THE AWARDS 2021

University of the Year

Institution name	University of York
Submission title or project name	
Nominee/key personnel	
URL	
Submission	York's intense early Covid experience forged our strategy of empathy, engagement and leadership. In late 2019, a new Vision for York had defined our values and purpose as a 'university for public good'. When Covid struck, that vision became a blueprint for not only what we did in response but how we responded. It set the tone for purposeful, open and honest collaborations and communications: above all we placed the wellbeing of our students and staff – and our neighbours – at the heart of our response. We optimised our existing partnerships to work collectively to support our campus and city community, tackle inequalities and provide clear leadership based on our values. We were decisive in taking control of what we could, and responded with agility, compassion and empathy to situations outside of our direct control to minimise the impacts of the pandemic on those most vulnerable in our community.