



Best
Practice
Network



Best Practice Network

Access and Participation Statement

Introduction

Best Practice Network (BPN) is committed to widening participation and access to higher education. We have a proven track record in the design, development, and delivery of high-quality CPD and qualifications to aspiring teachers, practicing teachers, school leaders, early years practitioners, teaching assistants and SENCOs.

Our core mission is to enable our students to be the best they can be and transform the lives of children and young people through our extensive suite of training programmes and apprenticeships.

Access

Our portfolio of programmes, offered nationwide, internationally, and at a range of levels, encourages and supports access to higher education through a wide variety of modes of study and flexible provision including distance and blended learning.

Equality and Inclusion

We comply fully with the Equality Act 2010 in the recruitment of students and are committed to inclusive learning and teaching. We have detailed policies to ensure that this commitment is backed up with actions, these are all publicly available (<https://www.bestpracticenet.co.uk/our-policies>).

Of particular relevance is our Equality and Diversity [policy](#) which sets out the steps we have taken in promoting and achieving equality of opportunity for all students.

Admission of Students

We welcome applications from everyone, regardless of any specific access requirements and our mission is to ensure that our services are accessible to all. We are continually evolving the work of our student support teams which enables us to provide targeted and dedicated support to applicants from their first enquiry through the application process and during enrolment. These teams also provide advice and guidance on both academic and pastoral concerns.

Our admission policies ([Link](#)) follow the guiding principles for admissions, recruitment and widening access as set out in the UK Quality Code for Higher Education: <https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code>

Participation

BPN has approximately 20,000 students each year, supported through a wide range of study levels and funding opportunities. In addition, our suite of policies and procedures ensures inclusive participation and accessibility for all students, for example adjusting learning and teaching resources to meet students' particular needs and a suite of recommended tools to help with technical accessibility such as screen readers etc.

Support for Students

BPN's top priority is a safe and secure studying environment in which all students can contribute equally and effectively to the best of their abilities regardless of their personal characteristics. In service of this priority, we have a number of detailed policies covering aspects such as Safeguarding, Child Protection, Health and Safety and Prevent.

We are proud of our wide range of resources designed and developed to maximise student engagement and support, and hence provide students with a high-quality academic experience and to succeed in and beyond education. These include teams dedicated to supporting students in all aspects from application to graduation:

1. **Candidate and Partner Support (CAPS) team** - Process applications, assign to groups and liaise with students regarding all taught sessions, deferrals from one group or cohort to another. This team acts as first point of contact and supports all students throughout their learning journey.
2. **Assessment team** - Support students with all aspects of assessment including advising on and processing professional registrations, implementing and responding to issues raised by Turnitin (plagiarism software) and dealing with applications for an Individual Support Plan (ISP) and extension requests to submission deadlines.
3. **E-Learning team** – Providing dedicated technical support for our Virtual Learning Environments (e.g Canvas and Mosaic)
4. **Lead and senior assessor support teams** – Supporting students around all aspects of assessment results and queries around marking.
5. **Tutor and facilitation team- Providing pastoral and academic support as well as stretch and challenge to ensure students meet their full potential.**

We recognise that some students have special or additional learning needs that require additional support beyond that which is available to all. Students can apply for an individual support plan. Each application is reviewed by their Programme Lead and the Lead Assessor and individualised support plans are agreed in a case-by-case basis. Where required, students are further supported by our team of SEND experts.