

GENDER PAY GAP REPORT 2023

Introduction

This report provides Sparsholt College Hampshire's ("the College") statutory disclosure of gender pay gap data, together with additional voluntary data, analysis and commentary.

The Gender Pay Gap Information Regulations require all employers with 250 or more employees, on the "snapshot" date, to report their gender pay gap annually.

For the purposes of the Gender Pay Gap Information Regulations, the College is classified as falling in the public sector and, as such, the "snapshot" date for its data each year is the 31st March. The College is required to publish its gender pay gap for each year both on the College website and on a Government website, no later than 31st March of the following year.

The gender pay gap is a measure of the difference between men's and women's average earnings across an organisation or the labour market. It is expressed as a percentage of men's earnings.

The purpose of gender pay gap reporting is to achieve greater equality across the UK and increase pay transparency. It has been estimated that the under-utilisation of women's skills costs the UK between 1.3% – 2% of GDP annually and that eradicating the full-time gender pay gap would contribute additional spending into the economy of £41 billion each year.

In a report published in November 2023¹, the ONS predicts that in 2023 the gap among full-time employees increased to 7.7%, up from 7.6% in 2022. This is still below the gap of 9% before the coronavirus pandemic in 2019. Among all employees, the gender pay gap decreased to 14.3% in 2023, from 14.4% in 2022, and is still below the level of 17.4% in 2019.

¹ ONS 01.11.2023: Gender pay gap in the UK:2023

Sparsholt College (including Andover College)
'Snap-Shot' Gender Pay Gap Data as at 31 March 2023
(the GPG data for 2022 appears in brackets)

Mean Gender Pay Gap	1.63% (1.31%)
Median Gender Pay Gap	2.49% (0%)
Mean Bonus Gender Pay	The College does not operate any bonus schemes
Median Bonus Gender Pay Gap	

Gender Pay Quartile Pay Bands	Women %	Men %
Upper: 75-100% of full-pay relevant employees	61.39% (58.33%)	38.61% (41.67%)
Upper middle: 50-75% of full-pay relevant employees	56.44% (56.45%)	43.56% (43.55%)
Lower middle: 25-50% of full-pay relevant employees	59.41% (53.41%)	40.59% (46.59%)
Lower: 0-25% of full-pay relevant employees	62.75% (69.23%)	37.25% (30.77%)
Overall College	60.0% (58.11%)	40.0% (41.89%)

The most recent Gender Pay Gap analysis report from the University and College Union (UCU) in which it extracted data for 198 colleges in England from the government's statutory reporting website calculated the mean average gender pay gap for all staff types in colleges, in respect of the March 2017 data, at 10%. The College's current gender pay gap of 1.31% therefore compares extremely favourably with that of the overall average of other educational institutions in the sector.

The FE Workforce Data report for England (analysis of data for 2018/19) published in March 2020 by the ETF reported that the overwhelming majority of participating colleges had an overall median gender pay gap of 10.3% (an increase from 9.3% in the previous year's report).

An analysis of the 2022 reported Gender Pay Gap results of the other FE colleges in Hampshire showed a mean GPG of 11.2% (previous year 11.6%) and a median GPG of 15.4% (previous year 15.6%). With regards to the reported Gender Pay Gap results of local government councils: Hampshire County Council had a mean GPG of 15.5% (previous year 16.0%) and a median GPG of 16.5% (previous year also 16.3%), Test Valley Borough Council had a mean GPG of -5.2% (previous year -0.8%) and a median of -19.3% (previous year -15.4%) and Winchester City Council had a mean GPG of 7.4% (previous year 9.2%) and a median GPG of 13.9% (previous year 15.5%).

When the data is analysed in more depth, it shows that the gender pay gap in respect of the three main categories of staffing are as follows:

	Academic Staff	Business Support Staff	Management Staff	Management Staff (excluding Senior Post Holders)
Mean Gender Pay Gap	0.09% (-0.28%)	2.66% (5.49%)	-13.08% (-23.03%)	8.52% (2.88%)
Median Gender Pay Gap	0% (0%)	10.84% (10.84%)	-6.01% (-6.01%)	-2.84% (-2.84%)

With the exception of “Senior Post Holder” appointments and the Head of Governance to the Corporation, the College uses pay scales and a grading structure. Every job, irrespective of gender, is assigned a grade on the pay scale and each grade has a set pay range with spine points in between grades. Staff, irrespective of gender, are expected to progress through the pay range for their grade on an annual basis where their performance is good or better, irrespective of any protected characteristic, until they reach the top of the scale.

It is very pleasing to note that the College’s gender pay data is significantly better compared to:

- the predicted 2023 national median gender pay gap data of 14.3% as reported by the ONS.
- the 2022 national median gender pay gap of 14.4% as reported by the ONS.
- the latest FE Workforce data report for England published by the ETF where the overall median gender pay gap for the FE sector was 10.3%
- the last analysis undertaken by UCU in which it reported the mean average gender pay gap for all staff types in colleges was 10%.

Furthermore, the College’s 2023 median gender pay gap of 0% is significantly better than the average gender pay gap data reported in 2022 for that of other FE colleges in Hampshire, other large english land-based colleges, Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council in which geographically the college’s Sparsholt campus is based.

On 01 February 2019, the College TUPE transferred 352 staff (177.9 fte) to a subsidiary company, Sparsholt College Services Limited. Whilst the College remains the employer of lecturing staff and academic-related staff, roles which support the College in its day to day operations e.g. finance, IT services, marketing, HR, premises, learning resources and additional learning support roles transferred across to SCSL. The Gender Pay Gap analysis for SCSL is reported in its own Gender Pay Gap Report.

The monitoring of Gender Pay Gap Data supports the aims of the College's Single Equality Scheme:

- To develop measures and actions that pay due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and promote equality for all;
- To promote equality so that our approach goes beyond legislative compliance and remains embedded in our culture.

This Single Equality Scheme brings together our College commitments to equality and diversity, including plans across our organisation, and embraces all members of our College community. The objectives demonstrate our wholehearted commitment to continued action in tackling inequality and promoting diversity.

The implementation of the Single Equality Scheme is expressed as a series of Key Priorities covering all protected characteristics and setting out a series of clear and specific 'Impact Intentions' which are routinely monitored and reported to our Board of Governors. These show our College's commitment to tackling inequality, breaking down barriers and challenging unfairness to ensure opportunities and experiences which help staff reach their full potential.

Julie Milburn
Principal and CEO

March 2024