



1.3		Updated Aug 2023		External Relations
New University-wide policy applicable to undergraduate taught degree programmes. No policy previously in place.				
To establish the principle that an applicant's background – and/or personal, challenging circumstances that may have impacted an applicant's education – may be taken into consideration in the admissions process.				
This policy is relevant to admission decisions for Home applicants to undergraduate taught programmes at the University of Plymouth (abbreviated to UGH). The criteria for the application of the policy are to be reviewed annually.				
				Student Number Planning Committee October 2022.
				August 2023
				Annually
				Head of Student Recruitment and Admissions, External Relations
1.1	Oct 2022	Emma Corry	N/A	New policy. Issue of policy delayed until application of policy approved
1.2	Aug 2023	Emma Corry	1.1	Approved by Chairs Action. Policy amended Aug '23 to remove PGTH.
1.3	Aug 2023	Emma Corry	1.2	Approved by UEG to align with application of policy for entry 2024. Section 5.5 of previous policy revised to reflect only criteria for application of the policy for entry 2024.

This policy aims to provide full transparency for applicants in stating that information about an applicant's background/characteristics and/or personal circumstances will be taken into consideration in the assessment of an applicant's suitability to study at the University of Plymouth (the University).

The University's Student Number Planning Committee is responsible for approving admissions policies and practice.

The University's Head of Student Recruitment and Admissions is responsible for ensuring that policies and procedures regarding student recruitment and admissions are applied fairly and consistently, and in line with the University's strategic aims and objectives and any relevant legislation.

The University's Admissions team will apply such policies and procedures when assessing applications on behalf of the institution.

This policy incorporates and complies with relevant legislation and associated University policies, including but not limited to: Equality policy & legislation; Data Protection legislation; Rehabilitation of Offenders Act.

- (i) In addition to the provisions of the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulation, the University will process personal data relating to applicants in line with its Student Contract, the Data Protection Policy, and Applicant Privacy Policy. The University will not disclose to a third party any details regarding an individual's application without the applicant's permission to do so. This policy of non-disclosure includes family members of the applicant.
- (ii) However, the legislation requires the University to release certain information to UK authorities upon request to assist those authorities with the prevention and detection of fraud or other crimes. The University will release the requested information upon receipt of an appropriate request from UK authorities such as (but not limited to) the Police, Home Office (for immigration and related matters), local authorities, and the Department for Work and Pensions.
- (iii) The University may use anonymised data collected as part of an individual's application for the purpose of fulfilling statistical and reporting requirements.

In the interest of fairness and transparency, the University aims to eliminate making changes to its admissions policy and procedures mid-cycle. However, it may be the

case that external agencies (including those of the United Kingdom Government) amend or update their own regulations or guidance. Where it is required to do so, the sessionsvasean orrcresy1asrine

5.5 For entry 2024, the University considers the following to be possible indicators of personal circumstances or challenges that may have impacted on an individual's education and academic performance:

- Students from low-income households or classed as having low socioeconomic
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