

# Progression

Improving Progression Opportunities for Vocational  
and Work-based Learners throughout West Yorkshire

# What are the benefits for the learner?

## WYLLN Progression Agreements will:

- Identify specific opportunities for learners following vocational programmes to progress into and through higher education
- Make entry criteria and selection processes transparent
- Offer clearer information on the range of progression routes available into higher level courses of study
- Provide a programme of personal and career development support through information, advice and guidance activities
- Improve preparation to higher education through increased knowledge and understanding of the culture and expectations of the higher education sector, and of teaching and learning approaches

## Partners

The following partners have signed up to the WYLLN Progression Agreement Framework:

Bradford College  
Calderdale College  
Greenhead Sixth Form College  
Huddersfield New College  
Joseph Priestley College  
Kirklees College  
Leeds College of Art and Design  
Leeds College of Building

Leeds College of Music  
Leeds College of Technology  
Leeds Metropolitan University  
Leeds Thomas Danby College  
Leeds Trinity & All Saints  
New College Pontefract  
Notre Dame Sixth Form College  
Open University

Park Lane College  
ShIPLEY College  
University of Bradford  
University of Huddersfield  
University of Leeds  
Wakefield College

For further information on the Progression Agreement Framework or any other of the WYLLN activities:

Visit: [www.wylln.ac.uk](http://www.wylln.ac.uk)

Call: **01484 471 105**

Email: [wylln@hud.ac.uk](mailto:wylln@hud.ac.uk)

# What might a WYLLN Progression Agreement include?

If the learner meets the required entry criteria set out in the Progression Agreement, the receiving institution may offer one or more of the following:

- Guarantee of an interview or review of the learner transcript
- Guarantee of a place
- Opportunity to attend a programme of activities designed to prepare the learner for higher education and to help them become familiar with the teaching/learning approaches used
- Opportunity to attend a series of information, advice and guidance sessions to help the learner better understand the options and progression routes available within Higher Education

To view the documentation related to this Progression Agreement Framework including guidelines, templates and example Progression Agreements or for an update of active Progression Agreements within West Yorkshire visit the Progression pages within the partner zone of the website: [www.wylln.ac.uk](http://www.wylln.ac.uk) or request a Progression Agreement Framework Resource Pack by emailing [wylln@hud.ac.uk](mailto:wylln@hud.ac.uk).

# What are the benefits for sending and receiving institutions?

WYLLN Progression Agreements will provide:

- Opportunity to target and engage with potential learners
- Better understanding about the range of progression routes available
- Opportunity to offer improved information, advice and guidance to learners
- Greater understanding of developments, alignment and gaps in curriculum
- Opportunity to identify barriers to sustained progression and implement actions to address these
- Opportunity to link with staff in other institutions and share best practice
- A structure for dialogue, negotiation and agreement

# The West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network and Progression

The West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network (WYLLN) is a partnership of universities, higher education institutions, further education colleges, 6th form colleges and other strategic organisations throughout West Yorkshire. All of the partners are committed to providing quality vocational learning opportunities to enable learners to progress into and through higher education.

The main aim of the West Yorkshire Lifelong Learning Network is “to strengthen the performance of West Yorkshire businesses and the regional economy through improved vocational and work-based progression of young people and adults into and through higher education”.

Vocational and work-based learners in West Yorkshire do not always enjoy the same opportunities as students taking more ‘traditional’ academic routes i.e. A Levels. By working together as a partnership, the WYLLN focuses on

improving the clarity, certainty and coherence of progression opportunities for all vocational learners into and through higher education.

One of the key activities of the WYLLN is the development of Progression Agreements in order to establish clear and coherent routes into higher education courses and provide vocational learners with fairer and more transparent opportunities to equal those of learners from traditional academic routes.

## What is a Progression Agreement?

A Progression Agreement is a formal detailed agreement between course leaders and institutions which enables learner progression from one course of study to higher level courses of study.

The sender institution may be a 6th form college, further education college, higher education institution, university, private training organisation providing work-based learning or an employer.

The receiving institution will normally be a university, higher education institution or further education college offering higher education courses.

Progression Agreements all make guarantees to learners of interviews and/or an offer of a place on a course. They will include additional agreements about teaching and learning activities and a range of activities to support learners in making a successful and sustained progression.

# The WYLLN Progression Agreement Framework

Over the course of the project (until July 2010) the WYLLN will be working with further and higher education providers, companies and employers' representative bodies to develop a range of institution to institution and network-wide Progression Agreements for West Yorkshire vocational learners.

The WYLLN has developed a Progression Agreement Framework to prepare the groundwork for establishing this sub-regional approach to progression.

The strategic level of the Framework has been agreed for an initial pilot of 12 months and will be reviewed in July 2009. This consists of an Agreement of Intent which will be signed by all Vice Chancellors and Principals of partner institutions, guaranteeing commitment to the overall aims of the Progression Agreement Framework.

