

Contextual Admissions across the Liverpool City Region 26/27

Contextual admissions adjust entry requirements to recognise an applicant's **educational, social or personal context**, where grades alone may not reflect academic potential.

Criteria and reductions are **pre-defined and published on individual university websites**.

Eligibility is based on criteria such as:

Low participation postcodes

Eligibility is often determined by living in areas of historical low progress rates to HE or areas classed as being economically deprived. (identified by POLAR4 or IMD)

Education & personal background

Factors include being first in family to attend HE, having Free School Meals (FSM) status, coming from an armed forces background or attending a HE outreach programme

Vulnerable student status

Personal family circumstances such as Care Experienced, estrangement or young carer. Significant disruption to their education.

See overleaf for
individual institution criteria

This QR code can be used to search by postcode for levels of young participation in higher education.



Institution	Primary Policy Name & Contact Number	Typical Offer Reduction	Key Eligibility Flags	Specific Exclusions
University of Liverpool (UoL)	Contextual Offer Strategy 0151 794 5927	Up to 2 Grades (e.g., AAA → ABB)	IMD Quantiles 1-2, Care Experienced, Refugee/Asylum Seeker status. completion of the Liverpool Scholars access programme	Medicine, (though used for interview selection). Foundation programmes
Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU)	Contextual Admissions Framework 0151 231 5090	Offer reduced by 1 or 2 grades (8-16 UCAS points)	Care experienced, estranged from parents, caregivers, FSM, those with a parent or career in the armed forces or participants of LJMU Access programme.	High-demand clinical programs may vary; check specific course pages.
Edge Hill University (EHU)	Fair Entry Criteria 01695 657000	Up to 2 Grades (8-16 UCAS points)	First in Family, IMD /POLAR Q1, Care Experienced, Young Carers. FSM, Refugee status, participant of EH Access programme	Medicine, Nurse Associate, and specific Foundation years.
Liverpool Hope University (LHU)	Admissions Policy 0151 291 3111	Up to 2 Grades (8-16 UCAS points)	Holistic review of academic potential; focus on Foundation entry.	None; applies across the portfolio via flexible entry routes.
University of Chester (UoC)	Contextual Admissions 01244 511000	Lower offer by 1 or 2 grades Offer an alternative pathway. E.g. Foundation year	IMD/POLAR Q1, Care Experienced, Young Carers, FSM	None

When advising your students...**Remember:**

- Postcode eligibility can change. Always check the **Office for Students (OfS) Postcode Look-up Tool** to see if a student's address is Quintile 1 for POLAR or IMD.
- To ensure students tick the "Care Experienced" box on UCAS. This is the only universal flag that guarantees a reduced offer at every LCR institution.

Any questions. email admin@shaping-futures.info