As a civic university, situated in the heart of Bristol, we aim to inspire, engage, and involve learners of all ages. We strive to make a positive contribution to the outcomes of school and college students; to work with educators and carers to develop innovative outreach; and partner together to tackle social inequalities. Our relationship with the City of Bristol is central to all we do, and who we are.

University of Bristol
Barton Hill Micro-campus

Engaging with the community

We are excited to be one of three tenants in a new development at Wellspring Settlement, with our newly opened micro-campus.

Housed in three adjoining shipping containers, it is a place for us to work collaboratively with a range of partners and communities in East Bristol. The micro-campus hosts a wide variety of activity including University taster courses, events and the chance to find out about job opportunities or get involved with research. You can find out more by visiting our website, or contacting us.

Inspiring, engaging, involving

• We work with learners at every stage of their education, delivering a range of events, from Year 6 University Conferences, to Year 9 Options Workshops and KS5 campus sessions.
• Every year, 800 primary school students take part in the FOCUS programme with IntoUniversity, to learn about university life and explore the campus.
• Over 650 local state school/FE college students take part in Access to Bristol and Pathways to Health Sciences each year.
• 100 local students become Bristol Scholars annually, benefiting from subject tuition and tailored contextual offers.
• We provide enhanced bursary support for local students who completed an intensive outreach programme with us.
• Current Bristol students from the local area return to their schools to showcase HE and inspire the next generation of learners.
• We cover the cost of transport for local students attending our on-campus events.
• For those who can’t visit the campus in-person, our events and festivals are accessible via our virtual resources.

Close connections

• We enjoy an active partnership with Venturers Trust, providing hands-on support, expertise and encouragement to ensure that all young people receive a truly inspiring education.
• Our staff Governors are represented in every school in the Trust creating firm connections between schools and the University.
• Venturers Trust students visit the Bristol campus, receive tailored advice and guidance and are prioritised for our outreach programmes.
• Students from Montpelier High School V6 and Merchants’ Academy can receive a guaranteed, contextual offer to study at the University of Bristol.

Informing, supporting, encouraging

• Our students volunteer as tutors and mentors, providing tailored, one-to-one support to enable students to achieve academically.
• We offer a wide range of curriculum-based subject sessions in schools, in the community and on campus to ensure that students can explore all the courses we have to offer.
• University student volunteers support holiday revision sessions to enrich academic learning for assessments.

World-class education, close to home

• An established partnership with The Brilliant Club enables their Scholars Programme to connect young people in our region with researchers to explore university-style learning.
• Our academics deliver workshops and talks in local schools to offer information, advice and guidance about applying to university.

Enhanced admissions

• We provide a wide-ranging contextual offer scheme to encourage applications from under-represented groups.
• Our standard contextual offer is up to two grades below our typical entry requirement, while our Bristol Scholars are eligible for offers up to four grades below the standard.

Supporting learners of all ages

• We run a number of short courses delivered in local communities for mature learners exploring a return to education.
• Bespoke support for mature learners is offered, including named contacts within the University who offer advice and support.
• All Access to HE requirements are set at a contextual level and we offer alternative pathways to study, including foundation years.

Nurturing talent; developing careers

• Our Access Postgrad scheme helps our undergraduates to explore postgraduate study options.
• University of Bristol students contribute to our local outreach activity, acting as Student Ambassadors for our programmes and volunteering through Student Hubs, developing employability skills.
• Careers guidance supports our students’ progression to careers and entrepreneurship in the Bristol region.

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Ramla, Year 9 IntoUniversity Bristol East

Ramla first came to IntoUniversity when she attended a ‘What is a University?’ workshop with her Primary school. She has since taken part in a variety of programmes and has benefitted from one-to-one support from University of Bristol mentors.

‘Mentoring helps me, it’s really good. With mentoring, the world doesn’t exist around you – it’s just you and your mentor and you are getting all the focus on you. My grades and confidence have improved. I remember when I first started I was so quiet and I couldn’t even speak to Hafeez (staff member) and wouldn’t even say hello. But now I have confidence to speak to people. I only used to speak to my Mum, I didn’t speak at school. At IntoUniversity you can be yourself and you don’t have to hide anything’.

Vicki Starkie, Head of Secondary, Merchants’ Academy

‘Through our partnership with the University of Bristol our students in all year groups have had a number of fantastic opportunities. The sponsorship has given us support in areas across the Academy and helps us get the very best for our young people’.

Ethan, 2nd year Geography student

‘I participated in both the Access to Bristol and Bristol Scholars schemes and absolutely loved them! The main thing was the network you create. A lot of us are still in contact with each other and it’s nice to have a network that goes beyond course mates and societies. It’s something you all share, being from the same area.’