

Central Film School Access and Participation Plan Summary 2025-2029

What is an Access and Participation Plan?

An Access and Participation Plan (APP) sets out how a university or higher education provider will improve equality of opportunity for underrepresented students. This summary provides an overview of our commitments and key activities to support access, success, and progression for all students.

You can read the full Access and Participation Plan for Central Film School on our website.

Access and Participation at Central Film School

Central Film School (CFS) is committed to providing a high-quality, inclusive education in film and screen industries. Our mission is to ensure that students from all backgrounds can access, succeed in, and progress from higher education. We aim to create a diverse learning environment that amplifies underrepresented voices and fosters creative excellence.

Our APP identifies key areas where further action is needed to provide equality of opportunity for students at CFS and outlines how we will address these challenges. This work aligns with our institutional values of inclusivity, diversity, and equity, which underpin everything we do.

Fees We Charge

Our undergraduate tuition fees for UK students are usually £11,130 per year for full-time study, with the foundation year costing £9,275. More details can be found on our website.

Financial Help Available

To support students from low-income backgrounds, we offer a range of financial support. Below is an overview of key financial support available:

Financial Support	Eligibility Criteria	Amount Available
Women in Film Scholarships	Female students in technical filmmaking roles	£3,000 each

Equipment and Travel Bursaries	Students from underrepresented backgrounds	£500 - £1,000
Hardship Fund	Students experiencing financial difficulties	£500 - £800
Contextual Admissions Support	Care-experienced, FSM-eligible, young carers	Varies

See the full APP for more details on financial support options.

What We Are Trying to Achieve

Using data and student feedback, we have identified key objectives to improve access, success, and progression at CFS:

- **Increase access for students from underrepresented backgrounds:**
 - Increase the proportion of students from low-participation neighbourhoods to 25% by 2029 (**EORR Risks 1, 2, 3**).
 - Expand outreach programs in schools and colleges to support students from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- **Improve student retention and attainment:**
 - Reduce the attainment gap between BAME (Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic) and white students to 10% by 2029 (**EORR Risks 6, 7, 9**).
 - Improve continuation and completion rates for all students, particularly for those from Black and South Asian backgrounds (**EORR Risks 6, 9, 10, 11**).
- **Enhance graduate employability and career progression:**
 - Achieve a 70% graduate employment rate for students from underrepresented groups (**EORR Risk 12**).
 - Strengthen industry connections and expand opportunities for paid internships.
- **Increase representation of women in technical filmmaking roles:**
 - Ensure gender parity in BA Practical Filmmaking by 2027 (**EORR Risk 12, additional risk of underrepresentation in industry**).
 - Provide scholarships and mentorship programs to encourage women in cinematography, sound design, and other technical fields.

Intervention Strategies

CFS has developed targeted interventions to support access, success, and progression:

1. Targeted Outreach & Pre-Enrolment Support (EORR 1, 2, 3)

- Deliver workshops in schools and colleges in low-participation areas.
- Offer free places on our Future Filmmakers summer school for eligible students.
- Provide pre-enrolment mentoring for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Work with local education providers to raise awareness of careers in film.

2. Student Financial and Academic Support (EORR Risks 6, 10)

- Expand hardship funds and bursary schemes to reach more students in need.
- Provide study skills workshops and one-on-one academic coaching.
- Implement peer mentoring programs to support retention and student success.
- Ensure financial support packages align with cost-of-living needs for students.

3. Closing Attainment Gaps (EORR Risks 6, 7, 9)

- Introduce inclusive curriculum reforms to ensure cultural relevance.
- Deliver unconscious bias training for academic staff.
- Offer additional academic support for BAME students, including mentoring and tailored learning resources.
- Increase tutorial availability and individualised learning support.

4. Enhancing Graduate Employability (EORR Risk 12)

- Increase the availability of paid internships, prioritising students from underrepresented groups.
- Launch a digital career hub to connect students with alumni and industry mentors.
- Host networking events and career development workshops.
- Establish an employer partnership program to improve student access to industry opportunities.

5. Supporting Women in Technical Filmmaking Roles (EORR Risk 12, additional industry underrepresentation risk)

- Provide targeted scholarships for women pursuing cinematography, editing, and sound design.
- Establish industry partnerships with organisations supporting women in film.
- Increase the proportion of female lecturers in technical filmmaking disciplines.
- Run workshops and masterclasses highlighting women in film leadership.

6. Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing (EORR Risk 8)

- Expand mental health and wellbeing support, including integrated support hubs.
- Offer peer-led support groups to reduce student isolation.
- Partner with external organisations to provide mental health resources tailored to creative students.
- Provide film-specific stress management and resilience-building sessions.

Evaluation – Measuring Our Progress

We will assess the effectiveness of our APP through:

- Tracking student outcomes, including retention, attainment, and progression rates.
- Evaluating the impact of financial and academic support interventions.
- Producing regular reports on progress and areas for improvement.

Contact Details for Further Information For more details about our Access and Participation Plan, please visit our website or contact us at studentservices@centralfilmschool.com