

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Policy Title	Teaching and Learning Policy
Policy Number	WLC-02
Responsible	Director of Studies
Approval By	Academic Committee
Approval Date	August 2017
Next Review	August 2018

TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY

1. Content
2. Principles
3. Context
4. Provision for student teaching and learning
5. Key outcomes
6. Key characteristics
7. Staff recruitment, observation, appraisal and professional development
8. Quality Assurance
10. Related Documents

TEACHING AND LEARNING POLICY

Section 2.Principles

Learning and Teaching has always been at the heart of WLCBMS. The College's Learning and Teaching Policy establishes some key definitions and principles that have for many years been implicit in what we do, and that are set out in order to emphasise their central importance and to ensure that they are fully included in all that the College does to support students' learning.

At WLCBMS our mission is to be recognised for outstanding teaching and learning. To reach our goal we seek to be inclusive, ensuring that the excellence that the College has to offer is available to those who can benefit. Central to this is the idea that our students should be active in shaping their own intellectual and personal growth. They should become increasingly able to work independently, taking their own decisions with a sound base of values and an understanding of others. Most importantly, we believe that learning requires a shared endeavour between staff and students, working together to prepare students for advanced professional as well as personal lives.

The environment in which our students will learn will help them to discover and realize their potential and prepare them for the future personal and working lives, equipping them to:

- Develop intellectual passion and curiosity
- Engage in creative, critical and analytical thinking
- Understand disciplinary concepts, methods and texts
- Work independently, setting and meeting their own goals
- Make appropriate and effective use of technology
- Have empathy, with an awareness of difference
- Be interculturally engaged
- Work in teams, with a range of people and contexts

Section 3.Context

The Quality Code (B3) sets out the following expectation about learning and teaching, which all higher education providers are required to meet.

Higher education providers, working with their staff, students and other stakeholders, articulate and systematically review and enhance the provision of learning opportunities and teaching practices, so that every student is enabled to develop as an independent learner, study their chosen subject(s) in depth and enhance their capacity for analytical, critical and creative thinking.

WLCBMS seek to enhance learning by continually monitoring, reviewing and improving what we do, identifying and sharing highly effective teaching and learning practice from within and beyond the College.

We believe that learning at WLCBMS should be informed by a number of central values:

- Inclusiveness/ Diversity
- Innovation
- Collaboration/ Partnerships
- Excellence
- Integrity
- Communications
- Leadership
- Respect
- Stewardship

Section 4. Provision for student teaching and learning

The College will develop an environment that supports an intensive curriculum. Planning at College and department levels will attend to the five main areas below:

Curriculum

Assessment and feedback should offer the opportunity to develop disciplinary and professional expertise and a range of attributes that will be of benefit future personal and working lives.

Resources

We seek to provide a physical and educational environment that supports learning, using all available learning resources as productively as possible

Student support

We seek to offer a supportive environment for individual students. Our academic and support staff play a vital role in teaching and supporting student learning.

Staff expertise

We aim to ensure that those who teach and support learning are appropriately prepared, supported and recognised for their role

Assessment

Assessment is an integral part of the learning process and must be fair and transparent. It must also encourage learning, by engaging students appropriately in the assessment process and by offering them feedback that enables them to improve their work further

(Please refer to WLCBMS Assessment Policy for further information)

Quality assurance and enhancement

We aim to ensure that provision for teaching and learning is of high quality and that we are continually seeking to improve students' educational experience

Section 5. **Key Outcomes**

The college recognises teaching and learning that actively promotes the following:

Student success on their targeted learning programmes

The development of an appreciation of equality and diversity such that cultural differences are recognised and celebrated and attitudes of discrimination are addressed

Equipping students with the skills to identify, monitor and manage risks to their safety. This will encompass the promotion of student welfare and support

The development of levels of literacy and numeracy, IT and knowledge and understanding that will meet the needs of employers

The development of 'employability skills such as timekeeping, the management of workload and deadlines and the ability to work in a team

Equipping students to make informed choices about their health and well-being

Supporting students to recognise the impact that activities have on the environment and developing responsible attitudes to the sustainability agenda

Section 6. **Key characteristics**

Developing an effective understanding of student starting points

Establishing an appropriate set of challenging differentiated learning experiences

Designing and using a varied range of stimulating learning activities

Managing student progress through regular checks on learning and feedback

Staff recognising the extent to which stated learning outcomes are met

Section 7. **Staff recruitment, observation, appraisal and professional development**

Ensuring that staff recruited have the experience, qualifications and aptitude to carry out their responsibilities to ensure student success.

Manage the observation and appraisal of each staff member and have clear reporting lines to deal with any issues

Recognising the importance of relevant staff professional development practices

Section 8. **Quality Assurance**

Ensure that all aspects of teaching and learning are quality assured and that students have met all the requirements of the awarding Bodies.

Section 9. **Related Documents**

Teaching and Learning Strategies

Assessment of Prior Learning Policy

Assessment Policy

Student Engagement Policy