

This is yet another example of the Government's shameful record on social mobility – Angela Rayner

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Rayner MP, Labour's Shadow Education Secretary, responding to a Teach First report on access to university, said:

"This is yet another example of the Government's shameful record on social mobility.

"In the poorest postcodes in the country, just one in five young people get to university; meanwhile, more and more pupils from private and grammar schools are getting into higher education.

"After their failed attempt to reintroduce grammar schools, it's clear that the Tories have their heads in the sand on social mobility and need to wake up to the calamity they have created.

"By trebling tuition fees and cutting maintenance grants, ministers have made access to university so much harder for those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

"The next Labour government will address the growing crisis of social mobility by abolishing tuition fees and bringing back maintenance grants to support students."