

## **Subcontracting Strategy**

Milton Keynes College is committed to growing and diversifying its provision to meet the regional and local economic development agenda. In order to achieve this, the College will, where appropriate, take a strategic decision to subcontract part of its provision to partner organisations who demonstrate high quality delivery.

Milton Keynes College will only partner with subcontractors who will work collaboratively to achieve our strategic goals. The College aims to build supportive and mutually rewarding relationships with its subcontractors, built on trust and respect, for the benefit of local and regional employers and communities. The College recognises it is fully accountable for the delivery of any activity which it subcontracts.

All subcontracted provision will support the strategic objectives of the College and fulfil at least one of the following aims:

1. To provide a curriculum offer that meets identified employer, local or government priorities
2. To serve a specific demographic need that would not otherwise be met
3. To work with niche providers to enhance the College's core delivery programme or where the cost of delivery would be prohibitive
4. To work with other providers, during new product development, to build capacity

Specifically:

### **16-18 Subcontracting Strategy**

The College will undertake an annual 16-18 sub-contracting needs assessment that clearly sets out the scope and scale of provision that the College has

identified as needed across Milton Keynes and its surrounding areas, but falls outside of the College's capacity to deliver. Following this identification of need, the College will seek to identify and contract potential delivery partners for the year ahead.

Where it is felt that there is going to be an ongoing demand that cannot be fulfilled by the College, we will identify key sub-contractors that are to become long term delivery partners and seek to establish 3 year rolling contracts with them.

In addition to the above, all subcontracted provision must:

- Add value by enhancing the quality of the College's provision. The quality of the provision will be monitored and managed through the existing College processes and procedures.
- Be delivered within reasonable travel distance (c. 30 miles/1 hour travel) from the College site, unless there is a particular business need, or request from a funding authority or unless required under a specific contract (e.g. regional funded project or national employer requirement).
- Not compete with existing College provision, unless for specific reasons relating to quality of provision

The College's subcontracted provision will be delivered in line with financial regulations and adhere to financial targets and controls to assure itself of financial viability and assured quality:

The criteria for any subcontracted agreement will be on the basis of published ESFA due diligence checklist but with additional features including: -

- the position within the portfolio of provision as outlined in the Strategic Plan, and how the arrangement will add to the College's portfolio including how it fits with the College's priorities.
- an assessment of the learner number and funding value of the arrangement;
- the anticipated risk attached to the arrangement;
- projection of income and costs and an assessment of contribution to profitability;

An assessment of quality of provision

- a check on the control issues identified by the ESFA;

- confirmation of the suitability of the Partner / Sub-Contractor to conduct the venture to include:
  - a) Statement of the objectives.
  - b) Copy of Partner /Sub-Contractor latest accounts.

Annex 1 Summarises Subcontracted provision

Annual summary of subcontracted provision

21/22 Provision

<b>Sub-contractor</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Funding Stream</b>	<b>Contract Value</b>	<b>Target Learner Numbers</b>	<b>Management Fee</b>	<b>Rationale by Aim (see strategy, pg1)</b>
Arts1	Milton Keynes	Study Programme/AEB	£475,217.75	85	15%	4 - To work with niche providers to enhance the College's core delivery programme
SOFEA	Milton Keynes	Study Programme/AEB	£108,069.91	20	15%	4 - To work with niche providers to enhance the College's core delivery programme