

# Aimhigher London Impact Report

## Executive Summary

In 2024–25, Aimhigher London continued to deliver measurable impact through targeted, collaborative work that empowers learners, strengthens partnerships and drives equity in access to higher education.

### Our Mission

We believe every learner has the right to a future shaped by opportunity, not circumstance. Through sustained partnerships with schools, colleges, universities and Virtual Schools, together we create inclusive, evidence-based programmes that raise aspirations, build confidence, and remove barriers to educational opportunity.

### Key Achievements

- **2,266 learners** supported across all key stages through 39 events
- **56%** of learners on free school meals progressed to higher education, **almost double the national average (29%)**
- **95%** of learners reported greater awareness, confidence and preparedness for higher education
- We are seeing continuous growth in participation among priority groups year on year
  - **BAME learners** 67% (up from 40% in 2019-20)
  - **SEND learners** 21% (up from 12% in 2018-19)
  - **Care-experienced learners** 4% (up from 1% in 2023–24)
  - **First-generation learners** 61% (up from 52% in 2018-19)

### Impact Highlights

- **Progression** 97% of learners received a university offer in 2024; 87% accepted their place.
- **Equity** Engagement from the most deprived postcodes has doubled since 2021–22, with significant gains among ‘white working-class’ and SEND learners.
- **Engagement** Strengthened collaboration between parents, practitioners and universities has deepened learner confidence and aspirations.

For first-generation students, this partnership is transformative with 100% of parents reporting that our webinars helped them feel actively equipped to support their child’s ambitions.

## Partnerships and Programmes

Our Finding Futures programme supports learners' development from Year 8 to Year 13, raising awareness, confidence, resilience and self-belief to prepare them for future success.

- 95% better understood how to choose higher education; 97% felt they would belong at university; 88% felt ready for the transition.



Our practitioner- and learner-focused events, delivered with our Disability and Care Experienced Working Groups, continue to drive inclusive practice, professional learning and the co-production of resources that strengthen belonging and progression across the region.

93% of professionals reported increased confidence and knowledge of the needs of learners with SEND or experience of care.

## Looking Ahead

As we enter 2025–26, our priorities focus on:

- **Deepening engagement** with learners through sustained progression pathways and collaborating with regional networks
- **Empowering partnerships** to align with national Access and Participation priorities through a greater regional understanding of need (EORR)
- **Scaling impact** through data-led evaluation and regional collaboration.
- **Strengthening evidence** to inform inclusive practice across sectors where gaps exist

Aimhigher London's strength lies in collaboration, a shared commitment to ensuring every young person, regardless of background, has the chance to aim higher, realise their potential and build their future.

**Empowering Learners • Building Futures • Tackling Barriers to Educational Opportunity**