

# THE AWARDS 2021

## Widening Participation or Outreach Initiative of the Year

<b>Institution name</b>	Manchester Metropolitan University
<b>Submission title or project name</b>	Manchester Metropolitan University First Generation: A complete journey of support
<b>Nominee/key personnel</b>	Helen Lord; Sophia McNeill; Peter Riley
<b>URL</b>	<a href="https://www.mmu.ac.uk/giving/firstgeneration/">https://www.mmu.ac.uk/giving/firstgeneration/</a>
<b>Submission</b>	<p>The First Generation Scholarship Programme reflects Manchester Metropolitan University's commitment to addressing the attainment gap for under-represented groups, and provides participants with an opportunity to be part of a supportive and welcoming community.</p> <p>The programme offers a complete journey of support for young people from Greater Manchester whose parents have no direct experience of higher education. It delivers practical support and application guidance to Year 12 and 13 students to help them access and transition to university.</p> <p>In addition to providing a support network, mentorship and connections, the programme aims to give students the self-belief to know that university is a place where they will be accepted, thrive and find the confidence to follow their ambitions. The result is a programme that breaks down barriers before, during and after university.</p> <p>During 2019/20 First Generation programme students achieved higher progression rates than the wider university cohort, particularly among BAME students.</p>