BOOMSATSUMA

Access and Participation Statement

2026/27

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Purpose and Commitment

Boomsatsuma is an independent education provider based in Bristol and the West of England. Its higher education provision focuses on creative industry subjects, including filmmaking, game design and photography. Boomsatsuma's mission is to deliver exceptional, inclusive, industry-engaged creative education that creates opportunity, nurtures talent, and enables learners to thrive in the creative and everyday economy.

This mission shapes Boomsatsuma's approach to access and participation. We aim to support students to enter higher education, participate fully in their studies, continue and complete their course, and progress into employment, further study or creative practice. This includes students who may face barriers linked to socioeconomic disadvantage, limited family experience of higher education, additional learning support needs, cost pressures or confidence in navigating higher education.

Boomsatsuma's higher education courses are awarded by Kingston University London. Further information about Kingston University's approach to equality, diversity and inclusion, access and participation is available through this [Link].

Our Students and Priorities

Boomsatsuma's approach is informed by its student community, subject mix, regional context and small-provider scale. Current local data shows that Boomsatsuma reaches a significant proportion of students from areas with historically lower participation in higher education, with 42% of current students from POLAR4 Q1 and Q2 areas. The student body also includes a high proportion of students with limited family experience of higher education, with 66% having no parental experience of higher education. In addition, 55% of students have disclosed an additional learning support need.

These characteristics reinforce the importance of clear information, early support, inclusive learning and teaching, and strong relationships between students and staff. Boomsatsuma also monitors areas where further work may be needed, including outcomes for mature students, students from IMD Q1 and Q2 areas, and the overall diversity of the student population. Across these areas, the aim is to support continuation, completion and progression, and to mitigate gaps in outcomes between students who may experience disadvantage and their comparator groups.

Access to Higher Education

Access activity at Boomsatsuma focuses on practical engagement with prospective students, schools, colleges and community partners. We use creative workshops, applicant engagement activity, open events and short-course opportunities to help prospective students understand higher education, build confidence in their creative skills, and make informed decisions about study.

Our admissions approach is intended to recognise potential as well as prior attainment. Interviews are used to understand an applicant's interests, motivation and readiness for creative study, and to help applicants understand the nature of the course they are applying for. Students who choose to study at Boomsatsuma are then able to discuss support needs during enrolment, so that potential barriers to participation can be identified and addressed as early as possible. This supports a smooth transition into higher education and helps ensure that students are directed to appropriate academic, wellbeing or additional learning support at the start of their studies.

Participation, Support and Belonging

Participation is supported through a close and personalised learning environment. Students have access to academic support through course teams, tutorials, feedback, structured personal development planning and additional 1-1 guidance where needed. This is particularly important for students who are the first in their

family to enter higher education, students with additional learning support needs, mature students who may have unique progression aims, and others.

Student support and wellbeing provision helps students address personal or circumstantial barriers that may affect their ability to succeed in their studies. Additional learning support helps students identify and manage individual learning needs, including through reasonable adjustments and tailored academic guidance. Boomsatsuma's approach also recognises the importance of student belonging, peer connection and confidence, particularly where students are entering higher education from less traditional routes or balancing study with other commitments.

In practice, this means harmonising academic, pastoral and additional needs support across the student journey. Relevant activity includes tutorials, one-to-one guidance, study support, wellbeing support, mentoring, careers and progression conversations, and opportunities for students to connect through projects, peer activity and the wider creative community. This integrated approach is intended to help students remain engaged, build confidence, complete their course and progress successfully beyond higher education.

Monitoring and Review

Boomsatsuma reviews access and participation through student data, student feedback, support and wellbeing records, engagement monitoring, course review, student representation and quality assurance processes. This helps identify emerging barriers, understand differences in student experience and outcomes, and improve the support available to students.

As a small provider, Boomsatsuma recognises that data can be affected by cohort size and annual variation. For this reason, both quantitative evidence and qualitative student insight are used to inform understanding. Access and participation activity is reviewed as part of wider academic quality, student support and governance processes, with the aim of strengthening equality of opportunity across the student lifecycle and supporting students to continue, complete and progress.

Ongoing Commitment

Access and participation is part of Boomsatsuma's wider educational mission. We continue to develop outreach, admissions, student support, wellbeing, academic support and progression activity so that students from a wide range of backgrounds can access creative higher education, participate fully in their studies, complete their course, and progress with confidence beyond their course.