The operational level of the Framework consists of the Progression Agreements themselves. Progression Agreements will initially be implemented in the 7 industry sectors which have been identified as priorities for the WYLLN:

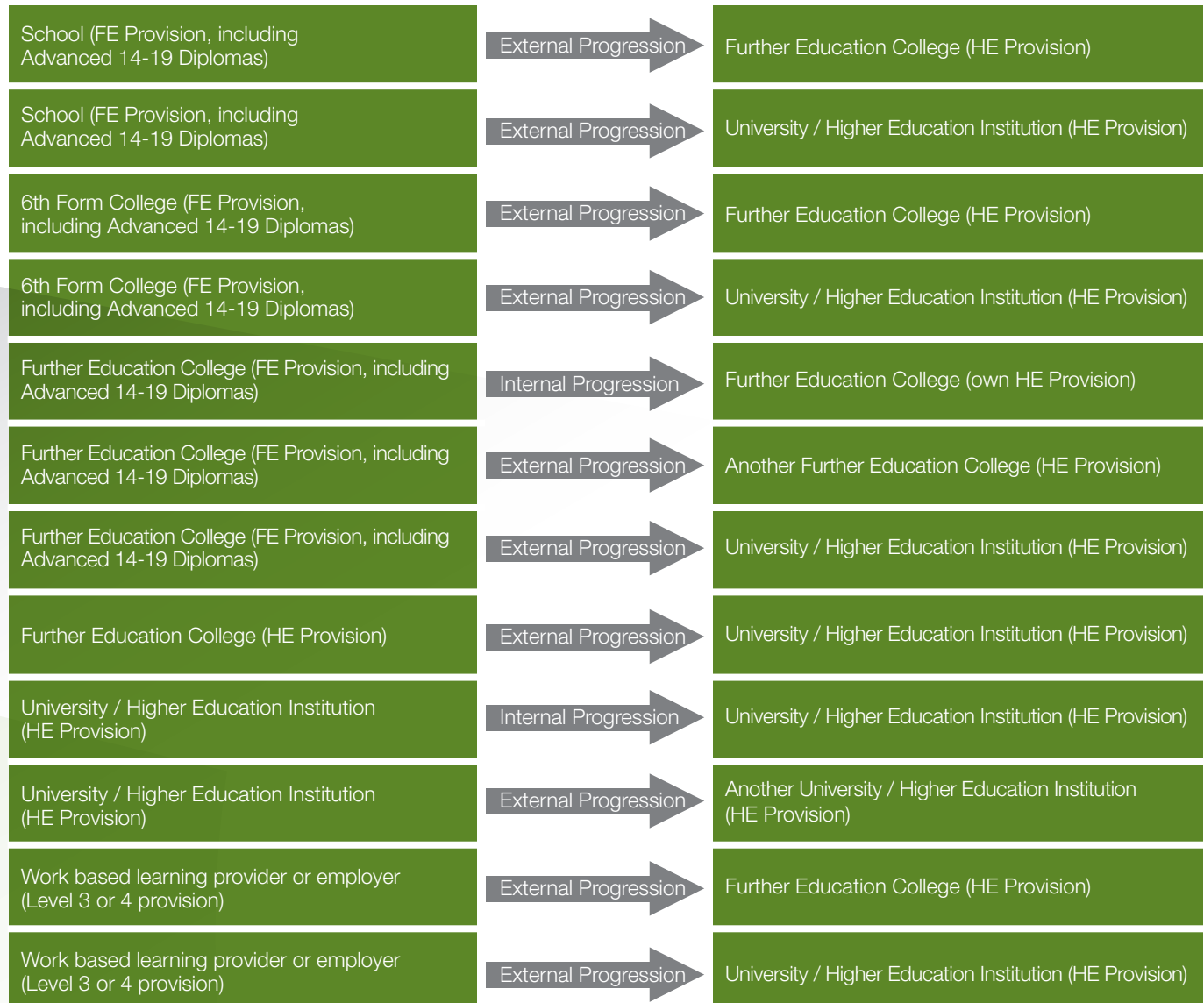
- Advanced Engineering and Manufacturing, including Food Manufacturing and related Industrial Chemistry
- Business Services including the Finance Sector, Logistics and Retail
- Construction and the Built Environment
- Culture, Media, Sports and the Arts; Leisure, Hospitality and Tourism
- Digital Services, including Creative Digital, ICT and Print
- Health, Social Care and Early Years
- Management, Leadership, Innovation and Enterprise

Progression Agreements will include the minimum level of agreement needed between the institutions involved and any additional ways in which the learners experience and progression opportunities can be enhanced.

There are several types of Progression Agreement:

### Sending Institution

### Receiving Institution



\* All WYLLN recognised Progression Agreements will focus on vocational programmes.