



Higher Education Scholarly Activity Policy

Excellence, Passion, Integrity, Valuing Others, Supportiveness, Teamwork



Principal: Tim Jackson BTEch (Hons), PGCE

Our Mission

To inspire learners to recognise and achieve their full potential

Our Values

Excellence, Passion, Team Work, Integrity, Innovation,
Sustainability, Valuing Others and Supportiveness

Sparsholt College Hampshire, incorporating Andover College

The ***Higher Education Scholarly Activity Policy*** was reviewed and reconfirmed by the Board of Governors in March 2017 and is effective from 30 March 2017.

Equality Impact Assessment

Conducted: October 2013

Originator:

Located:

Head of Faculty - Higher Education

College intranet

College website

Date of next scheduled review:

February 2020

Higher Education Scholarly Activity Policy

Excellence, Passion, Integrity, Valuing Others, Supportiveness, Teamwork

Contents

1. Purpose of the HE Scholarly Activity Policy
2. Definitions of the Policy
3. The Policy
4. Implementation
5. Associated Documents
6. Monitoring, review and evaluation

1. Purpose

- 1.1 Sparsholt College is an Associate College of the University of Portsmouth and holds responsibility for maintaining Academic Standards, whilst the University takes the lead in the setting of Academic standards. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that teaching staff demonstrate contemporary and current teaching, learning and assessment practices informed by relevant scholarly activity and professional practice in a reflective and evaluative manner.
- 1.2 The College is committed to enabling all Higher Education learners to reach and exceed their goals while at college. An integral part of this commitment is to ensure the Higher Education students experience a learning environment in which scholarly activity and reflective practice are firmly embedded for their benefit.

2. Definitions

- 2.1 *'Learning and teaching practices are informed by reflection, evaluation of professional practice, and subject-specific and educational scholarship'*. The QAA UK Quality Code, Chapter B3
- 2.2 The Higher Education Academic Strategy defines its commitment to quality assurance and improvement through the following key themes:
 - We will appoint and develop staff with strengths and potential in teaching/supporting learning and research/scholarship excellence relevant to the post.
 - Staff will be expected to incorporate best pedagogic practice, research-led/informed teaching and scholarship within their teaching.
 - We will give high priority to the provision of professional training and development activities to support teaching and learning. In addition the College will support relevant industrially related CPD and professional recognition.

3. The Policy

- 3.1 Teaching staff will display a sound understanding and up-to-date knowledge of their subject and/or professional practice and draw on scholarship, research and professional activity to facilitate student learning.
- 3.2 The College will facilitate a specific Higher Education development programme in which teaching staff will be required to develop scholarly and professional reflective practice, including engagement with the UK Professional Standards Framework.
- 3.3 The College will foster a teaching and learning environment in which scholarly and professional reflective practice are promoted and valued, through the provision of working time and resources for teaching staff to achieve agreed scholarly activity.

4. Implementation

- 4.1 It is the responsibility of all staff and managers involved in the delivery of teaching, learning assessment of Higher Education to promote scholarly activity and professional reflective practice. The Head of Faculty - Higher Education will lead the process, supported by Learning Managers and Higher Education Senior Practitioners.
- 4.2 The Head of Faculty - Higher Education will be responsible for monitoring the progress and impact made as a result of scholarly activity undertaken.
- 4.3 Teaching staff will be responsible for engaging in the College's Higher Education development programme, and for identifying and completing scholarly activity targets through the performance management process in agreement with their Learning Manager.
- 4.4 Higher Education teaching staff will be expected to have (or be working towards) appropriate teaching and learning qualifications in accordance with the UK Professional Standards Framework; normally this will be through the University of Portsmouth APEX programme, leading to the appropriate fellowship award.
- 4.5 Teaching staff will be encouraged to share professional practice with peers and students through groups such as the Research and Standards group, and professional development activities.
- 4.6 The impact of scholarly activity on teaching, learning and assessment will be evaluated as part of the Higher Education specific teaching and learning observation process, which includes formal observation, peer observations, and sharing of good practice Through the research and standards group
- 4.7 **Staff and groups with specific responsibility:**
 - Quality & Standards Committee of the Governing Body
 - Higher Education Strategic Group
 - Head of Faculty - Higher Education
 - Learning Managers
 - Higher Education Senior Practitioners
 - Higher Education teaching staff
 - Research and Standards group

5. Associated Documents

- QAA UK Quality Code Part B
- University of Portsmouth Associate College agreement
- Sparsholt College Higher Education Academic Strategy
- Feedback Policy
- Single Equality Scheme
- Higher Education Student Engagement policy
- HE Student Charter
- Examination and Assessment Regulations
- Higher Education Academic Performance and Conduct Policy
- Staff Development Policy.

6. Monitoring, Review and Evaluation

- 6.1 The Higher Education Strategy Group and the Higher Education Student Council will monitor the effectiveness of the Scholarly Activity Policy to monitor the impact on teaching, learning and assessment.