

WIDENING PARTICIPATION OFFICER (MATURE STUDENTS)

Admissions Recruitment and Marketing

Recruitment, Outreach and Events

SC5042

CANDIDATE BROCHURE



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WHAT MAKES UEA SO SPECIAL?

The University of East Anglia is a publicly funded major UK research and teaching university. It was built to embody a radical new vision for higher education, where interdisciplinarity is crucial and excellence in both research and teaching is valued. UEA consistently ranks within the top quarter of universities in the UK for the quality of research and teaching.

As a major regional employer and cultural centre, we take our regional civic responsibilities very seriously and have kept our sights on the people and place we call home. In fact, we launched our University Civic Charter in October 2023; created from in-depth community engagement, renewing our commitment to the region as part of our 60th anniversary.

There are many things which make UEA special, not least of which is the community of staff and students that work and study here. UEA includes three Nobel prize winners, including Sir Paul Nurse and Sir Michael Houghton, and many fellows of the Royal Society and British Academy amongst our alumni and current staff.

Our campus is home to Sir Denys Lasdun's iconic brutalist architecture set in hundreds of acres of beautiful country park that includes a large broad (lake). In the spirit of Lasdun's ambition to inspire an anatomy of ideas, today, UEA is tackling some of the key challenges of the changing world. UEA's research combines disciplines

and breaks new boundaries across its priority research themes of climate, creative and health.

UEA is the place where global warming was first documented. Since the 1970s, UEA's Climatic Research Unit, and more recently Tyndall Centre for Climate Change (Headquarters hosted at UEA), have played a pivotal role in developing temperature records and climate models, contributing to the understanding of climate change, and informing global policy. Many UEA scientists have played significant roles in the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC), which was jointly awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to increase public knowledge of anthropogenic climate change. Environmental Science and Global Studies at UEA continue to be a major powerhouse for research and teaching.

UEA is widely regarded as a pioneer in creative writing, having established the UK's first Creative Writing Masters programme in 1970. This renowned programme has since attracted and produced numerous successful writers, including Booker Prize winners such as Ian McEwan and Anne Enright, and Nobel Prize Winner Sir Kazuo Ishiguro. In recent years, UEA academics have played a pivotal role in the discovery and presentation of the Gloucester Royal shipwreck (Norfolk's Mary Rose). Our iconic Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts is a major museum and arts research facility.



Health research at UEA not only embraces the Faculty of Medicine and Health but draws in research from both social and natural sciences. Research under this theme has made major contributions in the fields of healthy ageing, epidemiology and involving citizens (via our innovative Citizens' Academy) in improving health care outcomes. This theme benefits from close association with the other major research institutes on the Norwich Research Park; notably the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital and the Quadram Institute. The Norwich Cancer Research Network, and Norfolk Institute for Healthy Ageing, are examples of key mechanisms for delivery of real impact from health research at UEA.

UEA has been a major success over the last 60 years and looks forward with confidence to the next 60 years.

For an informal discussion about the post please contact Heather Monsey, Outreach Manager (Post-16 & Transition) via heather.monsey@uea.ac.uk

UEA is part of the Norwich Research Park

Norwich Research Park (NRP) membership locates UEA in one of the largest concentrations of research institutes in the whole of Europe – four independent internationally-renowned research institutes: John Innes Centre, Quadram Institute, Earlham Institute and The Sainsbury Laboratory; with the University of East Anglia and Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, supported and funded by The John Innes Foundation, The Gatsby Foundation, and UKRI Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.

The NRP provides an ideal environment for collaborative use of infrastructure and facilities, with a single portal for academics and businesses to access the specialist facilities across the Park.

The Enterprise Centre is a regional business, knowledge and innovation hub, with workspace provision and supports over 80 businesses working alongside UEA staff and students in a dynamic and vibrant entrepreneurial community. On the wider NRP, there are dedicated laboratory and office spaces in the Innovation Centre and Centrum hosting over 600 staff within a total of 115 businesses and spinouts.



