



College Mission Statement

Inspiring our community through learning for all

1. Vision Statement

- 1.1 South Devon College is committed to working in partnership with the parents, carers or legal guardians (hereafter referred to as guardians) of its learners, seeking to engage them wherever possible in shaping the learning experience offered by the college.
- 1.2 The college believes that the effective and systematic involvement of parents and guardians in reviewing the learning experience of their children provides a valuable source of feedback.
- 1.3 This Parental Involvement Strategy aims to foster and promote parental involvement as a key element in the college's learning culture.
- 1.4 The college acknowledges that the kind of parental involvement promoted by this strategy is sought mainly on behalf of younger learners (minors). For any other learner over the age of 18, where for some legitimate reason the involvement of a parent or guardian might be deemed appropriate or necessary, consent would be sought before sharing any information about them with their parents.

2. Developing Parental Involvement

- 2.1 South Devon College invites parents and guardians to contribute to the development of the learning culture at the college using a combination of feedback from events where parents and guardians visit the college (open evenings, meet the tutors events), annual surveys and consultation events with course tutors, curriculum managers and heads of department.
- 2.2 The college and the parents and guardians of the learners will work together to:
 - develop a learning culture that supports progression to higher levels of study and employment
 - ensure the "you said this ... we did this" protocol applies to all feedback gathered.
 - consult widely about more effective or innovative ways of gathering feedback from parents and guardians.
 - ensure the activities used to consult parents and guardians are inclusive and welcome "hard to reach groups".

Parental Involvement Strategy

3. Recognising Equality and Diversity

- 3.1 The college will work with parents and guardians to create equality of opportunity with participation in the parental involvement activities organised and used by the college.
- 3.2 The college recognises the need to ensure recognition of diversity and that the contributions from all parents or guardians are welcomed regardless of age, gender or transgender, race, religion or belief or sexual orientation.
- 3.3 The college recognises the diversity among parents, their location and living arrangements. The college will endeavour to accommodate this diversity when communicating with parents to ensure the involvement of hard to reach groups.

4. Involving Parents in Quality Improvement and Development

- 4.1 The college will work with parents or guardians to:
- ensure evidence is collected of actions in regard of feedback.
 - ask course teams to keep evidence of the use of parental feedback to improve performance and support mechanisms.
 - investigate the direct role of parents or guardians in college quality processes and procedures to improve procedures.
 - involve parents or guardians in testing judgements from the college's Self-Assessment Report.
- 4.2 Encourage workshops or training events to assist parents or guardians in developing their role with the college.

5. Developing Parental Involvement - Creating the Culture

- 5.1 The parental involvement vision statement and the features and proposals set out above are designed to ensure that parental involvement becomes more deeply embedded within the college. The college recognises the important role parents and guardians play in promoting its own core values namely aspiration, inclusion, innovation, support and progress with our learners and the parents played by the college in promoting these values through parents in the wider community.
- 5.2 The college, parents and guardians will work together to:
- make parents and guardians aware of the college's vision statement and how they can contribute to its success
 - help parents and guardians to understand and support the core values informing the colleges teaching, learning & assessment activities

Parental Involvement Strategy

- provide opportunities for parents or guardians to improve their own study skills or confidence with maths and English
- help parents and guardians to understand their role and contribution to the safeguarding of our learners
- provide appropriate training for staff to support those activities aimed at communicating and consulting with parents

6. Improving and Developing Parental Involvement

6.1 This Parental Involvement Strategy is a living document and will be reviewed and amended annually as part of the college's self - assessment process.

6.2 In assessing the impact of this strategy the college will take account of key performance indicators (achievement, retention and where applicable value added) as well as feedback from staff, learners and parents. Examples of outcomes against which the success of this strategy will be assessed are:

- growing numbers of parents or guardians participating in the activities listed under 2.1 above.
- parental involvement activities lead to auditable trails regarding actions and improvements.
- the college can evidence how feedback from these activities is used to identify and spread good practice.
- surveys of parents or guardians produce consistently high levels of satisfaction with the learning, teaching, assessment and other services offered at the college.
- monitoring the use of the Parent Web Site and the feedback provided from the website
- quality of responses returned to OFSTED on line surveys for parents and carers

This policy should be read in conjunction with the college's Data Protection Policy.

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March 2016