



Harper Adams University

THE Awards 2019 – Widening Participation or Outreach Initiative of the Year

Institution/Nominee	Harper Adams University
Title	The Field to Fork Festival
Key personnel	Harper Adams University
Submission	<p>Community engagement, the civic role of universities and broadening access to higher education are all policy priorities for the sector, but how does a smaller university in a rural setting address these challenges? By flinging open its doors and thinking big!</p> <p>With an outreach event attracting 700 schoolchildren, and over 9,000 members of the public the next day, Harper Adams turned its campus into a unique festival venue to celebrate the best of food and farming.</p> <p>Educational activities mingled with alumni food vendors, music and entertainment, making the Field to Fork Festival a fun way to connect schoolchildren, their teachers, parents and others with the source of their food and the science that lies behind it.</p> <p>Our experience underlined the importance of a cross-institution approach to outreach activities – so much so that we repeated the Festival in 2019 with an even greater response from schools and the public!</p>