



**FutureLearn
Access and Participation Statement
2025/2026**

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FutureLearn is a British digital education platform attracting 22 million registered learners across 195 countries to 1670 courses. Whether that is through completing short courses or completing full degree programmes FutureLearn is committed to seeing learners access education and succeed, no matter of background, or ability. Through its agile learning management system FutureLearn can work with several partners to cater to everyone's educational needs.

FutureLearn's core [values](#) lead their agenda in making lifelong learning a reality. Through **social learning** FutureLearn encourages all learners to be active, participate and learn together. Their **transformative** and **experimental** approach to learning gives learners from all backgrounds opportunities to develop and succeed. FutureLearn strives to break down barriers to learning and fosters a **purposeful** approach to delivering an equitable digital learning community, ensuring access and participation is nurtured.

FutureLearn believes in valuing diversity and recognises that different learners bring different perspectives, ideas, knowledge and culture. FutureLearn will not unlawfully discriminate based on individual characteristics or circumstances, as such discrimination represents a waste of talent and a denial of opportunity for self-fulfilment. FutureLearn aspires to create an inclusive teaching and learning environment by identifying and addressing barriers to learning.

FutureLearn strives to exceed current [accessibility](#) standards by developing a learning platform that aims to comply with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines to maximise learner participation. FutureLearn works with partners to create accessible courses and provides moderation to challenge any flagged language or behaviour that may create an intimidating environment. A team of learning designers is employed to adapt to the needs of the learners.

Within the Higher Education Services Division there is a dedicated team supporting learners from enrolment to completion. Student support officers are the point of contact for questions relating to courses, wellbeing, health concerns and pastoral advice. Academic support includes tailored assistance to ensure successful completion, including seminal support, study skills support, assessment support and careers advice.

In November 2024, FutureLearn implemented price reductions on thousands of online courses, with learners getting up to 50% off individual short course upgrades. It also offers geo-pricing across the globe, ensuring fairness and equity. By lowering prices, learners can unlock full access to courses across business, healthcare, teaching, tech, psychology, sustainability, politics and more, for much less. The new "Pay in 3" feature allows UK learners to pay for microcredential courses in three interest-free instalments, providing more flexibility and breaking down a significant barrier to education.

FutureLearn's work with partners promotes further opportunities for access and participation. Brunel University and Roehampton University offer geo-pricing with fees being between 53% to 66% lower in specified emerging economies, and Bradford offers scholarships for women. Although not directly involved in the pricing strategy, FutureLearn ensures this is visible on their platform.

FutureLearn works with partners to offer transition courses, such as York University's 'Exploring Chemistry' 4-week course. Learners can gain limited access for free, and the University recognises completion by offering reduced admissions points, improving access for those at risk of inequality of opportunity due to cost pressures or disadvantages in knowledge and skills.

Since September 2024, FutureLearn has partnered with The International Platform on Sport and Development to offer sponsored courses on sport and sustainable development in four languages (English, French, Spanish and Arabic), with plans for Chinese. With no entry requirements, this is open to anyone with an interest in sport.

FutureLearn has achieved many successes in providing access to education. Since December 2022, FutureLearn has offered free access to over 1200 courses for women and girls in Afghanistan, with over 56,000 learners enrolled. In March 2023, FutureLearn enabled staff and students at Ukrainian universities to enrol for free on courses, allowing 60,000 students to continue their learning. In September 2023, FutureLearn announced a partnership to accelerate Education for Sustainable Development in UNESCO learning cities, providing free access to online courses for 100,000 lifelong learners across the globe.

FutureLearn is firmly committed to providing access and participation to learners and has plans for developing its strategy for 2025-2026. Initiatives include developing systems for collecting data and learner analytics to track characteristics and course completion; providing more tailored course and careers support to enable students to plan their learning journeys; and reviewing curriculum to audit unconscious bias, decolonise content, incorporate culturally responsive teaching, and address intersectionality and diversity.