



Higher Education Policy Institute



- **UK's only specialist higher education think tank**
- **Supported by 115 universities in all four parts of the UK, plus around 10 corporates.**

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Source: *The Daily Telegraph*



'I'm studying politics. The course covers the period from 8am on Thursday to lunchtime on Friday'



“I want to see more disadvantaged young people attending the very best universities, winning places on apprenticeships, entering the top professions, and progressing through the most rewarding careers – and I want employers to do more to draw out the potential and talents of all.”

Justine Greening
18 January 2017



Brexit



Brexit Big Issues:

- **Upskilling the British workforce**
- **Focusing on life-long learning**
- **Improving access for part-time, adult learners**

Mental Health



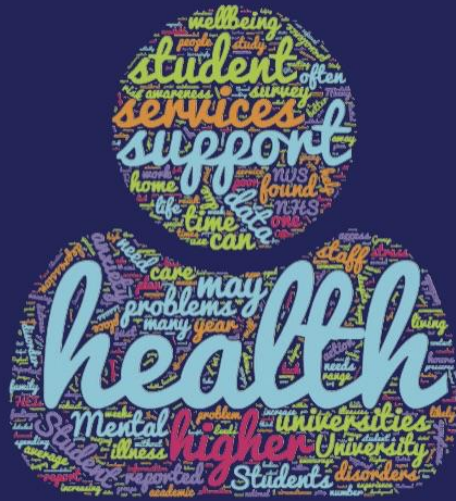
Recommendations:

- Allowing students to be registered with a GP at home and at university
- Increasing funding for counselling and support services
- Encouraging universities to adopt their own mental health action plans

**The invisible problem?
Improving students' mental health**

Poppy Brown

With a Foreword by the Rt Hon. Norman Lamb MP



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HEPI Report 88

Underachievement



**Boys to Men:
The underachievement
of young men in higher
education – and how
to start tackling it**

Nick Hillman and Nicholas Robinson
With a Foreword by Mary Curnock Cook



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HEPI Report 84

Recommendations:

- **Greater outreach activity and resource to be focused on the disadvantaged**
- **Investing in role models and increasing aspiration in the poorest communities**
- **Rethinking courses and tailoring offerings**

BTECs

Recommendations:

- **Breaking down the glass ceiling: only 15 BTEC students were accepted at the 4 most selective institutions in 2015 AND under 60% of students with BTECs at Russell Group institutions complete their course.**
- **Considering bespoke access courses to facilitate adjustment.**

Reforming BTECs: Applied General qualifications as a route to higher education

Scott Kelly



What's next for widening access...?



In a time of change, access cannot be the end goal. We need to focus on the process of adjustment/adaptation that follows...





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