Access and Participation Statement 2026-2027

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1. Introduction

London Film Academy (LFA) is an internationally recognised film education provider. The film, TV & creative industry informs our course content and delivery as much as we seek to positively influence the future film industry. This provides students with real world industry experience in a collaborative, friendly, safe, and inclusive learning environment, supporting them to become world-class filmmakers.

A key aim of LFA is to increase diversity amongst those who work in the film industry by encouraging access and participation of under-represented groups. Widening access to film education for students from these groups, and supporting them through their studies, delivers significant benefits including social mobility, student wellbeing and success.

2. LFA's current student body

LFA nurtures a diverse, inclusive, and professional academic community that respects the individual, enabling them to strive for success, and contribute positively and sustainably to the local, national, and international world of filmmaking. Students can be confident that they have joined an institution that is serious about education, delivering courses of the highest quality, and nurturing a positive student experience for all.

LFA takes active steps to encourage enquiries, enrolment, and participation from all student groups, ensuring students from under-represented groups, or disadvantaged backgrounds, can access our courses and are supported throughout their studies and beyond.

The two-year accelerated BA (Hons) in Filmmaking programme is designed to provide an immersive, practice-based educational experience that prepares students for the competitive film, TV and creative industry. This programme condenses the traditional three-year degree into two years, offering a rigorous and focused curriculum that blends hands-on filmmaking with industry engagement.

At the core of the delivery is practical, project-based learning, ensuring students of all backgrounds gain a solid foundation mastery in filmmaking through direct experience. Each term, students work on film projects, developing their technical, creative, and storytelling skills across various genres and formats. By engaging in multiple production cycles, LFA students graduate with a strong portfolio of work, showcasing their abilities to potential employers and collaborators.

Alongside the BA offering, two MA programmes, MA Filmmaking and MA Screenwriting, provide hands-on, industry-focused training to further prepare students at Level 7. The MA Filmmaking programme offers practical experience across six disciplines: directing, producing, editing, screenwriting, cinematography, and sound, ensuring LFA graduates develop both specialised expertise, and the versatility needed in the industry. The MA Screenwriting programme is designed for aspiring writers looking to pursue screenwriting and embed themselves within the industry.

Both programmes prioritise real-world learning through industry mentorship, masterclasses, and practical projects that reflect professional production environments. Filmmaking students gain hands-on experience in multiple roles before specialising, while screenwriting students refine their scripts with structured feedback and market-focused guidance.

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3. Access

LFA offers undergraduate and postgraduate courses accredited by the University of Derby. In addition to the core academic offering, LFA is committed to widening participation by engaging with local community programmes initiatives. These pragmatic initiatives ensure students from all backgrounds, including those facing social or economic barriers, have access to quality education and career pathways in the film industry. LFA actively seeks partnerships with schools, colleges, and community organisations to provide workshops, mentoring, and outreach events that support potential students in their journey to higher education.

4. Funding support

As part of LFA's continued commitment to access and widening participation, LFA provides two BA students with financial assistance of up to 50% of tuition fees. These scholarships are designed to support individuals from low socioeconomic backgrounds who may otherwise find higher education inaccessible. This initiative aims to remove financial barriers and allow talented students to pursue their ambitions in the film, TV and creative industry.

In addition, applicants to LFA's MA programme can apply for a range of partial scholarships, providing financial support to help make postgraduate study more accessible to aspiring filmmakers and screenwriters.

5. Equality and inclusion

LFA is strongly committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse learning environment which caters to and supports students from all walks for life. The aim, to create an academic community that is fair, supportive, and accessible to all students, regardless of their background or circumstances. See LFA Policy 2 Recruitment, selection and admissions.

LFA's commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion is embedded in the film academy's values, policies, course curriculum, and student support services. By implementing a **Support Plan process**, LFA ensures that teaching practices, assessment methods, and student engagement strategies reflect the dedication to inclusivity. More information about LFA's Support Plans can be found here: LFA Procedure 3.3 Inclusion.

6. Admission of students

The Admissions and Student Support teams are dedicated in delivering and providing a transparent and well formulated application process. LFA continues to evolve and evaluate the admissions process and procedures to ensure that they are fair, supportive and representative of student needs.

