

# Progression Agreement

## 2023-2024

**OCN London Access to  
HE Diploma students progressing  
to St Mary's University, Twickenham**



## Access to HE Students at St Mary's University, Twickenham

We welcome and celebrate a diverse student community at St Mary's University, Twickenham ("St Mary's"). This is why we set up a progression agreement with the OCN London<sup>1</sup> to say that we formally recognise all OCN Access to HE Diplomas, across all of our Academic Departments. Inclusiveness is one of the University's core values and we are committed to widening participation as demonstrated by our [contextualised approach to admissions](#). In addition to our admissions approach, this progression agreement sets out how we facilitate entry to our undergraduate courses for all Access to HE students. In this agreement, you may see slightly lower entry requirements than those usually asked for, the offer of support for UCAS applications, information about our open days, the offer of visits to St Mary's for taster days or masterclasses, and information about the support available when you are at the University. Please see the details of what St Mary's is proposing on pages 5-16.

## About St Mary's University

We are smaller than many universities, focusing on quality rather than quantity. The University's efforts to provide a great experience for its students, and its inspiring and supportive teaching, have been recognised in the *Times Good University Guide 2023* placing St Mary's within the top ten universities nationally, and in the top two universities in London, for both teaching quality, and the wider student experience. Our small size and our diverse, vibrant campus give St Mary's a wonderful community atmosphere. We pride ourselves on the excellent career prospects of our students, with 93%<sup>2</sup> of graduates in employment and /or further study

within 15 months of graduation. Established in 1850 and with a deep heritage in education, St Mary's has a strong reputation for teaching excellence and a student-centred approach.

The main campus is on Waldegrave Road in Twickenham within the grounds of Strawberry Hill House. There are a number of options for [accommodation](#) and there are halls of residence on campus. The main sports fields are located on the Teddington Lock campus in Broom Road, Teddington, and a sports track and more sports fields are located on the main campus.

Strawberry Hill House, seen below, is one of Britain's finest examples of Gothic revival architecture. Built by Horace Walpole in 1747, it is accompanied by many heritage sites that sit along this stretch of the Thames. St Mary's has strong collaborative partnerships with many of the historical and cultural organisations in Richmond and Twickenham. For example, students studying Humanities or Liberal Arts subjects will have the opportunity to not only visit these sites but work with them too.



<sup>1</sup> OCN London Home ([ocnlondon.org.uk](http://ocnlondon.org.uk))

<sup>2</sup> HESA 2020/21

## Our Ethos

The University has a long tradition of widening access to education, fostering a respectful and inclusive environment where all backgrounds are celebrated. Our equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) ambitions align with our Mission in which each human being is unique and valued. To support these ambitions our busy Widening Participation team identifies and eliminates barriers for students where we can, and our thriving staff and student EDI networks work to improve the experience of all students during their time with us.

We are proud that our University is a richly diverse community, where we draw on the talents of all our students and staff to create a culture of mutual respect and recognition, where we embrace and share new perspectives. We believe in the power of education to transform lives. At St Mary's we understand that our continued success is dependent on the contributions of every member of our community and it is this collective spirit that makes us distinctive. Inspired

by our Catholic foundation we put the student at the heart of everything we do, and our values of generosity of spirit, inclusiveness, respect and excellence set us apart.

Our Access and Participation Plan, which is approved and monitored by our regulator, the Office for Students, sets out our targets and commitments for reducing and eliminating any existing inequalities for students at St Mary's and addressing any barriers that might prevent anyone who chooses to study here from achieving their potential.

## About the Access to HE Diploma

The Diploma prepares adults (aged 19 and over) who do not necessarily have the qualifications required to enter university. Studying for an Access to HE qualification offers a solid introduction to key areas of subject knowledge

and a broad range of study skills required to go on to study at university level.

To gain the Diploma students must achieve 60 credits overall. 45 credits are made up of subject specific units at Level 3 and these units can be achieved at Pass, Merit or Distinction. The remaining 15 credits are made up of study skills ungraded units at Level 2 or Level 3. The study skills units must be achieved to gain the Diploma.

The Access to HE Diploma is included in the UCAS Tariff system. For example, a Diploma with 45 graded credits achieved at a Pass is worth 48 tariff points (the same number of tariff points as EEE at A Level) and a Diploma achieved with 45 credits at Distinction is worth 144 Tariff Points (the same number of points as AAA at A Level). The UCAS Tariff is based on 45 credits from graded level 3 units. All applications to universities are made via UCAS together with a personal statement. The units taken as part of a Diploma are included in all UCAS applications and universities receive the results in the first week of August.

