



Meet the team

We are a group of students, academics and professional staff. We each bring our different expertise, experiences and disciplinary practices to help shape new ways of doing and thinking about widening participation.

The Principal Investigators of the project are:

D. VAN HANDEL
(Faculty of Health & Social Sciences)



D. CLIVE HARRIS
(Faculty of Science & Technology)



Vanessa and Clive lead a core group of researchers:

E. BENJAMIN
(PhD student)

D. S. ELLIOTT
(Faculty of Media & Communications)

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(PhD student)

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J. AUSTIN
(Project Co-ordinator)

For more information and to read some of our Fair Access Research blogs take a look at the Centre for Excellence blog:

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Why does fair access research matter?

Universities and colleges in England have forecast spending £750.8 million on interventions and financial support to enable marginalised and underrepresented learners to access and succeed across higher education.

Knowing that this expenditure is being effectively used to support those students most in need is of paramount importance.

Widening participation research matters because the more that we know about the challenges that some students face in accessing and succeeding in university, the better placed we are to work together to change policy and practice.

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This matters to BU because the university is committed to nurturing the values of creating, sharing and inspiring. Having a diverse student body who feel included in the co-creation of the university experience is at the core of BU's values and vision.

Finding the best ways to support different groups of students to belong at BU is an essential part of ensuring students stay and succeed during their time here.

Our Fair Access Research aligns the university's vision

. We recognise that it is through ongoing knowledge exchange that new ideas, new learning and new leadership in this area can be realised.

This project matters to you because it is about the students you teach and those who you reach with your research.

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We want to know how widening participation fits into your teaching and research practice and find ways to create a sustainable culture of widening participation.

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