



STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

1. Purpose

The College places a strong emphasis on engaging students in all facets of its operations—from academic delivery and support services to facilities and strategic planning. Active student engagement prioritises the involvement of students in shaping their curriculum, community and environment and recognises them as key stakeholders in the learning process. The principles of co-design, co-creation and co-evaluation are embedded in the College's core values and long term vision.

2. Scope

The College serves a wide range of learners, including those in full-time, part-time, further education (FE), higher education (HE), apprenticeships, and adult provisions across Milton Keynes. Every student is given an equal opportunity to express their views, though the method of engagement may differ depending on their specific educational pathway. Senior leadership, including the Executive Principal, is responsible for ensuring a robust system is in place to collaborate with students and act on their feedback.

3. Context

A well-structured student engagement strategy is essential for guiding quality improvements and strategic decisions. It supports inclusive education and provides valuable evidence for self-assessment, compliance with funding requirements, and alignment with the Education Inspection Framework. In HE, student engagement is a key expectation outlined in the UK Quality Code.

3.3 Benefits of Student Engagement

- Improved participation, retention, achievement, and progression.
- Development of independent, confident, and motivated learners.
- Insightful feedback tailored to the student experience.
- Services and facilities better aligned with student needs.
- Recognition and sharing of best practices, with students actively shaping their education.

3.5 Goals of the Engagement Strategy

- Encourage individual and group involvement to enhance teaching and learning.
- Promote active student participation.
- Build a culture that values student input.

3.6 Objectives

- Create diverse channels for student feedback.
- Include students from all levels in decision-making.
- Empower students to fully engage in College life.
- Equip staff to support and collaborate with students.
- Implement systems to collect and respond to student feedback.
- Enable students to influence curriculum and institutional direction.
- Ensure inclusivity for students with learning difficulties or disabilities.
- Identify and address issues related to attendance, retention, or achievement.

3.7 Student Involvement

Milton Keynes College will embed student engagement through structured activities such as:

- Course-level student representatives trained to gather and communicate feedback.
- Monthly student voice forums at campus and departmental levels.
- Digital engagement via the student portal and feedback apps.

3.8 Consultation Methods

MKC will gather feedback through:

- Termly student satisfaction surveys and mid-module evaluations.
- Focus groups and informal feedback during tutorials.
- Suggestion boxes and digital feedback forms.
- Course reps collecting peer feedback during scheduled meetings.

Feedback will be processed by the Student Engagement Team and academic departments. Themes will be discussed in Quality Improvement Group meetings, with action plans developed and tracked.

3.9 Representation Structures

- A liaison from Student Support works with the Student Union.
- Two Student Governors attend Governor meetings.
- All students are part of the Student Union and can elect officers.
- HE cohorts elect representatives to voice their views in meetings.

3.10 Participation in College and Community Life

- Enrichment activities such as trips, competitions, and community projects.
- Extracurricular activities including sports, charity events, and volunteering.
- Learners contribute to College promotional events and external showcases.

3.11 Feedback and Impact

- MKC will run a “You Said, We Did” campaign to communicate outcomes of student feedback via the portal and campus displays.
- Course teams will provide verbal updates during lectures and tutorials.
- Impact will be measured through follow-up surveys, focus groups, and analysis of retention and achievement data.
- KPIs will include satisfaction scores, engagement rates, and evidence of implemented changes.
- Curriculum Performance Reviews (CPR's) will provide reference to student feedback and subsequent actions, quantifying progress made.

4. Related Policies and Documents

- UK Quality Code for HE: Student Engagement
- Annual Student Voice Report
- Student Survey Reports
- Compliments, Concerns and Complaints policy
- Student Feedback Mechanisms Report



Alternative Format

This strategy is available in alternative formats, to request this, please email marketingcampaigns@mkcollege.ac.uk