REALISING OPPORTUNITIES
Working Together | Supporting Talent

We measured the impact of Realising Opportunities (RO) on Higher Education (HE) access and the evaluation found...

RO participants were significantly more likely than comparable non-participants to progress to HE and Research Intensive Universities (RIUs).

Entry rates were significantly higher across the majority of analysed cohorts, while access to RIUs was consistently stronger among RO students, both overall and among those who progressed to HE.



RO students were consistently more likely to enter HE than matched comparators.

Students who took part in RO had higher HE access rates than similar students who did not participate in the programme, but who had good GCSE attainment and came from disadvantaged backgrounds.



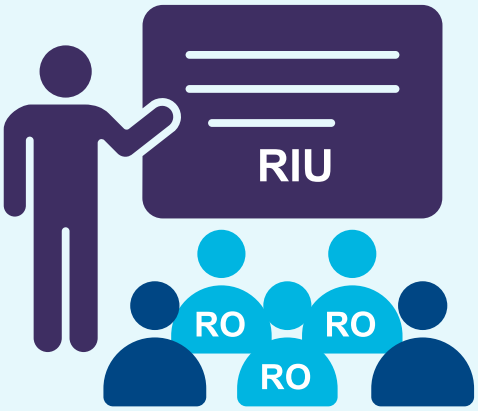
HE access rates for RO students were consistently above comparators.

Across all cohorts, HE access rates were up to 10% higher for RO programme participants at admission, and up to 12% higher after two years.



RO students were significantly more likely to access RIUs.

The programme appears to influence not only whether students go to university, but where they go; in one cohort, 35% of all RO students progressed to a RIU, compared with 25% of comparable non-participants.



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