The LFA admissions policies follows the set parameters, for recruitment and widening access as set out in the quality and standards by OFS.
https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/for-providers/quality-and-standards/

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7. Progression

LFA strives to improve the student progression rate by offering:

Undergraduate Work Placements: There are two opportunities for our undergraduate students to undertake a work placement in their second year of study enabling them to gain invaluable work experience. LFA works with London-based companies across a range of disciplines and welcomes students to find additional options to suit their preferences.

LFA Filmmakers' Club: The Filmmakers' Club provides ongoing support to students and graduates with networking opportunities and job listings during their course and after graduation.

8. Information for prospective students

Prospective students receive detailed information about the programmes, academic expectations, and student life. This includes:

- **Dedicated virtual and in-person open houses,** led by the LFA admission team, tutors and academic professionals.
- **Clear financial information and guidance**, ensuring students understand tuition costs, funding options, and scholarships.
- **Clear and accessible recruitment messaging**, delivered through various channels, careers events, outreach activities, digital and social media channels.
- **National events,** information shared at UK national and regional higher education recruitment events.
- **Interviews,** as part of the information sharing stage, students have the opportunity ask further additional questions at the interview stage.

9. Student engagement and support

LFA aims to offer a broad range of mechanisms to support students staying engaged with their studies and successfully complete their programmes. Students studying on the accredited provision maintain a close working relationship with their programme teams, ensuring access to tutors, advice, support and guidance.

To enhance their curriculum learning, students are encouraged to undertake personal projects and can book time with tutors to discuss their goals and careers. LFA utilises a range of engagement data to allow tracking and monitoring of student's engagement enabling supportive interventions to be introduced where needed.

10. Curriculum support

LFA is dedicated to delivering an inclusive and supportive curriculum in line with the higher education standards. Through this, it enables all students to have the opportunity to thrive within academia. Key areas of curriculum support include:

- Clearly defined **shared learning outcomes**, ensuring transparency in academic expectations for all students across accredited and non-accredited programmes.
- **Learning adjustments** for students requiring additional support.
- Regular **student drop-in sessions** with the Student Support team and tutors.

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- **Supplementary learning classes** for students needing additional academic assistance inclusive of core training for equipment and set practices.

LFA's industry-focused curriculum employs various alternative and negotiated assessment methods to ensure that all students achieve the learning outcomes while acquiring valuable industry best practice skills. Students with declared disabilities receive classroom support through reasonable adjustments, such as a week extension for assignments. A range of assignments have 'or equivalents' built in which provide all students will alternative modes of assessment. Students are also invited to engage in formative assessments and 1-2-1 support with their summative assessments.
Employability

LFA aims to equip students with the skills to be both employable and entrepreneurial within a creative environment. This aim is supported by LFA's Filmmakers' Club, a space where job opportunities and industry experience are shared to current students and alumni. Two work placement modules also run which provide students opportunities to develop their CVs, understand where they wish to specialise within the industry, and most importantly - an opportunity to make industry connections. On top of this, a range of masterclasses, guest sessions and careers weeks aimed to resource students further is provided.

11. Support for students

LFA recognises that each student's journey is unique, and as a result offer a range of support services to ensure they can succeed academically and personally. These include:

- Mental health and well-being resources.
- Financial guidance and hardship support.
- Career guidance and networking opportunities.

LFA aim to provide students with a range of transitionary sessions during their induction period to allow them to better access LFA. Students are offered a range of mental health and wellbeing resources to ensure they also feel supported during their studies. If a student experiences financial hardship whilst studying, they are offered financial guidance and hardship support. When students graduate from LFA. Additional career guidance, networking and filmmaking job opportunities to help them break into the film, TV and creative industries is shared with them.

12. Future plans

LFA is committed to a continued enhancement of its access and participation initiatives. Future plans include:

- Expanding outreach programmes to engage with underrepresented communities.
- Strengthening industry partnerships to increase work experience and placement opportunities.
- Developing additional financial support schemes to make education more accessible.
- Enhancing digital learning resources to support flexible learning options.

This **Access and Participation Statement** reflects the ongoing commitment to fostering an inclusive, supportive, and accessible learning environment for all students. Through continuous evaluation and collaboration, LFA aim to create meaningful opportunities for students to thrive both academically and professionally.

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