More information about the Diploma may be found at the following link:  
[www.ocnlondon.org.uk/Access-to-HE/Access-Learners](http://www.ocnlondon.org.uk/Access-to-HE/Access-Learners)

## The Progression Agreement for each Academic Department

For students with an OCN London Access to HE Diploma, entry requirements for our courses for 2024-25, are set out in the following tables. Entry requirements may be advantageous when compared to our normal requirements and we set out how we support Access students' transition to university life.

Our website for September 2024 entry at the link below will give you more information about our courses: [Search all courses at St Mary's University \(stmarys.ac.uk\)](http://stmarys.ac.uk).

## English Language

Non-native speakers of English must achieve a score of either 6.0 overall or not less than 5.5 in any section of the IELTS test of English language proficiency (or equivalent).

## GCSE equivalencies

Some careers, such as teaching, require GCSE Maths and English, the University can arrange for GCSE equivalent qualifications if you have not met the GCSE requirements.



Faculty of Education, Theology, and the Arts			
Undergraduate Course – running from September 2023	Access to HE Diplomas Accepted (If you do not see your Access course listed below please email: apply@stmarys.ac.uk)	Agreement	Additional requirements
BA (Hons) Primary Education with Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)	Education and Teacher Training	Successful completion of the full HE Diploma with the equivalent of 96 tariff points. Successful Interview and obtain a DBS and Fitness to Teach Check	GCSE Maths at Level 4/Grade C GCSE English at Level 4/Grade C GCSE Science at Level 4/Grade C
FdA Early Years Education Foundation Degree	Education and Teacher Training	Successful Completion of the full HE Diploma with 45 credits at a Pass. Must be working or volunteering at least 2.5 days per week in an educational setting for at least 1 year. Successful interview Supporting Headteacher statement.	Must have English GCSE or equivalent at level 4/Grade C
FdA Primary Education Foundation Degree	Education and Teacher Training	Successful completion of the full HE Diploma with 45 credits at a Pass. Must be working or volunteering at least 2.5 days per week in an education setting for at least 1 year. Successful interview Supporting Headteacher statement.	Must have English GCSE or equivalent at level 4/ Grade C
BA (Hons) Education Studies	Humanities and Social Science Education and Teacher Training Health and Social Care Health and Human Sciences Humanities Social Science Social Work Youth and Community Work	Successful completion of the full HE Diploma with the equivalent of 96 tariff points.	None
BA (Hons) Theology, Religion and Ethic	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points* *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None

BA (Hons) Liberal Arts or BA (Hons) Liberal Arts 4 year (with placement year) or BA (Hons) Liberal Arts (Accelerated – 2 years)	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points* *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) History or BA (Hons) History 4 year (with placement year)	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points* *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) English Literature or BA (Hons) English Literature 4 year (with placement year)	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points* *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) Creative and Professional Writing	Humanities Social Science Humanities and Social Science	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points* *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) Filmmaking (pending validation) or BA (Hons) Filmmaking 4 year (with placement year)	Media Studies	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points* *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) Film Studies (pending validation)	Media Studies	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points* *applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis	None
BA (Hons) Acting	Performing Arts	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points.* *48 UCAS points but applicants who do not attain this will be considered on an individual basis. To be accepted on this course all candidates must pass an audition.	None
BA (Hons) Theatre Production or BA (Hons) Theatre Production Accelerated – 2 years)	Performing Arts Theatre Arts	Successful completion of the Diploma and 48 UCAS points* * applicants who do not attain the above will be considered on an individual basis.	None

Faculty of Sport, Technology and Health Sciences			
Undergraduate Course – running from September 2024	Access to HE Diplomas Accepted (If you do not see your Access course listed below please email: apply@stmarys.ac.uk)	Agreement (*If you do not see your Access units listed below please email: apply@stmarys.ac.uk).	Additional requirements
BSc (Hons) Sport Rehabilitation	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Must include at least 12 credits of biology/human biology from the following units*: Cells or Human Tissues and Systems The Cardiovascular System Transport and Respiration The Musculoskeletal System/Anatomy & Physiology The Nervous System Recommended to include: Biomechanics Students would need to achieve a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English
BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Science	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma this must include: 45 Level 3 credits with an average grade of a merit According to this calculator: <a href="http://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator">www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator</a> Students would need to get an average Merit grade which would give them 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English
BSc (Hons) Strength and Conditioning Science	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma this must include: 45 Level 3 credits with an average grade of a merit According to this calculator: <a href="http://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator">www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator</a> Students would need to get an average Merit grade which would give them 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English

