

Wednesday 30 May 2018

Comment on Widening Access 2016-17 Report

Commenting on the Widening Access 2016-17 report published by the Scottish Funding Council today (Wednesday), Shona Struthers, Chief Executive of Colleges Scotland, said:

“There are many positives for the college sector, so we welcome this report, which demonstrates how instrumental colleges are in providing both further and higher education to students from the most deprived backgrounds.

“The number of full-time and part-time college students in both further and higher education from the 20% most deprived socio-economic backgrounds has increased, with the proportion of full-time students in further education now at 33.9% and in higher education at 28.2%.

“The report also highlights the growing diversity of college students as, proportionately, there are more BME students and those with a registered disability studying at both further and higher education levels.

“Colleges are intrinsic in helping create a fairer society as they continue to provide access to education for learners of all ages and from all backgrounds. This promotion of fair access and social inclusion by the sector is also helping to reduce poverty and increase inclusive economic growth.”

ENDS

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Notes:

A copy of the SFC Report on Widening Access 2016-17 can be viewed at <http://www.sfc.ac.uk/publications-statistics/statistical-publications/statistical-publications-2018/SFCST062018.aspx>