

1. **Equity outcomes and strategies**

a) **Outcomes for improving performance for equity groups from 2015-2017**

Student Lifecycle

The student experience at UWS

University of Western Sydney

The **Student Life-Cycle** diagram depicts the students' journey and illustrates how UWS recruit and retain students and ensures they are well qualified and work-ready.

The sectors of the lifecycle are: Prior to becoming a UWS student; Throughout the degree; In career.

The Student Lifecycle has five sections: 1. Identification; 2. Engage; 3. Transform; 4. Empower, and; 5. Advance.

The inner segments of the cycle diagram show the Widening Participation programs that are delivered by UWS for each of the five sections. For further details of WP programs please go to: <http://www.uws.edu.au/wp>

Our historical participation rates and our forecast targets are contained in the table below:

					Forecast
PRIMARY Target Groups	Australian Population	HE Access (2011)	HE Participation (2011)	2014	2017
Low SES	25.00%	17.01%	15.88%	24.5%	24.9%
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	4.66%	1.64%	1.38%	1.4%	1.70%
Disability	8.00%	4.23%	4.77%	3.6%	3.80%
Non-English Speaking Background (NESB)	4.66%	3.92%	3.61%	6.1%	6.70%

UWS target initiatives for the primary target groups above, plus Students in Out-Of-Home-Care; Young Carers and Pacific communities. UWS also targets other equity groups of: Women (in non-traditional areas) and students in Regional and Remote locations.

b) **Strategies for achieving the outcomes**

The Office of Widening Participation (OWP) has its own procedures and plans, to effect the optimum learning outcomes and impact, which are aligned with the UWS corporate strategies such as:

UWS Strategies:

- Securing Success 2015-2020
- Making the Difference Strategy 2014-2016
- Engagement Plan 2014-2016
- Schools Engagement Strategic Plan 2014-16
- Learning & Teaching Plan 2012-2014
- Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment and Engagement Action Plan 2014-2017

OWP Plans / procedures:

- Widening Participation Plan 2015-2018
- WP Evaluation Framework
- WP Project Management & Reporting Procedure
- WP Targeting Procedure

2. **Evaluation Plan**

All WP programs and projects are subject to constant and planned monitoring and evaluation from their inception as the project plans are devised with 'SMART' objectives designed to meet outputs and outcomes. KPIs are formulated within the WP Evaluation Framework which collects data from students, Parents, Teachers and Community Influencers. The KPIs are set inside a wide range of UWS corporate objectives (IPP) which are constantly monitored, evaluated and reviewed.

3. **Partnerships and collaboration**

OWP has long-lasting and synergistic partnerships with other universities, schools, NGOs and community groups; examples:

University Partnerships	Community Partnerships
University of Sydney, University of Technology, Sydney, Australian Catholic University, Macquarie University, Charles Sturt University, Southern Cross University.	Life Without Barriers, The Smith Family, CarersNSW, Pacifica Community Groups, Australian Football League, Western Sydney Wanderers. Government and Non-Government Schools, Colleges, TAFEs