THE ROLE

The Widening Participation Officer (Mature Students) role is responsible for engaging with prospective mature learners considering higher education and supporting current mature students at UEA to support with sense of belonging, and overall student experience. The post formally sits within the Recruitment and Outreach Department, which forms part of the Admissions, Recruitment and Marketing service. The role is split across two areas: 0.6 FTE within Outreach, managed by the Post 16 Outreach Manager, and 0.4 FTE within Student Academic Services, supported by the Head of Widening Participation.

The role focuses on the planning, coordination, administration, and delivery of outreach activities designed to encourage and support mature learners in their progression to higher education. This includes delivering presentations and workshops to learners on Access to HE and other progression programmes, as well as delivering our Applicant Support Programme for mature students. Topics covered range from the university application process and student finance to preparing for study at university. In addition, the role will take on a whole student lifecycle approach, supporting mature applicants once they start at UEA to stay on their course and succeed through to graduation and beyond.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

ACCESS

- To work within an outreach team committed to widening participation in Higher Education, with the aim of increasing applications from target groups to the University of East Anglia.
- To manage, coordinate and deliver outreach projects and events for mature students including but not limited to the Applicant Support Programme,

College Liaison and Webinars.

- To build and maintain relationships with local FE colleges to embed an offer that meets the needs and experiences of mature students.
- To develop and deliver presentations and workshops to enthuse and inform audiences about higher education for mature students.
- Disseminate and signpost accurate, timely and appropriate information to prospective mature students about university admissions and the support available.
- Provide tailored information and support to prospective mature students through online sessions, in person delivery, community events, and written communications.
- To work collaboratively with internal departments to support mature student transition to UEA, contributing to the development of inclusive activities for mature students.
- Acting as an advocate for mature students within the ARM division, supporting knowledge, awareness & understanding of risks to equality of opportunity for this group.
- To ensure outreach activity take into account relevant safeguarding, risk assessment and health and safety considerations.
- To liaise with relevant academic and administrative staff across the university to ensure appropriate participation in events from staff in these areas.
- To ensure accurate and efficient communication to market the Outreach events to prospective students.
- To work closely with colleagues across ARM (admissions, recruitment and marketing) to ensure a joined-up approach to all aspects of prospective

THE ROLE (CONTINUED)

student engagement.

CURRENT STUDENTS

- Act as an advocate for mature students within the wider university, supporting knowledge & understanding of risks to equality of opportunity for this group and reporting any institutional and student experience issues arising to relevant colleagues and communities of practice.
- To work with internal colleagues to embed mature-student-focused activity within existing institutional support, ensuring that activities are inclusive of mature students need.
- To coordinate and disseminate targeted communications for current mature students, working in collaboration with Student and Academic Services (SAS) and other stakeholders to ensure timely, accurate and accessible signposting to support, through channels such as the mature student newsletter.
- To lead on the recruitment, training and ongoing support of Mature Student Ambassadors, providing direction and support to enable peer-led activity that enhances belonging, engagement and the overall student experience for mature learners.
- To coordinate and deliver tailored Welcome activity for mature students, working across services to ensure a supported transition into UEA and to address known barriers to engagement and retention at entry

BOTH

- To effectively manage project budgets.
- To work with the APP team to evaluate the impact of project and events to ensure they meet our Access and

Participation Plan targets, including analysing data to identify and implement necessary changes for future events.

- To supervise and brief student ambassadors involvement in events where required and complete all relevant administration duties relating to this.
- To maintain up-to-date knowledge of national and regional policy developments, research and sector practice relating to mature learners, and to apply this insight to inform delivery, advice and departmental understanding.
- To assist with the updating and maintenance of the Outreach and mature students web-pages, and communications with internal and external stakeholders.
- Contribute to the Outreach team & UEA's understanding of mature students through supporting with the identification of data needed for robust identification, monitoring and reporting, and highlighting gaps or emerging issues as appropriate.
- To represent the department at meetings and conferences, both internal and external to the University as required. This may include travelling nationally to give presentations on widening participation to colleagues in the Higher Education sector, related organisations and members of the public.

