

## **Subcontracting Statement:**

City College Plymouth is committed to growing and diversifying the range of programmes and opportunities we deliver to widen participation, reach niche markets, engage in new and emerging markets, and contribute to skills needs. To achieve this, the College has decided to subcontract part of its provision to three key partner organisations that can demonstrate high-quality delivery.

Subcontracted partners are expected to continuously meet the quality improvement and quality assurance standards set out by the College and ask that subcontractors are committed to supporting, developing and sharing good and excellent practices and continuous professional development of their people. Monitoring forms part of the College's Quality Improvement and Assurance Strategy and Framework through quality and compliance reviews, operational meetings, teaching observations, learning and assessment, and seeking student, employer and partner feedback.

Upon commencement of the subcontracting process, The College will consider the delivery rationale as part of due diligence ensuring subcontracting aligns with the key principles listed above.

Each subcontractor that works with the College has a specific rationale for how its provision fits with the college's vision and purpose and our Eight strategic actions. This rationale forms part of the subcontractors and is reviewed by the College's curriculum planning process and our corporation annually. In addition, all subcontracting must:

- have undertaken and been approved by our due diligence process.
- fit with the College's strategic direction and the local and regional skills need
- be in the best interests of learners and employers;
- enhance the opportunities available to young people and adults;
- support filling gaps in niche or expert provision, or provide better access to training facilities
- support better geographical access for learners
- offer an entry point for disadvantaged groups
- Be inclusive of individuals who share protected characteristics
- agrees to work within the terms of our contract

The College's Subcontracting and Supply-chain Fees policies detail the services the College will provide when subcontracting to delivery subcontractors and how we determine the associated costs involved in doing so.

If you are interested in becoming one of our delivery partners, contact Nadia McCusker, Director of Quality Improvement - [nmccusker@cityplym.ac.uk](mailto:nmccusker@cityplym.ac.uk)

### **ATL - Subcontracting Rationale**

City College Plymouth has worked in a collaborative partnership with Achievement Training Ltd (ATL) for over 20 years and is confident in their ability to nurture vulnerable learners and those who have barriers to learning from previous negative experiences at school.

Delivery covers 6 occupational sector areas (S1 Adults' & Children's Care; SS3 Animal Care; S6 IT; S7 Beauty Therapy; S8 Sport, S15 Business), plus Functional Skills, GCSE Maths & English and Employability Skills some of which fill gaps within niche provision such as animal care. This ensures that a wide range of training options and potential future career paths is available to those in the local community who may otherwise be at risk of becoming NEET.

16-19 Study Programme provision is available both at City College Plymouth and via other lead providers in the area. However, our relationship with Achievement Training Ltd, a subcontracting key provider is in place as they offer provisions distinct from the college offer, supporting collaborative delivery and enhancing opportunities available to learners.

Achievement Training is specifically aimed at supporting a significant number of learners (in scope for this provision) that find the large formal college environment overwhelming or intimidating and are more likely to engage and thrive in a smaller setting as such providing a different entry point which may better suit some disadvantaged groups and supporting individuals who share protected characteristics, where there might otherwise be gaps.

The College oversees Quality Improvement at ATL and works extremely closely with the Managing Director and her Deputy at ATL. The strength of the subcontracted provision is apparent in the success and progression of the learners involved. Ultimately the programmes delivered through subcontracting at ATL ensure that a wide range of training options and potential future career paths are available to those in the local community who may otherwise be at risk of becoming NEET. The provider offers provisions distinct from the college offer and engages with those disadvantaged and NEET learners who would not engage in a college environment.

### **Plymouth Argyle Community Trust - Subcontracting Rationale**

City College Plymouth has worked in partnership with Plymouth Argyle Community Trust (PACT) for over five years and is confident in their ability to provide programmes that enhance opportunities available to learners.

16-19 Study Programme provision is available both at City College Plymouth and via other lead providers in the area. However, our relationship with PACT, a key provider, offers provision distinct from the College that enhances the opportunities available to learners.

For Plymouth Argyle Community Trust this offers students the ability to participate in elite sports providing expert provision and better access to training facilities enabling learners to develop in both the sports and coaching aspects. The facilities and coaching received at the Trust provide a unique opportunity for these students to excel.

The College oversees Quality Improvement at PACT and works extremely closely with the community trust team and also with the delivery team at PACT. Our subcontracted students are overseen in the same way as all College students using the College's continuous Quality Improvement strategy. Aligned with this we include the partner within our college's internal feedback activities and provide the partner with benchmarking and support with survey creation, distribution and collection as well as reporting the outcomes. The partner is then included with the follow-up activities to the survey.

The Plymouth Argyle Community Trust provision is jointly delivered with the college part delivering the main qualifications and all of the English and Mathematics.

City College Plymouth also provides our partner with support in managing the requirements and relationship with Awarding Organisations through close linkage between our centralised quality Improvement Team and the partner designated lead. The provision at PACT has been jointly developed by the employer (Plymouth Argyle) to support disadvantaged young people in the city and provide a pathway into coaching as part of their community work.