



International Women's Day

Tuesday 8 March

#BreakTheBias

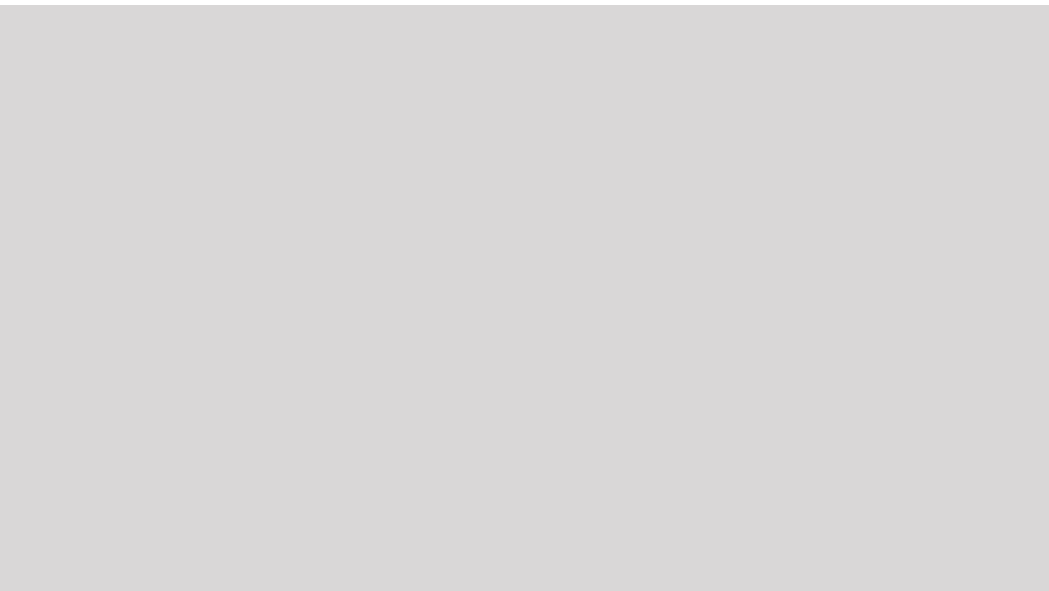


University of the
Highlands and Islands
Oilthigh na Gàidhealtachd
agus nan Eilean



**Approaches to
programme provision
which could promote
a more equitable,
accessible, and
inclusive university
experience for
mature women
students**







- **(2021) HEPI reported that 39% of undergraduate students are mature and 50% of postgraduates are aged 25 or over**





Challenges

“In 2018-19, 84.4% of mature full-time students continued onto their 2nd year, a rate 8 percentage points below that for young students. Of part-time mature students, around two-thirds continued into their 2nd year ... 6.6 percentage points below their younger counterparts.

There is a degree attainment gap between mature and young students. In 2019-20, for full-time undergraduates, this gap was 9.6 percentage points”.

(Office for Students May 2021)













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Delivery

- **Making programme-wide inclusive timetable adjustments to the delivery of lectures and seminars (say 9.30-4pm), and where this not possible, by:**
- **Providing recorded lectures (eg 'Lecture Capture' / Echo 360) that can be viewed when convenient**

Tailored evening and weekend library provision

This could be in the form of a creche that is managed by qualified staff

It could be a designated space where parents can work in the presence of older children

Or it could be designated hours where supervised children are allowed into their library, so that parents can collect pre-ordered books and browse.







THANK YOU!!

References / sources

- Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) (2021) 'Mature Students: A Silent or Silenced Voice? By Cath Brown (online) <https://www.hepi.ac.uk/2021/08/21/mature-students-a-silent-or-silenced-voice/>
- House of Commons Briefing Paper (2021) 8809 – Mature Higher Education Students in England (online) <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8809/CBP-8809.pdf>
- Office for Students (OfS) (2021) 'Improving Opportunity and Choice for Mature Students (online) <https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/publications/improving-opportunity-and-choice-for-mature-students/>
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