BSc (Hons) Nutrition	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Must include at least 12 credits of biology/human biology from the following units*: Cells or Human Tissues and Systems The Cardiovascular System Transport and Respiration The Musculoskeletal System/Anatomy & Physiology The Nervous System Recommended to include: Introduction to Nutrition Nutrition & Health Nutrition, Digestion and Excretion Biological Chemistry Students would need to achieve a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English
BSc (Hons) Sport and Exercise Nutrition	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Must include at least 12 credits of biology/human biology from the following units*: Cells or Human Tissues and Systems The Cardiovascular System Transport and Respiration The Musculoskeletal System/Anatomy & Physiology The Nervous System Recommended to include: Introduction to Nutrition Nutrition & Health Nutrition, Digestion and Excretion Students would need to achieve a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent
BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy (please note, all applicants would be reviewed with the potential to shortlist for interview)	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Must include at least 12 credits of biology/human biology from the following units*: Cells or Human Tissues and Systems The Cardiovascular System Transport and Respiration The Musculoskeletal System/Anatomy & Physiology The Nervous System Students would need to achieve a minimum of 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English

BSc (Hons) Sport Psychology	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science Counselling	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma which can include: 45 Level 3 credits with 36 credits of merit and 9 at a distinction According to this calculator: <a href="http://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator">www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator</a> Students can get a combination of pass, merit and distinction as long as they are then equivalent to 104 UCAS points.	None
BA (Hons) Physical Education, Sport and Youth Development	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Humanities and Social Science Education and Teacher Training Youth and Community Work	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma this must include: 45 Level 3 credits with an average grade of a merit According to this calculator: <a href="http://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator">www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator</a> Students can get a combination of pass, merit and distinction as long as they are the equivalent of 96 UCAS points.	Recommended:* GCSE Maths GCSE English or equivalent
BSc (Hons) Psychology	Humanities and Social Science Counselling Social Work Sports Science Youth and Community Work Policing and Criminology Education and Teacher Training	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma which can include: 45 Level 3 credits with 36 credits of merit and 9 at a distinction According to this calculator: <a href="http://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator">www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator</a> Students can get a combination of pass, merit and distinction as long as they are the equivalent overall of 104 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English Or equivalent
BSc (Hons) Sports Coaching Science	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma this must include: 45 Level 3 credits with an average grade of a merit According to this calculator: <a href="http://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator">www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator</a> Students can get a combination of pass, merit and distinction as long as they are the equivalent of 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English Or equivalent

BSc (Hons) Sports Performance Analysis and Talent Identification	Sports Science Health and Human Sciences Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma this must include: 45 Level 3 credits with an average grade of a merit According to this calculator: <a href="http://www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator">www.ucas.com/ucas/tariff-calculator</a> Students can get a combination of pass, merit and distinction as long as they are the equivalent of 96 UCAS points.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English Or equivalent
BSc (Hons) Computer Science	Digital Technologies and Computer Science	Guaranteed offer if you are awarded the full Access to HE Diploma this must include: 45 Level 3 graded credits at Merit.	Recommended: GCSE Maths GCSE English Or equivalent

Faculty of Business and Law			
Undergraduate Course running from September 2023	Access to HE Diplomas Accepted (if you do not see your Access course listed below please email: <a href="mailto:apply@stmarys.ac.uk">apply@stmarys.ac.uk</a> )	Agreement In the Institute of Business Law and Society, we will accept OCN London, Access students, at our lowest point of entry as stated in the agreement below	Additional requirements
BA (Hons) Business Management or BA (Hons) Business Management (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Successful completion of the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 96 UCAS points	GCSE in Maths to grade 4/C, or an equivalent qualification.
BA (Hons) Business Management and Entrepreneurship or BA (Hons) Business Management and Entrepreneurship (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Successful completion of the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 96 UCAS points	GCSE in Maths to grade 4/C, or an equivalent qualification.
BA (Hons) Business Management and Finance or BA (Hons) Business Management and Finance (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Successful completion of the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 96 UCAS points	GCSE in Maths to grade 4/C, or an equivalent qualification.
BA (Hons) Business Management and Marketing or BA (Hons) Business Management and Marketing (with placement year)	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Digital Technologies in Business Management Law	Successful completion of the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 96 UCAS points	GCSE in Maths to grade 4/C, or an equivalent qualification.

