

Session Title:	Supporting Success, UCAS
Speaker(s):	Kim Eccleston, Head of Strategy and Reform, UCAS
Chair:	Reena
Reporter:	Fiona

Speaker/Institution Bio/Information:	Kim is a Mathematics graduate from Warwick University and has over 11 years of experience working at Warwick with 6 years of experience as their Head of Admissions. She has worked at UCAS for over 4 years, most recently as their Head of Strategy and Reform.
Overview/Aim of session:	This session will explore admissions reform on the horizon as well as a future look at the challenges the sector will likely face together in the coming years. We'll look at how we can pool our expertise and enthusiasm to ensure that students are well supported throughout ongoing times of change.
Workshop Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Key figures- down on student numbers in December 2022- global shock due to the pandemic. Long-term, projected growth. ● International student numbers increase- impacted strong narrative about domestic students losing out, but the numbers don't support the narrative. ● We as a sector, need to control the narrative with the numbers. ● Wales has the largest decline in applicants. ● NI- applicants to NI providers- uplift +2.1% ● Caps on places/ can't be accommodated. ● Huge differences which are stark between regions- close to 50% participation in London. NE largest gap- around 30%, 20pp difference. ● Year on year London growth- but what happens to those apps when London is full? Will students travel or is the London location more important? ● Accepts have largely decreased in lower tariff universities. ● Health and social care (Down 16.7%- impacted by Nursing which is the concern), Education and teaching (Down 10.2%)- career conditions are impacting subject choice. Can expect to see a focus on Nursing in the next Government administration. ● There is no single definition of Widening

	<p>Participation. By a range of measures- progress is hovering, with no significant change. Gaps still exist, small changes are being made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upwards trend of disclosure- increase in confidence to disclose, or increase in disability and mental health conditions? Probably both. • More applicants from China than from Wales to UK HEI. • Unplaced-not a failure. • 2019 release- quick decline my place- didn't have large impact. • 2024- caveat- slight decline so far. October deadline- subset of courses. -9.3% decrease in mature learners. Reapplicants are shrinking- no need for them to come through later. English increase in Polar1. • International, USA growth. • Journey to 1 million- policy will impact this, possible disruptions. Is this dip recovery, or a trend? Think it's recovery, stand by growth coming. • 2030 cohort are in year 7 now. • Huge opportunities- decision as sector on modes of delivery, accommodation. Need to do our best to serve this cohort of students.
<p>Case Studies/Examples:</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Scenarios/Roundtable discussions:</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>Questions and Answers:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requirements tool- is it A level/England only? First release A levels and BTECS- won't include portfolio qualifications or highly personalised diets quals. Highers/advanced highers are more complex. Challenge to present the information meaningfully. Fee status- not segmenting at all based on fees, not pulling out home/overseas, clearing or not. 2. Data 2019-2025- 2020 teacher assessed grades etc. impacted this, so how has data been used and guidance? We've gone back and forth on webinars to explore the best way to present this. Could expand range of data to level out bumps even tend to look 3-5 years. Feedback has been 5 years of data is the

	right amount.
SummaryKey takeaways:	<p>ACTIONS FOR US:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Would welcome from HELOA to encourage students to ask questions and spark curiosity with the entry grades tool. Likely to be released after equal consideration date.2. Outreach connection service- launch in spring, lives in the advisor portal, please add any opportunities on here.3. HELOA is significantly represented on UCAS council by Reena and Andy Jackson. Please use this formal method, or informally get in touch with any feedback/questions.