GENERAL

- All role holders are expected to undertake such other appropriate duties as may be requested.

THE PERSON

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Educated to degree level or equivalent qualification or experience (E)
- Experience of organising and delivering projects or events (E)
- Experience of developing and maintaining professional relationships (E)
- Experience of using data and insight to inform decision making (E)
- Experience of supervising or managing staff (D)

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- Proven competency in IT skills (including Word, Excel and Outlook) (E)
- Proven presentation, verbal and written communication skills (E)
- Knowledge and understanding of UK Higher Education system, the Widening Participation agenda, and the ability to advocate for the benefits of HE (E)
- Ability to manage relationships with internal and external stakeholders (E)

- Ability to engage diverse audiences, particularly individuals traditionally underrepresented in HE (E)
- High level of numeracy and the ability to manage a budget (E)

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- A keen interest in promoting, and broadening access to, higher education and the University of East Anglia (E)
- Demonstrate UEA's Values and behaviours in day-to-day work and support a team culture that reflects them (E)
- Taking responsibility for managing your own work objectives, professional development, belonging and wellbeing (E)

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

- At times of peak activity some early, late and weekend working may be required.
- Subject to receipt of an Enhanced criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- To have a current and valid driving licence and the ability to drive. Adjustments will be considered for disabled candidates.
- The post holder will be expected to be available to work on weekend University Open Days (currently 4 per year).
- Willingness and ability to engage in manual handling tasks, with reasonable adjustments considered based on individual need.

Essential Requirements (E) are those, without which, a candidate would not be able to do the job.

Desirable Requirements (D) are those which would be useful for the post holder to possess and will be considered when more than one applicant meets the essential requirements.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The post is available immediately on an full-time basis for a fixed term period until 31 July 2027.

Salary will be £31,236 to £37,694 per annum on Grade 6 on the single salary spine.

Place of Work - The University is strongly committed to providing an excellent student experience and research environment, and it is expected that all staff will be available on campus to carry out their duties during their working week in support of these goals. We have a hybrid-working policy which supports a mix of at home and on campus 'hybrid' working for many roles. For the majority of hybrid roles, the expectation is a minimum of 60% of working time will be spent physically present in the workplace.

The flexibility of the hybrid-working policy allows the possibility of some remote working, but it is the expectation that all appointments will be UK based, with any overseas working agreed in advance by exception only.

If successful you will be asked to show evidence of right to work in the UK prior to any formal offer being made. Non-British and non-Irish nationals entering the UK to undertake employment or who are currently in the UK will have to meet eligibility criteria under the points-based immigration system. The University may be able to provide sponsorship under the Skilled Worker route if relevant criteria are met. Please note, due to the complexities of the immigration system, Skilled Worker visa sponsorship is not guaranteed for every role. If you would like further information about whether this role is eligible for visa sponsorship, please contact staff.visacompliance@uea.ac.uk

The post is superannuable under the Group Personal Pension and there is an annual leave entitlement of 25 days plus statutory (8 days) and customary (6 days) holidays. The University is committed to creating an environment where the health, welfare and safety of all students and staff is of paramount importance. The University's Safeguarding Policy addresses both child protection and safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable

adults within the work of the University. Appointment will be subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks, which may include an Occupational Health assessment and a criminal record check at Enhanced level from the Disclosure and Barring Service (which you will be required to pay for). For roles based within an Educational setting, Enhanced checks will be carried out every 3 years at the cost of the University. It is an offence to apply for the role if you are barred from engaging in regulated activity relevant to children.

Information on the benefits of working at UEA can be found at <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/working-at-uea>.

If you require the information contained within this candidate brochure in a different format please email staff.recruitment@uea.ac.uk

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this vacancy, please follow the online instructions at: <https://vacancies.uea.ac.uk>

The closing date for this role is 11:59pm on **22 September 2026**.

