwaystobanking)

In this issue:

Warwick's New Contextual Offer!

Update on the WP and Outreach Team

Another year begins on some of our programmes

The Think Higher team has grown!



# What has Pathways to Law done for me?

By Faryaal Aziz

*Coming from a background where the sciences are of immense interest, I frequently get asked: "Why did you choose to study Law?" or "What inspired you to study such an academically challenging subject?" My response, without doubt, has always revolved around my participation on the Pathways to Law programme.*

*Pathways to Law has served to be an invaluable educational and social experience, one that has contributed to my self-development and helped me to make an informed decision about my higher education. Once selected for this fantastic programme, I had the chance to explore the avenue of Law in quite some depth, being offered multiple opportunities including the opportunity to undertake work placements in National and Regional Law firms like Eversheds, and Clarke Willmott. One huge benefit of the work experience was that it imparted an insight into legal practice and culture and overall gave me a feel of the legal industry. Further to this, I had the opportunity to shadow second year Law students at the University of Warwick and attend lectures and seminars. I found the lectures compelling and stimulating, and I was inclined to learn more. The networking events, question and answer panels with legal professionals, along with all the support delivered through the pathways programme like personal statement help was the icing on the cake.*

*Simply put, Pathways to Law has been an enriching program and has contributed hugely to my ultimate decision of studying Law. I recommend any student, whether set on Law or not, to grab this opportunity with both hands and immerse in what this amazing programme has to offer.*

For more information on the programme, please visit the website [warwick.ac.uk/study/outreach/whatweoffer/pathways/](http://warwick.ac.uk/study/outreach/whatweoffer/pathways/)

## UNITRACKS LAUNCH

The UniTracks team welcomed around 180 people onto campus on 14 October this year, made up of approximately 80 year 10 students and their parents/carers or teachers. The aim of the day was to welcome the new year 10 students onto the programme, and inform them and their parents/carers what they can expect during this academic year, and beyond. During the day, the students experienced a session lead by the Warwick Consulting Society, had a tour of campus and got to grill our student ambassadors in a Q&A session.

### So, what is in store for our new Year 10s?

Their first project is called 'We are UniTracks', where each school group is working towards submitting a 2-page article for the 'UniTracks Times' all about their hometown and people who they view as local heroes or community champions. Their first task within this is to individually write a short essay on what it's like to grow up in their hometown. As ever, it has been interesting to read the young people's views, particularly where they have changed from being slightly negative to more positive!

Then, during the spring term, each school group will take part in a project working with either WBS on the Big Deal, or History and Film/TV Studies on Shooting the Past - more on these projects in the next newsletter!

**The Launch Day was a great success, helped as always by our amazing team of student ambassadors. Participants and parents/carers had the opportunity to give feedback, and here is a flavour of what they said:**

A fantastic opportunity... that will enable (the students) to engage in projects that are going to challenge them and broaden their abilities.

A most enjoyable and informative day. We were made very welcome by staff and students alike.

The event was very helpful and gave a good insight into university life.

The Q&A was really helpful as I feel as though I am thoroughly informed about university life.

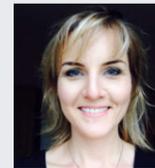


## Reintroducing the team...



**Paul Blagburn**

Head of Widening Participation and Outreach



**Marie Diebolt**

Outreach Officer (Realising Opportunities and Primary Programme)



**Laura Harris**

Pathways to the Progressions Co-ordinator (Pathways to Law and Pathways to Banking)



**Catherine Munn**

Widening Participation and Outreach Manager  
\*maternity leave



**Paul Beaufoy**

Widening Participation Assistant



**Victoria Hill**

Outreach Officer (Student Progression Team)



**Baljit Gill**

Widening Participation and Outreach Manager  
\*maternity cover



**Hannah Jones**

Widening Participation Assistant



**Maria Kehr**

Widening Participation Co-ordinator (Warwick Sutton Scholars)



**Katie Barlow**

Widening Participation Events and Operations Team Manager



**Catherine McNicholl**

Outreach Officer (UniTracks)



**Kate McCarthy**

Research and Evaluation Officer



**Claire Edden**

Outreach Officer (Experience Warwick Programme)



**Maria Littley**

Outreach Officer (Pathways to Law and Pathways to Banking)



