

**Further  
Information**



## Introduction From the Vice Chancellor

I am delighted that you are interested in applying for a position at our University. This is an exceptional opportunity to join York St John University, a highly regarded University in the heart of York.

Originally a college founded in 1841, York St John University has delivered a successful strategy for growth and development over the last decade. We are currently working towards the implementation of our 2020 Strategy which is based on the four pillars of Quality, Community, Growth and Resilience. At the heart of everything we do sits our Mission 'to inspire our students and staff to reach their full potential, advance knowledge, and make a positive contribution to the world'. Our values underpin an inclusive, innovative and ambitious community with a strong sense of belonging.

Our profile in the higher education sector is increasing through our growing achievements and we have worked very hard in recent times on enhancing our courses, facilities, academic standards and the quality of the student experience.

Based in the beautiful city of York, the University enjoys a stunning

campus location which combines modern, purpose-built, award-winning facilities with historic listed buildings in the centre of the city. We are a civic University that has built a reputation for our commitment to both the city and the region's economic social and cultural success.

Thank you for taking an interest in York St John University. I hope the following information will give you a useful insight into our University and its potential.

*Karen Stanton*

**Professor Karen Stanton  
Vice Chancellor**



York St John University is a vibrant, ambitious university providing an outstanding student experience. A growing reputation for academic excellence is supported by a research culture with world-class research in many areas.

# About York St John University

## History

York St John University is the oldest Higher Education institution in York with roots going back to 1841. York Diocesan Training School for teacher education opened in May 1841 with one pupil on the register, 16 year old Edward Preston Cordukes. 1846 saw the foundation of the Female Training School which moved to Ripon in 1862. The college in York was described as St John's College from the late 1890s.

In 1974 the two institutions merged to become the College of Ripon & York St John. In 1999 all taught courses were relocated to the York campus and by the end of 2001 all students and staff were housed in York and a new name was chosen, York St John University.

In September 2005 the University was granted Taught Degree Awarding Powers and became a university with the full title of York St John University on 1 October 2006.

The University was awarded Research Degree Awarding Powers in March 2015 and all research qualifications now awarded are degrees of York St John University.

Today the University is based on an award-winning campus with a wide network of regional, national and international partnerships.



## The Estate

The campus, which sits next to the historic medieval walls of the city, has an impressive mix of Victorian and modern buildings and is set in award-winning gardens.

The University has benefited from a significant amount of strategic investment in new facilities since 2006 to develop a well-resourced city centre campus which provides a high-quality teaching and learning environment and supports our commitment to an excellent student experience.

The suite of student accommodation has been enhanced by the addition of the £15m St John Central development and the University offers an accommodation guarantee to all new entrants.

The University has invested over £7m to develop Nestle Rowntree Park Sports Campus based on 57 acres of sports fields and recreational space within walking distance of the campus. Recent developments have also seen the creation of new laboratories for Biomedical Science and significant investment is planned for the IT infrastructure.



## Our success

York St John University is proud of its achievements and has enjoyed considerable success in delivering its Strategic Plan to 2015.

- York St John was founded in 1841. 2016 not only marked its 175th anniversary, but also the 10th anniversary of York St John becoming a University.
- A growing research culture with a significantly increased performance in the 2014 Research Evaluation Framework (REF2014); 4\* world-leading research in eight out of nine areas; 30% of research rated at 3\* or above; 73% 2\* or above; 50% more staff entered in REF2014
- 99% of our staff have achieved or are working towards HEA Fellowship. The sector average is 44% (HESA).
- 35% increase in Home/EU recruitment for 2016 entry
- Excellent record of widening participation: 96.5% of entrants from state schools; 37.1% from lower socio-economic groups; 17.9% from low-participation neighbourhoods
- 57% of 2016 leavers achieved a 1st or 2:1
- Student continuation rate of 93.2%
- The 2015 National Student Survey (NSS) saw an increase in student satisfaction from 84% to 88% - one of the largest improvements in the country
- Excellent graduate employability: 94% in employment/further study within 6 months; 65.6% in graduate-level roles. (Source: DLHE)
- Financial strength and resilience: income growth in 2014-15 of 12%; operating surplus of 8.9%

