Employability Statement 2010

Sparsholt College benefits from a high profile locally, regionally and nationally in the land-based industries, and has been recognised as a provider of high quality vocational education and training through the three Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVEs) awarded to the College in Animal Management and Veterinary Nursing, Fisheries and Wildlife Management and in Leadership and Business Management. The College gained accreditation as an Action for Business College and is now working towards the Training Quality Standard (TQS). These accreditations recognise the College’s extensive links with employers.

Whilst at the college students are exposed to a range of related industries through visits, guest lectures and their work placements. They are encouraged, where relevant, to become student members of an appropriate professional body.

Employability skills are developed across the curriculum and specifically through the Work Placement units. Personal Development Planning is embedded in the programme and explored in personal and group tutorials.

The Work Placement units have been written to develop and build on the student’s personal development portfolios and career management skills. This may, for example, be through seminars and tutorials to develop career decision-making strategies and strategies for self presentation at application stages and at interview. Employability skills linked to communication, leadership, numeracy and information technology are embedded across the curriculum.

Part and full time students are likely to be gaining employability skills through work-place learning opportunities and all students will directly benefit from the on-site physical resources at the College. On site facilities provide real-work environments where students can begin to develop their applied knowledge and understanding of animal management/and business skills.

Specialist units make use of realistic simulations and case studies associated with the real-work environments provided by both the facilities at the College and externally. Students are made aware of the importance of voluntary work and of extra-curricular activities to develop the skills needed by employers and the industry. Employers are involved in specialist units as guest speakers and, visits will relate directly to the requirements employers/and industry.

Job search and selection interview skills are developed as an integral part of the student’s course. Access to careers resources and library is available on-site and at the University of Portsmouth

Further details of support available is found at [www.sparsholt.ac.uk](http://www.sparsholt.ac.uk)