BA (Hons) Sports Management or BA (Hons) Sports Management (with placement year)	Business Studies Business and Finance Business and Law Sports Science Digital Technologies in Business Management Management Law	Successful completion of the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 96 UCAS points	GCSE in English and Maths to grade 4/C, or an equivalent qualification.
LLB (Hons) Law	An Access Diploma in a relevant subject area for example: Law Business and Law Business Studies Business and Finance Digital Technologies in Business Management Humanities and Social Science Policing Policing and Criminology	Successful completion of the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 96 UCAS points	GCSE in English and Maths to grade 4/C, or an equivalent qualification.
BA (Hons) Law and Criminology	Law Business and Law Business Studies Business and Finance Digital Technologies in Business Management Humanities and Social Science Policing Policing and Criminology	Successful completion of the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 96 UCAS points	GCSE in English and Maths to grade 4/C, or an equivalent qualification
LLB (Hons) Law with Criminology and Sociology	Law Business and Law Business Studies Business and Finance Digital Technologies in Business Management Humanities and Social Science Policing Policing and Criminology	Successful completion of the full Access to HE Diploma with a minimum of 96 UCAS points	None

# Before coming to St Mary's

## Open days and Experience Days

Throughout the academic year, St Mary's holds a series of open events. Open days take place between June and November. They are aimed at students who are considering which universities to apply to. Experience days run between February and April and are designed for applicants who have applied to study a course at St Mary's.

Open days and experience days are structured slightly differently from each other. However, both provide visitors with the opportunity to explore the University campus, meet current students and academics, and gain a greater insight into what student life at St Mary's is like.

All open events consist of information sessions, academic subject talks, and campus and accommodation tours.

Further information can be found at the following link: [Open Days at St Mary's University: book your place now \(stmarys.ac.uk\)](https://www.stmarys.ac.uk)

All of our Faculties and Schools are involved in our open days and experience days, with taster activities, subject talks and demonstrations as well as other activities as outlined in the examples below.

### The Faculty of Education, Theology and the Arts proposes:

Hosting masterclasses on campus for students, for example, hosting a general humanities masterclass to cover all the key subjects in Liberal Arts – History, English Lit, Creative & Professional Writing, Acting, Film, and Theology. Alternatively, we will come out to colleges to meet the students and deliver a masterclass.



### The Faculty of Sport, Technology and Health Sciences proposes:

In addition to the open days and experience days that students are welcome to attend. Our staff are happy to come along to colleges for talks and visits could be arranged on campus where staff could give insight into the different programmes available.

able to set up study skills for groups of Access students. Please ask your lecturers or tutors in the first place as they will be to help you find the support that you need. Further information can be found at the following link: [www.stmarys.ac.uk/student-support/learning-development/study-support.aspx](https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/student-support/learning-development/study-support.aspx)

In addition to the academic support outlined here, you will also be supported by Pastoral Tutors who will help you succeed in day to day life at the University. In addition to your subject Personal Tutor, the Learning Development lecturers, English for Academic Purposes tutors and Pastoral Tutors all work together to support you during your time at St Mary's.

## On Starting at St Mary's Academic Study Support

We recognise that students may have been out of academic study for some time or are just not confident in their academic skills. All of our students, including Access to HE students, can have academic skills support at St Mary's. This is delivered online by the Library and the Learning Development Lecturers, and English Language support is provided by English for Academic Purposes tutors. The Learning Development Lecturers (LDLs) offer support drop-in clinics and can also work with your programme lecturers to set up support to help students. They may be

## Our Commuter Lounge

For students who do not live on campus, we have our lovely, homely Commuter Lounge with comfy sofas and tables to sit at to work, eat or chat. The Lounge has microwave ovens to heat meals with complimentary refreshments. There are also lockers to store books, equipment or sports gear during the day to enable you to join sports clubs and other activities. Further information can be found at the following link: [www.stmarys.ac.uk/student-support/commuting/support.aspx](https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/student-support/commuting/support.aspx)





## Our Students' Union at St Mary's University (SMSU)

SMSU runs a wide range of events throughout the year for students living on and off campus and is always keen for students to get involved: [www.stmaryssu.co.uk](http://www.stmaryssu.co.uk)

## Widening Participation at St Mary's University

The aim of Widening Participation is to eliminate inequalities in Higher Education for people from different backgrounds. In our Access and Participation Plan (APP) we assess and address gaps between groups of people before, during and after their time at St Mary's. This forms part of our regulatory commitment to the Office for Students (OfS). We run a range of events,

activities and initiatives for students throughout the year, from Wobble Week in November through to Student Engagement Awards in June and there are plenty of opportunities for students to join us to make their views known, help us run activities and shape the experience that you and other students have during your studies.

You can find out more about what we do and get involved here: [www.stmarys.ac.uk/ctess/widening-participation/about.aspx](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/ctess/widening-participation/about.aspx)

## Paid Work Opportunities

There are a number of opportunities for work on campus that pay the London Living Wage and can fit around your studies. These include roles as a Student Ambassador or Widening Participation Ambassador. Further information can be found at the following link: [www.stmarys.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges/student-ambassador.aspx](http://www.stmarys.ac.uk/schools-and-colleges/student-ambassador.aspx)







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