- Committed to equality and diversity: York St John's University LGBT staff network was named Yorkshire and the Humber Network of the Year by Stonewall and the University retained its position in the Stonewall Top 100 Employer list
- Awarded the internationally-recognised Social Enterprise Gold Mark in June 2016, reflecting the University's commitment to social enterprise excellence
- Sector-leading approach to strategic planning and risk management – recognised as Strategic Planning Team of the Year at the 2014 THE Leadership and Management Awards. Shortlisted for the same award for the 2017 awards!
- A highly-engaged workforce, with the University consistently achieving staff satisfaction levels in excess of 88% in our new Survey
- Grounds consistently achieved Gold Yorkshire in Bloom Award
- York Business School has been approved to join the Central Eastern European Management Network (CEEMAN) and is now accredited by the Chartered Management Institute (CMI)
- Improving environmental performance – 100% recycling of waste in 2015
- Students' Union awarded Small and Specialist Union of the Year (National Union of Students Awards 2014)

# Our Structure

## The University has nine Schools:

### York Business School

- Business, Management & IT
- Accounting & Finance
- Economics & International Business
- Marketing, Tourism & Events
- Business & Sports

### School of Humanities, Religion & Philosophy

- Creative Writing
- English Literature
- Geography
- History
- Media Studies
- Theology & Religious Studies
- American Studies

### School of Education

- Childhood & Youth Studies
- Educational & Professional Studies
- Undergraduate Initial Teacher Education
- Postgraduate Initial Teacher Education
- Initial Teacher Education Partnerships
- Working in the Wider Children's Workforce
- Children, Young People & Families
- Early Childhood Studies
- Education Studies
- Primary Education

### School of Health Sciences

- Biomedical Sciences
- Health CPD
- Occupational Therapy
- Physiotherapy

### School of Psychological & Social Sciences

- Psychology
- Psychology & Counselling
- Sociology
- Policing
- Criminology

### School of Sport

- Sport & Exercise Science
- Sport Development
- Physical Education

### School of Languages & Linguistics

- Linguistics
- Languages & TESOL
- English Language

### School of Performance & Media Production

- Drama
- Media Production
- Music
- Music Production

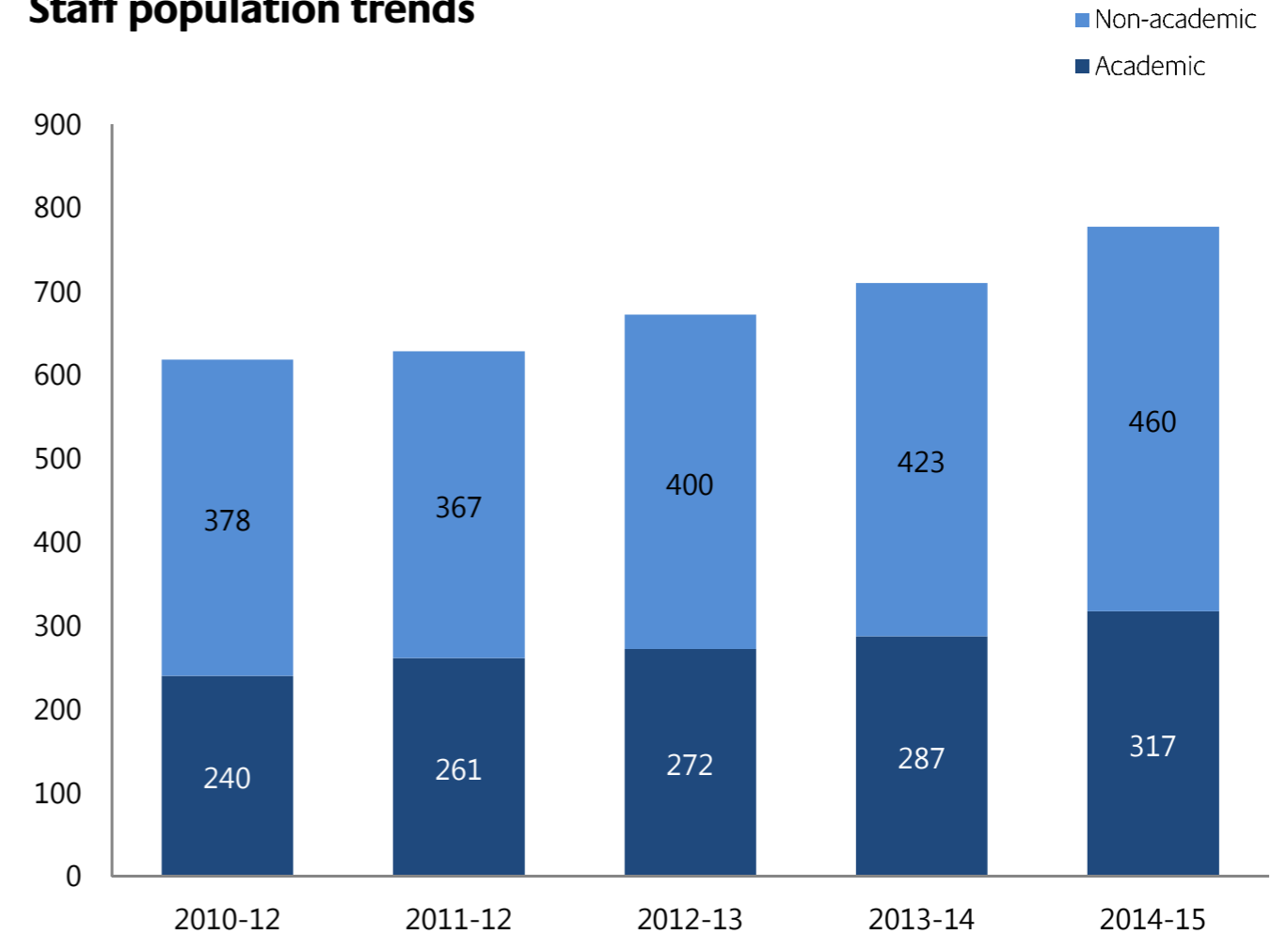
### School of Art, Design & Computer Science

