

ISTITUTO MARANGONI LONDON  
ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION STATEMENT

ACADEMIC YEAR 2019 - 2020

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## **1. INTRODUCTION TO ISTITUTO MARANGONI LIMITED (ISTITUTO MARANGONI, LONDON SCHOOL)**

Istituto Marangoni has been providing training and higher professional studies in fashion and related areas in Italy since 1935. The London School (operating since 2003) delivers validated foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate education (via collaborative partnership validation agreements with Manchester Metropolitan University) in fashion design, styling and business areas as well as interiors, product and visual design. The London School is committed to ensure that students from all backgrounds achieve the best quality academic outcomes.

## **2. OUR STUDENTS**

In preparing this statement, the London School recognises its duty under the Equality Act 2010. The School has reviewed all qualitative and quantitative information relating to the context, characteristics and needs of our students to inform our commitment. The School recognises that institutional OfS access & participation data dashboard, HESA/ TEF metrics/ Graduate Outcomes, SLC and transparency return data is not yet statistically significant (in relation to UK domicile) to fully inform institutional benchmarking however in preparation for 2020/2021 the School is committed to better use datasets available to inform this statement.

The School hosts UK, European and International students, with the majority of students from an international or European domicile (students represent a balanced proportion from regions of varied national index of deprivation). Our students are also predominately under 21 years old, white female with low numbers of students declaring any type of disability.

Graduate outcomes show secure and increasing graduate employment rates within our recent graduate community. The School notes a modest but increasing trend towards consultancy models of employment and 'other' post-study options.

## **3. OUR COMMITMENT**

The London School supports creative talent to access and participate in higher education across all social and cultural groups and countries, regardless of background and with a view to improving socio-economic diversity within the luxury fashion industries, across both existing and developing economies. Our mission is multicultural and global and our School provides excellent learning opportunities for students from all of the world through a continuous exchange of ideas, projects, stimuli and vision.

In developing this annual statement, the London School commits to target, invest upon and increase:

- student engagement on the School's proposed access and participation priorities and activities
- School investment into improving access for all, in line with the core mission of the School
- annual review of student financial support at School Board, within identified access and participation priorities, leading to further action
- annual review of student support within the Resources Committee, within identified access and participation priorities, leading to further action
- young adult higher education success
- male higher education access and participation priorities within the London School
- black, Asian and minority ethnic student access and participation priorities within the London School
- higher education access priorities within regional areas POLAR 1 and 2
- local, national, European and international student access and participation priorities
- local and national graduate entrepreneurial success
- local and national graduate post-study option support
- corporate and community stakeholder support within the square mile and across the region appropriate to identified access, success and participation priorities

- corporate and community stakeholder support across the country and globally appropriate to identified access, success and participation priorities

We will do this by:

- establishing targeted market spend and initiatives in relation to access and participation priorities
- increasing awareness of the Istituto Marangoni scholarship programme early in the applicant journey and during study
- increasing outreach activities, particularly across the London region and UK
- review of the academic portfolio in order to meet identified market demand
- increasing professional mental health support referral systems
- increasing personal, educational and professional coaching referral within access and participation priority cohorts
- increasing awareness of success mentors within access and participation priority cohorts
- increasing cultural engagement events with targeted student communities

#### **4. ENSURING SUCCESS AND PROGRESSION**

The London School is committed to providing equal access opportunities to higher education to all students from different backgrounds. The London School has already taken the following actions to improve access for everyone:

##### Pre-arrival access activities

Through research, application, offer and enrolment, the London School invites applicants and students to disclose contextual information which will facilitate targeted support where appropriate. The School ensures applicant preparedness to study through, for example:

- School participation with the National Saturday Club Trust to offer young people, aged 13-16, an introduction to the world of fashion through workshops and project-based work. Members have an opportunity to experience and receive expert and interactive tuition from Istituto Marangoni London tutors and students
- targeted use of our new Foundation courses (validated in 2019) to support and enable direct progression opportunities into higher education
- targeted use of two programme intakes per year to enable further flexibility for non-traditional applicants
- fair and transparent admissions process where information provided to applicants is comprehensive and responsive to their individual circumstances
- support for financial management of fees; through scholarship referral and/or instalment plan support
- orientation interviews where potential applicants can without academic requirement, experience the School environment and receive study preparation and mentoring using a standard 'script' of prompts to enable the applicant to make an informed decision with consistent information
- entry test to develop applicant understanding of programme content prior to enrolment and seek to evaluate language proficiency and subject skills

##### Student participation activities

To ensure students from all backgrounds progress and succeed in their studies, the School undertakes, for example:

- induction programme: transition to higher educational study is supported through early formative, diagnostic assessments and "learning by doing" workshops.
- learning and teaching: through a focused level 3 entry to level 7 exit trajectory methodology (which respects student entry from a range of backgrounds and prior educational experiences) the London School explicitly develops a range of entry to UK Higher Education learning & teaching styles which

foster progression into self-directed, autonomous graduate learner prepared and aware of professional entry standards.

