

Access and Participation Statement: New City College

A strategic aim of New City College is to play a significant role within the local communities the College serves. The College aims to create opportunities for students, many of whom come from disadvantaged backgrounds. The College seeks to achieve this through a number of ways; by providing economically viable ways of engaging with higher education, providing progression routes, engaging with employers, promoting progression and transition to higher education, raising awareness of the higher education programme offer and by reducing barriers to learning through effective student support mechanisms. These actions underpin and are in line with the College's commitment to widening participation.

The College encourages applications from all prospective students regardless of background and confirms its commitment to equal opportunities and widening participation in all of its activities. Recruitment and admissions processes enable students to make informed choices about learning programmes and have been mapped to the Quality Assurance Agency's UK Quality Code Chapter B2 and Supporting Professional Admissions (SPA) guidance. The College aims to place applicants onto the appropriate programme and provide effective support arrangements. Applicants without formal entry qualifications are considered for selection based on relevant knowledge, skills and experience gained, for example, through employment, voluntary work or informal training.

In order to ensure that our College continues to eliminate barriers to learning we continue reviewing and evaluating our student recruitment and admissions, learning and teaching, assessment, induction, student support, staff development, and programme development to ensure that all those with the potential to succeed at New City College can do so.

For current students on Level 2 and Level 3 further education programmes, higher education programmes are promoted through targeted progression events, for example, during tutorials as well as through HE Fairs, open days and evenings. The College has a well-established and highly successful Access to HE provision across all three campuses which provides opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds without traditional qualifications and with varying levels of education to progress onto higher education programmes.

The delivery of appropriate academic and pastoral guidance to all prospective and current students is an important strategic policy for the College. Students are supported to reach their full potential by monitoring all aspects of their performance throughout the programme life cycle via an online monitoring system. This allows College staff to view live student performance data and identify any potential issues thereby enabling the College to put in place any bespoke measures to support students to achieve the qualification they are studying for.

The College values student input on widening access and participation. We use suggestions and reports from student feedback, outcomes of NSS and other student surveys, as well as through committees, boards and forums to inform our strategies for access and participation.