- Computing
- Design
- Fine Art

## There are eleven directorates which facilitate the work of the University:

- Student & Staff Services
- Information Learning Services
- Estates
- Finance
- Student Recruitment & Marketing
- Strategic Projects
- External Relations
- Strategy & Planning
- Internationalisation & Development
- Academic Development
- Registry
- Admissions

## Staff population trends



## Academic achievement

In recent years York St John University has developed its research capacity across a range of curriculum disciplines. The University was awarded Research Degree Awarding Powers (RDAP) in March 2015 and has achieved highly encouraging results in the 2014 Research Excellence Framework which show: an almost four-fold increase in the proportion of research rated as 3\* (internationally excellent) or 4\* (world leading); world leading research in eight out of the nine Units of Assessment which were submitted; and a 50% increase in the number of staff entered. A high proportion of staff (46% of academic staff) hold a doctoral degree. Academic achievement is being further enhanced through investment in our Academic Development Directorate.

### Other achievements include:

- An NHS award for Converge, a partnership between York St John University and regional mental health service providers. The innovative award was for a series of courses, run by staff and students across a number of programmes, to develop people's life skills and reduce social exclusion.
- Two School of Health Sciences academics received a Golden Hearts PACT (Professionalism and Culture Transformation) Award for Positive Culture and Team Spirit 2016. The nomination was based on a regional NHS leadership coaching programme that the two delivered specifically for physiotherapists.

## Our Students

In April 2017 the University had 5,994 students studying for a degree. Over 650 international students from more than 100 different countries are welcomed onto the campus each year.

The University is proud of its record in widening participation with 96.5% of its students progressing from state schools and 37.1% from lower socio-economic groups.

The Students' Union plays a vital role in University life and works with the University to promote an extensive range of student volunteering opportunities. It also delivers a range of campaigns and activities including a highly successful programme of student course representatives building links with local residents and the wider community and the raising of awareness of student safety and, in particular, the highly-regarded 'Plan Safe, Drink Safe, Home Safe' campaign.