It is anticipated that interviews will take place on **8 October 2026** and we will inform you of the outcome of your application prior to this date.

Candidates should note that travel and incidental expenses incurred in attending an in-person interview will not be reimbursed.

ABOUT THE DIVISION

The Admissions, Recruitment and Marketing Department leads UEA's global strategy to recruit and admit students and to promote the University to those students, its alumni and the media and key partners in government, business and the charitable and voluntary sectors.

Admissions, Recruitment and Marketing (ARM) leads on digital-first services that deliver for UEA's stakeholders based on customer need and customer experience, all informed by data, and a constant drive to improve our performance.

We are the guardians and narrators of UEA's unconventionally brilliant brand. We always look to innovate new ways of reaching, engaging, attracting, and building advocacy in our audiences and partners.

We make no apologies for being driven by data or for our audience-focus. Our alumni, current students, future students, staff, and partners aren't standing still. Neither will we. Our mission is to create, break the mould, and get things done in a world that never stands still.

Admissions, Recruitment and Marketing comprises five teams, totalling some 180 staff:

Recruitment, Outreach and Public Events engage with prospective UK students to promote the benefits of higher education and studying at UEA as well as delivering public events and academic conferences to promote UEA's world-leading

research. The Outreach team work to widen access to higher education for groups under-represented and/or disadvantaged groups.

Admissions admits students to the full range of undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses offered at UEA.

UEA Global leads the University's world-wide marketing and recruitment activity, focusing on promotion of the University, the recruitment of international students, and the development of global partnerships for student mobility, reputation and advocacy. The team also manages UEA student and staff mobility, utilising funding streams, such as the UK Government's Turing scheme. Content and Communications leads the press, student, alumni, and public relations activity and is responsible for reputation building, brand strategy and stakeholder engagement. We aim to serve our global community by sharing compelling and authentic stories that connect our community and help us to build engagement with our core audiences.

Marketing leads the delivery of multi-channel marketing campaigns to meet the University's reputation and recruitment objectives across Undergraduate, Postgraduate Taught, Postgraduate Research and Influencer audiences. The team manage high quality digital experience across our Website, Portal, Customer Relationship System and third-party websites, ensuring UEA is effectively promoted regionally, nationally and globally.





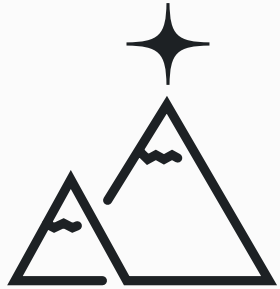
OUR VALUES

Shaped by staff, our UEA values represent a core set of standards for how we behave as an employer, drive excellence in teaching, learning and research, and collaborate as an anchor institution in our local community.

From tackling global challenges, striving for student and staff success, and creating a vibrant inclusive environment, our values are what unite us.

- ✦ AMBITION
- ✦ COLLABORATION
- ✦ EMPOWERMENT
- ✦ RESPECT

OUR VALUES (CONTINUED)



AMBITION

We are ambitious for our future success.

We are forward-thinking and brave in our approach and decisions. We make space for innovation and creativity, seizing opportunities that are responsible and sustainable. We are ambitious for the advancement of education and research.



COLLABORATION

We are collaborative in our approach.

We work together with shared purpose. We build connections, share ideas and develop new networks. We champion our regional, national and global relationships and demonstrate that together we can achieve greater goals and positively influence the world around us.



EMPOWERMENT

We empower ourselves and each other.

We develop ourselves and others, trusting people to make decisions based on their expertise and knowledge. We continually improve systems and processes to support us in working in an agile and efficient way.



RESPECT

We respect each other.

We treat everyone with respect and dignity. We value diversity and foster a community where people can express different thoughts and views. We are open to challenge, so we can learn and improve. We encourage a positive, inclusive environment where everyone has opportunities to fulfil their potential.