- personal development planning: this integral part of the student learning experience enables tutors to support the holistic, individual, student experience needs, personal context (including barriers and achievements), student self-reflection (upon personal goal setting) and appropriate graduate professional ambitions.
- Special Education Needs (SEN) Support: the School has a SEN Tutor to support students with disclosed learning difficulties. Through development and monitoring of the Personal Learning Plan, reasonable adjustments are put in place to enable individual student success and progression.
- personal, educational and professional coaching: this service (available on request or by student services referral) support the individual student's needs and informs wider School enhancement through quarterly reporting
- coaching and mentoring scheme: this initiative enables students to become or find mentoring support throughout their studies
- counselling support: this service (available on request or by referral) provides one-to-one psychological therapy for students who are experiencing a range of psychological difficulties to enable students' progression and success.
- cultural engagement: through social cultural events, the School actively engages with targeted student communities, highlighting success and motivating broader community understanding, academic and career ambition
- job seeking support: the careers service provides regular and targeted newsletter and coaching support to enable students to secure work during study, an internal job platform and careers fair to facilitate employment matching relevant to their studies and career goals

#### Graduate success activities

To ensure graduate success for students from all backgrounds, the London School provides, for example:

- careers job platform: the student and alumni portal enables direct job search and application (local, national and international) within Istituito Marangoni industry networks
- careers counselling: this service (available on request for students and alumni or by referral) enables focused employment preparation with CV and cover letter support, personal branding, and interview skills training to enhance graduate self-assessment and success in a competitive employment marketplace
- industry engagement: the School works closely with business, industry and trade organisations, for example, London Fashion Week and Careers Fairs, to improve opportunities for work experience which have demonstrably improved graduate outcomes
- career events and workshops: are offered throughout the year to further enhance students' interaction with industry. Experienced professionals deliver motivational talks, host masterclasses, and teach workshops on all aspects of the career journey
- graduate satisfaction: the School monitors satisfaction with careers support through national graduate survey responses and identifies annual action plans in response to priority areas, for example, entrepreneurial support.

## **5. FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

The London School recognises that our students aim to start their academic journey feeling confident with secured financial support to cover all programme costs, where needed. The School also anticipates that for some students, unexpected situations may occur that can impact upon their academic performance during study. In order to support students should difficulties arise, the London School has the following support in place:

- our scholarship programme<sup>1</sup>: this identifies and supports academic talent enter or continue to participate at the London School throughout their study, either through, for example, fee deduction (up to £5k), or substantial academic scholarships (50% or 100%)

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.istitutomarangoni.com/en/admission/scholarships/>

- student loans support: the London School is designated for government-funded student loans for students enrolled on undergraduate fashion programmes annually, which are confirmed based on SLC eligibility and academic criteria (attendance and grades)
- financial hardship support: the London School has introduced targeted financial hardship support (based upon academic merit) under student representative guidance in order to help with outstanding tuition fee support
- equipment hire: the School continues to enhance specialist equipment available to support student use outside of open access/ contact hours and has increased out of hours facilities access (2 Saturdays' per month)
- additional costs information: to support students in managing costs, the London School publishes summary information<sup>2</sup> detailing additional programme, materials and accommodation costs. This is also distributed during the application and enrolment stage
- supplier discount services: during induction and throughout the academic year, the School invites key material suppliers to visit the school to make students aware of pre-arranged Istituto Marangoni student discount schemes
- work during study rights: tier 4 students (alongside UK and EU students) who have enrolled to our undergraduate and postgraduate degrees after 1 August 2019, are able to work 20 hours per week during term time and full-time during vacations. In addition to this, students studying a course below degree level (level 3 students) are able to work up to 10 hours per week during term time and full-time during vacations

## 6. COMMUNICATION WITH APPLICANTS, STUDENTS AND STAFF

The London School will publicise the Access and Participation Statement to current and future students for the academic year. The statement will be published on the School's website, included in orientation sessions, and uploaded to the School's student intranet, Sinapto. It will also be disseminated within the Student Representative body and through the Induction programme (for all years).

In advance of academic year, all staff will also be made aware of the Access and Participation Statement and their responsibilities within it, particularly with regard to commitments and targets to enable students from all backgrounds to access, participate and succeed in Istituto Marangoni London.

## 7. REVISION OF THE ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION STATEMENT

The London School Director is responsible for the annual review of our Access and Participation Statement, financial planning and performance indicators (completed by October) approved through the London School Board and Audit Committee. The London School recognises the importance of students' input on assuring relevant areas are addressed in relation to widening access and participation. Student Representatives in 2019/2020 will be involved in the annual review, as will the appointed Student Governor.

In addition to this, the School will make sure to inform our applicants and students of access and participation priorities and activities, communicating with current or prospective students through the Admissions Team (applicants and students) and Student Services Team (students), ensuring support and advice is given to students, in a timely fashion, for them to be able to make informed decisions.

Document	IM London School OfS Registration, Condition A2
Approved by	Chair of Board of Governors
Approved by	Chair of Audit Committee
Approved by	Chair of School Board
Approved date	February 2020

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.istitutomarangoni.com/en/campus/london/accommodation/>