**Andy Thompson**

Progression to Postgraduate Project Officer

## Contextual Offer

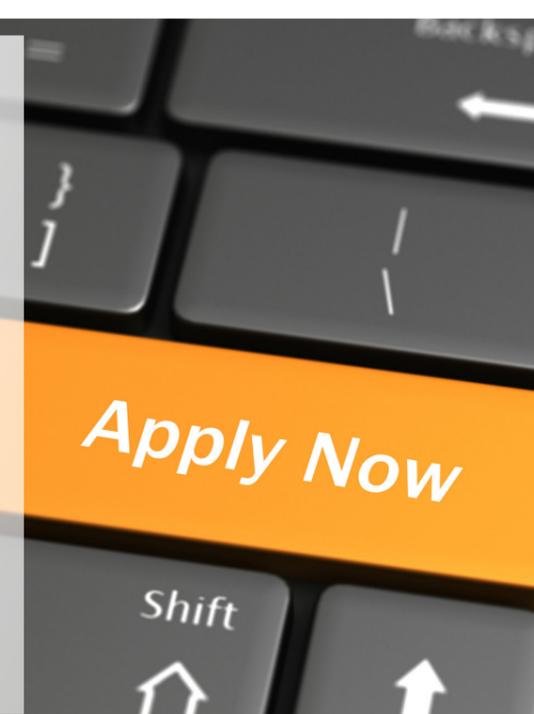
The university has developed a new policy which takes into account a number of contextual factors when assessing a student's application to study at Warwick. This policy has been created to support students who are considered suitable to receive an offer of a place for their chosen course, but whose personal and educational circumstances make it less likely that they will achieve the standard entry criteria.

The contextual offers policy uses both individual and school indicators to determine eligibility. The University of Warwick recognises that the school indicators used to outline our contextual data approach are not a reflection on the quality of the school or college. Indeed we appreciate that many schools and colleges that have contextual flags are deemed as good or outstanding in many other ways.

From 2017 contextual offers will be applied to all applications, and students who meet two of the eligibility criteria will be made an offer one or two grades below the standard university offer (to a minimum of BBB).

For more information about this policy and to check whether your students meet the criteria please visit our website:

[www.warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/contextualoffers](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/apply/contextualoffers)



## ...Student Funding and Finance 2018/19: An update

At the time of writing, the government are yet to confirm the full financial support package available to students starting their university studies in 2018/19. However, two policy changes have been recently announced:

- The earning threshold for student loan repayments will be raised from £21,000 to £25,000 a year from next April and adjusted in subsequent years in line with average earnings.
- Tuition fees will be frozen at 2017/18 levels, meaning the maximum charge for full-time courses in 2018/19 will be £9,250.

For the most up to date information about financial support, visit [gov.uk/studentfinance](http://gov.uk/studentfinance).

Warwick will continue to offer non-repayable bursaries of up to £3,000 to students with the lowest household incomes who are starting with us in 2018/19.

For the full eligibility criteria, please check our website at [warwick.ac.uk/warwickusb](http://warwick.ac.uk/warwickusb)

The funding outreach team offer a variety of free, impartial workshops and presentations to support you, your students and their parents around tuition fees, student loans and budgeting at university.

To find out more, visit [warwick.ac.uk/studentfunding/outreach](http://warwick.ac.uk/studentfunding/outreach) or call us on 024 7615 0769

Your contacts for anything Funding and Finance are Rebecca Ayres and Kate Gibbins, they can be contacted via email at: [fundingoutreach@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:fundingoutreach@warwick.ac.uk)



## Introducing the ThinkHigher Team!

ThinkHigher Coventry and Warwickshire, a collaboration between University of Warwick, Coventry University and other local partners, has been working with a range of Warwickshire schools to roll out our National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP).

Managed by Martin Price and co-ordinated by Kayleigh Lampard, the work in Warwickshire sees a team of Raising Aspirations Coordinators, Laura Fisher, Jamie Ormes and Claire Muttock, working closely with target schools to understand and address barriers to progression. The team are working with a cohort of around 450 pupils, from years 9-13. The project has launched with a series of on-campus events (2 for years 9-11 and one each for years 12 and 13) which have been attended by a total of 380 pupils.

The team are now working intensively in schools and colleges to meet the young people 1:1, and build a programme of further on-campus and in-school events for the spring and summer terms. The work is supported by a team of ThinkHigher ambassadors, made up of undergraduate and postgraduate students from both Warwick and Coventry universities, as well as year 12 and 13 students from colleges and sixth forms.

For more information on the project, and ThinkHigher's other work, contact [thinkhigher@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:thinkhigher@warwick.ac.uk), visit the website [www.thinkhigher.ac.uk](http://www.thinkhigher.ac.uk) and follow the team on [@thinkhighercw](https://twitter.com/thinkhighercw)

More information on the NCOP programme can be found on HEFCE's webpages: [hefce.ac.uk/sas/ncop/](http://hefce.ac.uk/sas/ncop/)

## NEW OUTREACH WEBSITE!

Check out our new and improved website [warwick.ac.uk/outreach](http://warwick.ac.uk/outreach) for all the up to the date information on 'What we offer' and how your students can get involved. Now including our Young Person's Guide to University as an online look-book!



## CONNECT WITH US...

Also, follow us on [@OutreachWarwick](https://twitter.com/OutreachWarwick) for all the latest happenings on and off campus.

## DIARY DATES:

- Schools Warwick Visit - 24th January
- Preparing for University Day (Year 10) - 7th March
- Schools Warwick Visit - 14th March

## Contact Us

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 024 7657 3555

 [warwick.ac.uk/outreach](http://warwick.ac.uk/outreach)  
 @OutreachWarwick