Leadership Framework

Leading Self (Take action)

Role model the values
Act with integrity
Own your actions

The leadership practice of leading yourself means role modelling the UEA values, acting with integrity in everything you do and taking responsibility for your actions.

Leading Self involves being accountable for your professional development; that may include development that supports you with performance in your current role or looks at developing skills that prepare you for future opportunities.

Leadership approach – Values Based



Leading Others (Inspire the team)

Engage the team
Empower, coach and develop
Create a feedback culture

The leadership practice of leading others means, inspiring, engaging and motivating other individuals (or a team) to work cohesively and to perform well.

Leading Others involves being accountable for the direction, development, encouragement, support and performance of other people. This may mean you are responsible for leading others through developmental and/or transitional change.

Leadership approach – Developmental



Leading The University (Imagine future success)

Drive strategic development
Be bold
Review and evaluate progress

The leadership practice of leading the university means imagining sustainable future successes for the university and translating that vision into strategic objectives and goals that teams can work collaboratively on delivering.

Leading The University involves being accountable for the strategic direction and development. It requires a clear vision, direction and bold decision making. You may be responsible for leading the University through systemic or transformative change which will involve robust review and evaluation processes.

Leadership approach - Adaptive



ACCOLADES

- Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education have been awarded to UEA for international development studies (2009), creative writing (2011) and environmental sciences (2017). Notable alumni include Sir Paul Nurse (1973, Nobel Prize for Medicine 2001), Sir Kazuo Ishiguro (1980, Nobel Prize for Literature 2017), Sir Michael Houghton (1972, Nobel Prize for Medicine 2020) and Sarah Gilbert (1983) who led the Oxford University team to develop a COVID-19 vaccine, approved in 2020.
- Our Doctoral College, established in 2018, hosts six Doctoral Training Partnerships and integrates Faculty and School provision for 1600 Postgraduate Research Students (including those from across the Norwich Research Park), enabling collaboration and innovation.
- We recognise our global impact and were one of the first universities to declare a climate and biodiversity emergency in June 2019. Our sustainable campus, including over 50 acres of environmentally valuable parkland, is constantly evolving with ambitions to be 100% net zero by 2045 or sooner.
- UEA is a University of Sanctuary, an accreditation given to universities that show an ongoing commitment to creating a welcoming culture of inclusivity and awareness.
- UEA was awarded the Silver Athena SWAN Award in 2019, and all our Schools hold awards at Bronze or Silver.

A vibrant place to study, learn and work, UEA is a very special place.



A SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY

At UEA, we are now working to create a university that will be even better in the future, and we are working to achieve net zero carbon by 2045 (or earlier). Our Sustainable Ways vision is one of a resilient university – where consumption is efficient and self-generated energy supports low carbon goals, supported by a vibrant community of world-leading researchers and inspired graduates.

At a basic level, our sustainable development means that we try to balance the 'three pillars' of environmental, economic and social elements.

We challenge our environmental impact through on-site energy generation and a district heating and cooling network, reducing our reliance on grid electricity and therefore fossil fuels. We promote and use recycled and 'eco' products such as biological cleaning materials. We champion local suppliers and ethical causes, including Fairtrade and vegan products. We seek to ensure value for money in a holistic, whole-life costing sense in our new buildings and procurement contracts.

OUR INITIATIVES

Central campaigns, such as holiday shut-downs or awareness day events, support a whole-University approach to energy saving and other initiatives.

Follow us on X [@SustainableUEA](https://twitter.com/SustainableUEA)



OUR CAMPUS

UEA is based on a campus that provides top quality academic, social and cultural facilities to over 17,000 students.

Although located in 320 acres of rolling parkland, virtually no part of the campus is more than a few minutes' walk from anywhere else, so everything is close at hand – the library, nursery, health centre, supermarket (incorporating a post office) and restaurants. Amongst the striking buildings is the UEA's Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, which contains the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection – one of the greatest art collections formed in Europe during the 20th Century.

