University Centre Sparsholt Scholarly Activity 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 Scholarly Activity 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
SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY POLICY

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UNIVERSITY CENTRE SPARSHOLT

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY 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 teaching staff demonstrate contemporary and current teaching, learning and assessment practices informed by relevant scholarly activity and professional practice in a reflective and evaluative manner.

1.2 UCS is committed to enabling all Higher Education learners to reach and exceed their goals while at college. An integral part of this commitment is to ensure the Higher Education students experience a learning environment in which scholarly activity and reflective practice are firmly embedded for their benefit.

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:

- We will appoint and develop staff with strengths and potential in teaching/supporting learning and research/scholarship excellence relevant to the post.
- Staff will be expected to incorporate best pedagogic practice, research-led/informed teaching and scholarship within their teaching.
- We will give high priority to the provision of professional training and development activities to support teaching and learning. In addition, UCS will support relevant industrially related CPD and professional recognition.

3. The Policy

3.1 Academic staff will display a sound understanding and up-to-date knowledge of their subject and/or professional practice and draw on scholarship, research and professional activity to facilitate student learning.

3.2 UCS will facilitate a specific Higher Education CPD programme in which teaching staff will be required to develop scholarly and professional reflective practice,

including engagement with the UK Professional Standards Framework.

3.3 UCS will foster a teaching and learning environment in which scholarly and professional reflective practice are promoted and valued, through the provision of working time and resources for teaching staff to achieve agreed scholarly activity.

4. Implementation

4.1 It is the responsibility of all staff and managers involved in the delivery of teaching, learning and assessment of Higher Education to promote scholarly activity and professional reflective practice. The Dean of Higher Education will lead the process, supported by the Assistant Principal (HE) and Higher Education Curriculum Leaders.

4.2 The Dean of Higher Education will be responsible for monitoring the progress and impact made as a result of scholarly activity undertaken via teaching observations, CPD records and research outputs.

4.3 Academic staff will be responsible for engaging in the UCS CPD programme, and for identifying and completing scholarly activity targets through the performance management process in agreement with their line manager.

4.4 Academic staff will be expected to have (or be working towards) appropriate teaching and learning qualifications in accordance with the UK Professional Standards Framework; normally this will be through the University of Portsmouth AdvanceHE programme, leading to the appropriate fellowship or senior fellowship award D2 or D3.

4.5 Higher Education Teaching staff will be encouraged to share professional practice with peers in HE led CPD events and to share research innovation with students through their teaching.

4.6 The impact of scholarly activity on teaching, learning and assessment will be evaluated as part of the Higher Education specific teaching and learning observation process, which includes formal observation, peer observations, and the sharing of good practice.

4.7 Higher Education teaching staff will be expected to adapt and develop their pedagogy to ensure that the teaching and learning methods, and resources are accessible, and meet the needs of an increasingly diverse range of Higher Education students. This will include making reasonable adjustments to teaching and assessment as appropriate.

5. Staff and groups with specific responsibilities:

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

6. Associated Documents

- QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education 2024
- OfS Condition of Registration (B2)
- University of Portsmouth Associate College agreement
- UCS Complaints & Feedback Policy
- Sparsholt College Group Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy
- UCS Student Charter
- University of Portsmouth Assessment & Academic Regulations
- UCS Academic Support Policy

7. Monitoring, Review and Evaluation

7.1 The Higher Education Strategy Group will monitor the effectiveness of the Scholarly Activity Policy to monitor the impact on teaching, learning and assessment.