

Broxtowe College Access Agreement

1.0 Level of Fees

- 1.1 The level of fee will be £3,000
- 1.2 This fee will apply to its Hefce Directly funded higher education. This currently applies to only one full-time programme: the BTEC Higher National Diploma in Contemporary Music Performance. (The College currently has Hefce funding for 10 FTEs).
- 1.3 All other higher education provision at the College is franchised under Associate College agreements from both De Montfort University, Leicester and the University College, Northampton. For these programmes, the College will implement the fee levels and access agreements of the partner higher education institutions.

2.0 Bursaries and other financial support for students to be provided from additional fee income.

- 2.1 The College gives a clear assurance that it will give a £300 annual bursary to all students who qualify for the full Higher Education Maintenance grant of £2,700 (2006 figures). This information will be provided by the Student Loan Company and supported by their existing on-line eligibility checker. This bursary will be paid in two equal instalments: the first in November and the second in January.
- 2.2 Further bursary support of £500 towards musical instrument costs to be awarded to students who are “first in the family” (as verified by MIS) who have shown commitment to their studies by achieving 95% attendance. The musical instrument bursary is to be paid on 31 January each year.

3.0 Provision of information on financial support available to students and prospective students.

- 3.1 Financial information will be made available to all prospective students considering whether to join the course. Under this agreement. This information will detail the annual and aggregate fee for the course, the bursary arrangements, and other external sources of financial support and advice available to the student (eg. www.aimhigher.ac.uk, www.dfes.gov.uk/studentssupport).
- 3.2 This information will be available in the College prospectus, course leaflet(s), “Family Guide” and on the College website.
- 3.3 The College employs a dedicated Higher Education Administrator based in its Student Support Services Section. This member of staff is available to give financial advice to prospective higher education students.

3.4 During student induction, the Higher Education Administrator delivers sessions on ‘Student Finance.’

4.0 **Outreach Activities to be funded through additional income**

4.1 The College currently engages in a range of activities supported by AimHigher targeted principally at full-time students in the 16-19 age range. The target group are students in local schools and students on further education music programmes within the College.

The College plans to reinforce and extend this activity by offering a range of music taster workshops to raise aspirations towards this area of study.

The College plans to use 5% of its additional fee income to support this activity. The income would be used to cover, inter alia, production and distribution of promotional materials and transport costs.

The College is particularly keen to attract more mature learners onto the programme from its local community and will use 5% of its additional fee income to target this market and organise taster workshops as noted above.

Our particular focus is to target first-in-the-family students and students from low participation wards as identified in local AimHigher data.

The College proposes to offer between 4 and 6 workshops for up to 10 students per workshop.

5.0 **Additional Fee Income and Access Measures**

5.1 Income/Expenditure

Fee Income: £18,000

Planned Expenditure:

10 x £300 bursaries	£3000
10 x £500 bursaries	£5000
Outreach activity	£1800
Learning Tutor	<u>£8200</u>
	<u>£18000</u>

The College already attracts a high proportion of its students from “non-traditional” backgrounds. It would seem that Contemporary Popular Music attracts this type of student and contributes to the College’s widening participation strategy. To illustrate this point, on the 2004-05 cohort:

12.5%	pay 100% of current fee
12.5%	pay 11% of current fee
75%	Pay no fee (maximum LEA grant)

The cohort has the following age profile,

18-19 years	0%
19-21 years	25%
21+	75%

The College retention rate was 80%.

The College is conscious that retention is a potential issue for this type of student. The College proposes to strengthen the provision for student support by creating a post of academic learning tutor. This post will enhance student study skills and support them during their learning, particularly in the academic aspects of the course.

5.2 Milestones and Objectives

5.2.1 The College has established the following milestones and objectives: based on the base-line data in 5.1 above:

- Recruit to target 2006-2010
- Increase internal progression by 5% p.a.
- Increase recruitment in the 18-21 age range by 5% p.a.
- Appoint additional student support tutor by 09/2006
- Introduce use of student personal development profile 09/2005.

6.0 Monitoring/Reporting Process

The College undertakes to monitor compliance with this agreement. Compliance will be monitored by the Head of Higher Education using data supplied by both the College MIS and by the programme teaching team through the process of annual course review (SAR).