The University has invested in new learning and teaching and research spaces, including a celebrated new Enterprise Centre that underpins its commitment to promoting student enterprise and entrepreneurship.

Sport and Recreation plays a major part in the life of the University of East Anglia, centred around the major Sportspark facility which is one of the most successful community sport facilities in the UK. This accessible and affordable facility provides a diverse range of activities, and incorporates a 50m Olympic size swimming pool, indoor climbing wall, coaching resource centre and sports injury clinic.



NORWICH

A CITY OF STORIES

The city's motto is 'A fine city' and its strong cultural heritage has seen Norwich maintain the best of its historical character whilst developing to become one of the most vibrant and attractive cities in Europe. Norwich offers miles of riverside walks and cycle ways, and a unique collection of 1930s parks. The city is surrounded by beautiful countryside and within easy reach of the stunning Norfolk coast.

Norwich is a UNESCO World city of Literature, the first in the UK, as well as being one of the newly named Tech Cities recognising the growth of digital businesses in the region. The most prominent high-rise building, apart from the castle, is the magnificent 11th century cathedral, which still dominates the skyline. The city's medieval centre of cobbled streets remains largely intact, but there is still space for modern buildings such as the city's centrepiece, the Forum, which is a striking piece of contemporary architecture. The glass front overlooks the colourful open-air market (one of the largest in the country) and reflects the city in all its diversity.

The city is consistently rated as one of the top ten shopping venues in the UK. Norfolk and Suffolk attract thousands of visitors each summer. The famous Norfolk Broads are among the most important wetlands in Europe and a haven for rare plants, wildlife and insects. The Broads attract holidaymakers who come to navigate the intricate natural network of waterways formed by the Rivers Bure, Yare and Waveney and their tributaries.

For further information about UEA's excellent facilities, staff benefits, picturesque campus and the UEA working environment, please visit the 'Careers at UEA' microsite <https://www.uea.ac.uk/about/working-at-uea>. Additional information about living and working in the city of Norwich can be found at <https://www.workinnorwich.co.uk/>



If there is another city in the United Kingdom with a school of painters named after it, a matchless modern art gallery, a university with a reputation for literary excellence which can boast Booker Prize-winning alumni, one of the grandest Romanesque cathedrals in the world, an extraordinary new state-of-the-art public library then I have yet to hear of it. Norwich is a fine city. None finer.

STEPHEN FRY



LOCATION

Some cities you've heard of, others you have to discover.

Norwich is one of the most beautiful, modern historic cities in Britain. It's a city that celebrates the independent, stimulates creativity, promotes change and encourages diversity.

UEA is a campus university located 3 miles from the centre of Norwich. Situated in the heart of Norfolk, which means it's an ideal location to explore Norwich and beyond.

BY RAIL

LONDON • 2 HOURS

CAMBRIDGE • 1 HR 15 MINS

BIRMINGHAM • 4 HOURS

Many European cities (including Paris and Amsterdam) easily accessible by train

BY ROAD

KINGS LYNN • 1 HOUR

CROMER • 45 MINUTES

SOUTHWOLD • 1 HOUR

BY AIR

NORWICH AIRPORT • 20 MINUTES

STANSTED AIRPORT • 2 HOURS

London is a major airline hub and all main international destinations are easily accessible



An internationally renowned university, UEA is ranked 26th in the UK (Complete University Guide 2026) and is in the UK Top 25 for research quality (Times Higher Education Rankings 2026) reflecting the international excellence of its research environment. We are in the World Top 60 (QS World Rankings for Sustainability 2025) and the World Top 9th for reduced inequalities (Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2026). The University holds UK Teaching Excellence Framework Silver status.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing

The University is committed to diversifying its workforce and to the wellbeing of all our staff. For example, we hold an Athena SWAN Silver Institutional Award (since 2019) in recognition of our advancement towards gender equality for all. Further details on our broader Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Wellbeing work can be found on our [website](#).

