

# College Charter 2022/23

## **The College Charter tells you:**

- what you can expect from the College
- what you can do to help yourself make the most of your time at the College
- what the College expects of you.

## **OUR VISION**

To be the learning destination of choice.

## **OUR CULTURE**

- Nurturing a passion for teaching and learning, innovation and creativity.
- Enriching our community through knowledge, experience and skills.
- Enabling every student to be the best that they can be.

## **OUR VALUES**

- Respect
- Ownership
- Integrity

**#WeAreOurStudents**

**#WeAreOurStaff**

**#WeAreOurPartners**

# This Charter sets out how the College seeks to provide a quality service to you.

It is a mission document and not intended to be subject to formal legal proceedings. This Charter may be updated throughout the year.

## THE COLLEGE CHARTER

We are committed to treating everyone fairly and with respect. We encourage and support applications from all sections of society and promote the benefits of living in a diverse community. We seek to support your learning and remove any unfair barriers to your study and success.

### Each year we aim to further develop:

- the quality of learning, teaching and assessment
- student achievement and success
- students' attendance
- students' experience of learning
- students' enjoyment of College
- student satisfaction
- staff qualifications and experience
- accommodation and facilities.

## STUDENT CHARTER - IN PARTNERSHIP WITH YOU

### To help you succeed we seek to:

- provide accurate information and impartial advice on courses, including course aims/objectives, assessment, costs, entry qualifications (if applicable) and progression options
- build employability skills and work experience (where necessary as part of your course studies) into your course/study programme and enable you to undertake relevant work experience to support your course studies
- help you settle into your course/study programme and the College, and tell you what you need to know to be a successful student
- help you to set meaningful and aspirational targets in order to chart your progress and career development, as well as challenging you to achieve the best you can from your College experience

- explain how much work you will need to do, and when and where to attend classes and other activities.

### During your course/study programme we aim to:

- provide, enthusiastic, motivated and innovative staff
- develop your knowledge, skills and behaviours in preparation for progression and employment
- assess your work fairly and regularly
- provide encouragement, improvement advice and feedback on your progress
- help you identify any learning support needs you may have and ensure, where practicable, we provide additional guidance and support to help you succeed
- build employability, work experience (where required) and life skills into your course, to ensure you have the best chances of progressing to employment and/or further study
- ensure your studies are not adversely affected by staff absence
- provide suitable accommodation and resources for you to study
- offer you student support services if you need them, such as careers guidance, student funding advice and welfare advice and guidance
- offer you recreational and leisure activities so you can enjoy College and meet other students
- involve you in the College's decision-making through student feedback opportunities (student council, student representatives, student surveys and focus groups, the Students' Union etc)
- work with you to set meaningful targets throughout the year to review progress as well as to stretch and challenge you
- with your consent keep your parents/carers informed of your study programme progress, if you are aged under 18.

### **To help you succeed you agree to:**

- take an active part in enrolment and induction activities, so that you can be sure the course is the right one for you
- take responsibility for organising your own learning
- take part in relevant work experience (where necessary) as part of your study programme
- use your time to learn to the best of your ability
- regularly attend and be punctual for all your timetabled classes (onsite or virtual) and any other activities that form part of your agreed course
- ask for help if you need it
- access all student services available to you, to assist your learning and overall student experience
- be aware of the consequences of plagiarism and sign all your work as your own before handing it in on time
- make full use of the resources available, including libraries, computer facilities, virtual learning environments and learning support services
- regularly check your College e-mail account
- cooperate with all members of staff and other students
- pay any fees and charges promptly or, if you have difficulties, discuss them with the Student Funding team
- abide by all College Code of Conduct, rules and regulations, including anti-bullying and no smoking.

### **Students behaviour expectations are to:**

- have a responsible approach to their work and the risks involved
- manage their own time
- take pride in their work
- listen, accept and respect new ideas
- consider the implications of their actions on other people
- assist and support others
- adapt to different situations
- be resilient and persistent when facing challenges
- continually strive to improve performance
- take the initiative
- have their voice heard
- ask for help if required
- inspire each other to go the extra mile.

## **WE WANT TO GET IT RIGHT**

We want you to succeed. If you have any worries about your studies, access help and support as soon as you can. You can talk to your personal tutor, subject lecturer, academy manager, student representative, safeguarding officer, mediator, a member of staff from Careers, Student Journey or the Students' Union.

## **TELLING US WHAT YOU THINK**

Please tell us if things are going well or if you think we could make some changes. We also want you to tell us if you are not satisfied with any aspect of life at the College.

### **There are various ways of doing this:**

- talk to the people listed above
- tell your course representatives
- raise the issue at a focus group meeting, Student Conference and/or Student Council meeting
- complete the student surveys
- make a formal complaint, comment or provide a compliment using the Talkback form.

Our Charter is our pledge to you and we want to achieve it with your support, so please provide us with feedback so we can make a positive change.

## **COMPLAINTS, COMMENTS OR COMPLIMENTS**

If you wish to make a formal complaint, please complete a Talkback form - available on the College website or from Reception. You can return it to Reception or via e-mail to [talkback@cityplym.ac.uk](mailto:talkback@cityplym.ac.uk).

Your complaint will be dealt with fairly, sensitively and in confidence. We will acknowledge your complaint within five working days and send you a response within ten working days. Some complaints, especially if they are complex, may take longer. If it is going to take longer then we will let you know, keeping you informed of progress. If you are not satisfied with the College's response, the Complaints Officer will advise you on what to do next.

You have the right to expect a good service from the College. Please give us your views on how we can improve.

## PARENTS' AND CARERS' CHARTER

### Our Commitment

With student consent, we aim to ensure that parents and carers receive full information about the study programme (course), College support and student progress for full-time students under the age of 18 at enrolment, and encourage your involvement.

In return, we ask that you make appointments to see College staff, particularly if you have concerns, so that all the relevant information can be gathered beforehand.

## EMPLOYER CHARTER

### The College agrees to:

- support the City and region's employers in the development of people with the skills to meet their needs
- provide appropriate and relevant training and services to the highest quality for local and regional employers
- develop positive and mutually beneficial relationships with employers and other key business partners.

### What employers can expect from City College

- Accurate and timely information regarding training, funding changes and other services via our website, brochures and other materials.
- Training information will include costs, content, assessment methods, frequency, timing, duration and entry requirements.
- The College will offer impartial information, advice and guidance to employers.
- Employer Solutions staff will deal with all queries within two working days of initial contact.
- If appropriate, an Employer Solutions Officer will be made available to advise on the best routes for achieving any training needs.
- A safe and healthy learning environment.
- Professional teaching staff who are committed to the promotion of learning, and who are highly qualified and competent within their field of expertise.
- Opportunities to feedback to the College, via student and employer satisfaction surveys, and the account management process.
- The opportunity to participate in Employer Connections meetings to inform the development of the College's offer.

## STAFF CHARTER

### Our Commitment

The wellbeing of College staff is our guiding principle. We will ensure that each employee's contribution to the success of the College will be recognised, valued and celebrated and that each employee will be encouraged and supported to contribute positively to the achievement of the College's aims and objectives. To underpin this, the College will support all employees in their development, where that development is consistent with the guiding principle, vision and values of the College. The College will seek to invest in all employees to enable all individuals to reach their full potential.

### We will ensure that employees and Corporation members fulfil their duties by:

- promoting the College's vision, purpose and values
- taking an active and supportive interest in the College's activities
- supporting and encouraging staff to take ownership of their continuous professional development.

If you require this Charter in a larger type or a different format, please call **01752 305300**.