

Inclusive versus targeted support for BTEC-holding students: What are the issues?

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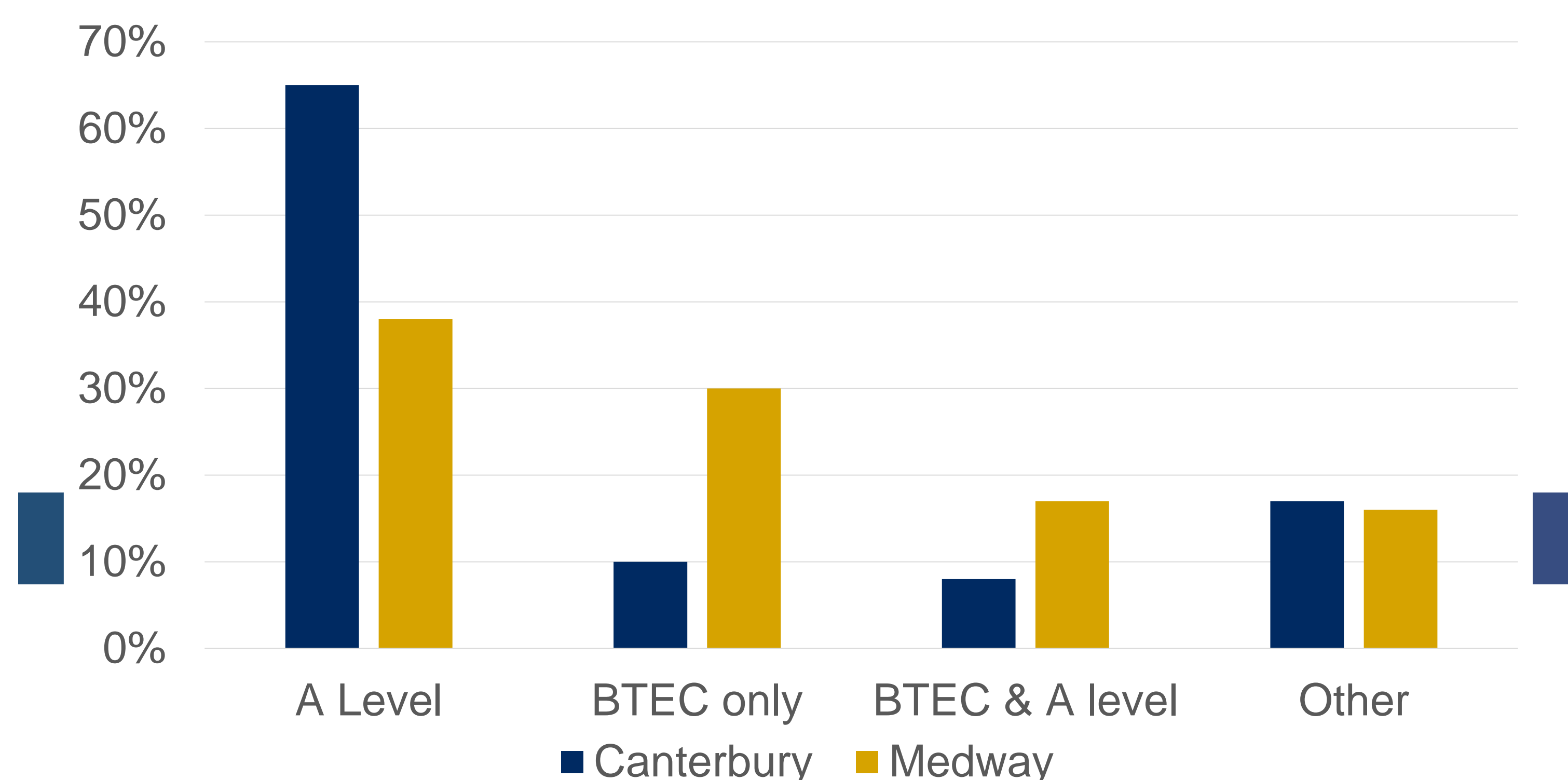
The problem

Staff who organise student support face a dilemma. Should they target BTEC students specifically? Or should they involve all students?

Who am I?

I have investigated the academic attainment gaps at the University of Kent between students who followed a Level 3 BTEC qualification and students who did A levels. This was part of a wider set of on-going institution-wide activities that won Kent the Outstanding Support for Students award at the Times Higher Education Awards in November 2017.

University of Kent: Highest Educational Qualification of entrants, by campus (2016/17 and 2017/18 entrants combined, UK domicile)



My sources

Over 12 hours of interviews with BTEC-holding students were audio recorded. The questions were open-ended and focussed on experiences of studying at the University of Kent so far. I analysed the transcripts borrowing concepts from research on supporting BME students.

