University Centre Sparsholt Quality Enhancement Policy

Our Mission

Raising Aspirations, Unlocking Potential, Advancing Futures

Our Values

Excellence, Passion, Teamwork, Integrity, Innovation,

Sustainability, Valuing Others and Supportiveness

Sparsholt College Group

The Sparsholt College Group (the College Group) includes Sparsholt College, Andover College, University Centre Sparsholt, Sparsholt College Services, Westley Enterprises and Andover Town Football Club. College Group policies apply to each part of the group unless specified otherwise.

The University Centre Sparsholt Quality Assurance and Improvement Policy was approved by the Board of Governors in 2023 and supersedes previous versions.

Originator:	Dean of Higher Education
Located:	College Group Websites
	College Group Intranet
Due for review:	December 2026

UNIVERSITY CENTRE SPARSHOLT

QUALITY ENHANCEMENT POLICY

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UNIVERSITY CENTRE SPARSHOLT

QUALITY ENHANCEMENT POLICY

1. Purpose

1.1 University Centre Sparsholt (UCS) is an Associate College of the University of Portsmouth and holds responsibility for maintaining academic standards, whilst the University takes the lead in the setting of academic standards. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that appropriate and effective teaching, support, assessment and learning resources are provided for students; that the learning opportunities provided are monitored; and that UCS, in consultation with students, works to enhance them.

1.2 UCS is committed to enabling all Higher Education students to reach and exceed their goals while at college. An integral part of this commitment is to create an ethos of quality enhancement that impacts in a positive and progressive manner on all aspects of the Higher Education experience at UCS.

1.3 UCS is committed to developing and implementing quality assurance and improvement procedures that promote widening participation and equality of access for all learners, regardless of their mode of study, age, disability, gender, race, religion, sexuality, transgender status or socio-economic background.

2. Context

2.1. '*Principle 3 - Resourcing delivery of a high-quality learning experience: Providers plan, secure and maintain resources relating to learning, technology, facilities and staffing to enable the delivery and enhancement of an accessible, innovative and high-quality learning experience for students that aligns with the provider's strategy and the composition of the student body*.' (QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education 2024)

2.2 UCS defines its commitment to quality assurance and improvement through the following key themes:

- UCS will provide an educational experience underpinned by applied professional and industry related practice and research that inspires, engages and challenges students and promotes success in an inclusive and supportive environment.
- Through and beyond the curriculum, UCS will enable students to develop skills and gain experience through work related learning to prepare them for success in progression to further study and graduate employment.
- The learning and study environments will provide Higher Education students with the support and guidance to meet their own and UCS aspirations within a high quality teaching and learning environment.

- UCS will promote the concept of the independent learner, who adopts a shared responsibility for learning and the enhancement of learning to enrich their overall experience.
- UCS will develop, recognise and reward excellent and inspirational staff.

3. The Policy

3.1 Quality Enhancement will enable students to develop their academic, personal and professional potential.

3.2 UCS will have effective procedures to monitor and review Higher Education programmes including the effective design and approval of new programmes in conjunction with the University of Portsmouth.

3.3 Quality assurance and improvement processes will promote the involvement and empowerment of students in the process of shaping the Higher Education learning experience.

3.4 Higher Education teaching staff will engage in training, professional development and scholarly activities to ensure effective delivery of teaching, learning and assessment.

3.5 Assessment of students will be valid and reliable, with processes in place to ensure that award of qualifications and credits are based on the achievement of the intended learning outcomes.

3.6 Student complaints and appeals procedures will be fair, effective and timely.

3.7 UCS will work effectively with the University of Portsmouth to ensure that External Examiners make a valued and robust contribution to the Higher Education quality enhancement procedures.

4. Implementation

4.1 It is the responsibility of all staff and managers involved in the delivery of teaching, learning assessment and support to Higher Education students to ensure the effective implementation of Quality Enhancement processes across UCS. The Dean of Higher Education will lead the process, supported by the Assistant Prinicpal (HE).

4.2 The Dean of Higher Education will be responsible for the planning and implementation of quality assurance and improvement processes and activities throughout the academic year.

4.3 Higher Education students will be informed and empowered to become involved in Quality Enhancement processes through the following activities:

- Student representation on the College's Governing Body

- Higher Education Student Association
- Course representatives
- Student representation on the curriculum Board of Studies
- Contribution to Unit Evaluative reports
- Higher Education online student surveys including NSS
- Group tutorials

4.4 The Dean of Higher Education, in conjunction with the Assistant Principal (HE) will be responsible for the implementation of an HE specific teaching and learning observation, to include formal observation, peer observations, and effective sharing of good practice

4.5 All Higher Education teaching staff will be responsible for engaging and complying with the Assessment & Academic Regulations, as agreed with the University of Portsmouth.

4.6 Student complaints and appeals will be addressed through the UCS Complaints and Feedback Policy and Procedures and UCS Appeals Policy, the University of Portsmouth complaints procedure, and final appeal to the Office for the Independent Adjudicator, as relevant.

5. Staff and groups with specific responsibility:

- Quality & Standards Committee of the Governing Body
- Higher Education Strategic Group
- Dean of Higher Education
- Assistant Principal - Higher Education
- Higher Education Curriculum Leader
- Higher Education teaching staff
- Higher Education Student Association

6. Associated Documents

- QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education 2024
- OIA Good Practice Framework
- Office for Students Conditions of Registration
- University of Portsmouth Associate College agreement
- UCS Complaints & Feedback Policy
- UCS Appeals Policy
- Sparsholt College Group Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- UCS Student Engagement policy
- UCS Student Charter
- UCS Student Conduct Policy

- UoP Assessment & Academic Regulations
- UCS Academic Support Policy
- UCS Scholarly Activity Policy

7. Monitoring, Review and Evaluation

6.1 The Higher Education Strategy Group and the Higher Education Student Association will monitor the effectiveness of the Quality Enhancement Policy to ensure that appropriate and effective teaching, support, assessment and learning resources are provided for students; that the learning opportunities provided are monitored; and that UCS considers how to improve them.

6.2 The Higher Education Board of Studies, which includes student involvement, will play a pivotal role in the implementation and review of the Quality Enhancement Policy.