

How can higher education outreach in schools raise attainment?

There is a stark divide in educational outcomes for different socio-economic groups. KS4 data for 2022 shows that only 47% of pupils eligible for FSM achieved a standard pass in both English and Maths GCSE compared to 75% of their peers.

It is in this context that the OfS announced that one of its priorities for higher education is 'to partner with schools and other local organisations to raise the attainment of young people'. While there is experience of attainment-raising outreach in higher education the OfS priority has resulted in the sector reviewing its offer and developing new provision. To be successful in supporting schools and their students we need a clear understanding of the factors that affect attainment to underpin the development of engaging and deliverable activities.

In this session we will hear from [Professor Paul Ashwin](#) from Lancaster University, who will explore approaches to teaching and learning. There will be practice examples from NERUPI members and a practical session to identify the elements of an effective intervention strategy for raising-attainment outreach.

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| 09.45 | Virtual coffee and registration |
| 10.00 | Welcome |
| 10.05 | Some educational principles for supporting schools in raising attainment
Professor Paul Ashwin, Lancaster University
The OfS requirement for HE providers to support schools in raising attainment can feel challenging and overwhelming. In this contribution, I will suggest some educational principles that might inform a way of working with schools in a realistic and inclusive manner |
| 10.30 | Questions to Paul |
| 10.45 | Break |
| 11.00 | Raising attainment and higher education outreach
Annette Hayton, NERUPI Convenor and Dr David Dobraszcyk, University of Reading |
| 11.45 | Practice Examples |
| 12.45 | Lunch |
| 1.30 | Panel: Evaluation Issues |
| 2.00 | Developing an Intervention strategy for raising attainment
Report back from groups |
| 3.00 | Close |