## Student population in 2015/16

School	Undergraduate Degree students, Home/EU	International students on campus	International distance/TNE students	PG students, Home/EU	All other Home/EU	Total
Art, Design & Computer Science	263	2	0	6	0	271
Education	830	2	0	280	0	1112
Health Sciences	415	12	0	61	18	506
Humanities, Religion & Philosophy	1053	11	0	63	27	1154
Languages & Linguistics	250	23	0	15	92	380
Performance & Media Production	341	5	7	8	0	361
Psychological & Social Sciences	437	6	57	52	0	552
Sport	446	1	0	4	0	451
York Business School	427	312	461	12	48	1260
Other (cross-School, incoming exchange)	109	5	0	118	36	268
<b>Total</b>	<b>4571</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>6315</b>

# The York St John University Community

Staff engagement is high and we have consistently achieved in excess of 88% of staff satisfaction in our biennial Staff Survey, with 86% feeling the University is a good place to work. Further results revealed that 88% feel that their work gives them a sense of achievement, 94% of staff feel supported by their colleagues and 93% have a good working relationship with their teams.

Teaching qualifications have been achieved by 89% of academic colleagues through the Higher Education Academy, with 11% currently working towards it. Annually we deliver a comprehensive and inclusive programme of staff development which last year included delivery of the University's first Postgraduate Certificate in Coaching and Mentoring for staff, and supporting four colleagues through the Leadership Foundation's Aurora Developing Women in Leadership Programme. The University is an active member of York Cares, a local independent employee-volunteering charity, bringing businesses, employees and communities together to make York a better place.

In support of our community-orientated culture, we have introduced a Contribution Framework that helps colleagues to understand their role and ways in which they support the University's strategy and drive success. The Framework recognises how individual positive behaviours help to improve the student experience, achieve institutional resilience and nurture our sense of community.

The recently established Student & Staff Services directorate has built on our approach to campus life and commitment to community and allowed us to closely align our wellbeing and equalities agenda. The Directorate also works closely with the Chaplaincy to strengthen the support to students of all faiths and none. Providing a healthy, inclusive and supportive culture and environment for all our staff and students is important to us and our success.

Our equality priorities are driven by our Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Strategy and include strengthening promotion of race equality, increasing confidence in the University's commitment to welcoming LGBT staff, strengthening our commitment to women's career development, fully exploring the gender differences in students' success; and enhancing support for disabled students to realise their full potential. The University has an active LGBT staff network, leads on the York International Festival for Faith and Culture and actively celebrates Black and LGBT History Months. The University is a Stonewall Diversity Champion for the third year running and is rated 10/10 in the Stonewall Gay by Degree ranking, one of only six Universities in the country to achieve this level of recognition. Further information can be found at [www.yorks.ac.uk/equality](http://www.yorks.ac.uk/equality)



## Leadership & Governance

The Vice Chancellor reports to the University's Board of Governors and is supported by the Deputy Vice Chancellor and the Executive Board.

The Board of Governors consists of 17 members who together bring their skills and knowledge to bear on the challenges and opportunities facing the University. Board membership includes the Vice Chancellor, the Students' Union President and an elected staff member.

The University is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity; Board members are consequently company directors and charitable trustees. The University's appointed Chancellor is Dr John Sentamu, the Archbishop of York. [www.yorks.ac.uk/governance](http://www.yorks.ac.uk/governance)

## Strategic Plan 2015-2020

Working closely with our Governors and staff across the University, we have developed an ambitious and exciting Strategic Plan for 2015-20. It is a framework that enables us to collate, understand, prioritise and monitor progress towards key objectives.

Throughout its implementation, we will position the University to deal with turbulence in the higher education sector and continue to offer excellent learning opportunities for all our students and staff. [www.yorks.ac.uk/about/our-strategy/strategic-plan-2015-20/](http://www.yorks.ac.uk/about/our-strategy/strategic-plan-2015-20/)

## Our City and the Region

Often described as the UK's favourite city, York is renowned for its heritage, including the iconic York Minster. Just two hours from London by train, it is home to 20,000 students and has a strong cultural and economic community.

York St John University is strongly rooted within the city and the wider region with a significant proportion of students drawn from the Yorkshire and Humber area. We work actively with local and regional businesses to add to the wealth, skills and welfare of its community. The city has an increasingly modern and dynamic economy, underpinned by traditional industries and the recent significant expansion in the fields of science, digital arts and

technology has aided York to become a UNESCO designated City of Media Arts.

York St John University is an active partner in a number of regional partnerships, including the Higher York partnership along with Askham Bryan College, York College, the University of York and the City of York Council. Craven College is an associate member. Higher York works with its partners to underpin the economic and social agendas of the City of York and adjacent areas through maximising and promoting the positive impact of Further and Higher Education.

