



UNIVERSITY<sub>OF</sub>  
WINCHESTER

## **COLLABORATIVE ACADEMIC PROVISION POLICY**

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| <b>Document Title:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Collaborative Academic Provision Policy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Responsible Role and Department:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Head of Quality, Registry and Academic Quality                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Approving Body:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Senate                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Date of Approval:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 24 June 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Date Effective From:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 01 September 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Review Date:</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 01 July 2028                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Applies to:</b><br><i>(Strikethrough text, only if appropriate)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | University of Winchester<br>University of Winchester Services Limited<br><br><i>Note.</i><br><i>This policy applies to all the organisations listed above, collectively known as the “University” or the “University of Winchester” for the purpose of this policy.</i> |
| <b>Indicate whether the document is for public access or internal access only</b><br><br><b>Indicate whether the document applies to collaborative provision?</b><br><i>(Strikethrough text, as appropriate)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b>Public Access</b><br><br><del>Internal Access Only</del><br><br><b>Applies to Collaborative Provision</b>                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Summary:</b><br><br>This policy sets out the principles which apply to the development, approval, monitoring and review of collaborative academic partnerships with professional, educational and community partners with whom it can develop and promote programmes that are relevant, carry academic and professional currency and promote collaborative working.<br><br>It ensures the University provides a high-quality learning experience for all students studying for a University of Winchester award or credits through a collaborative partner both nationally and internationally.<br><br><i>Note. this policy is underpinned by our commitment to promoting a university wide approach to health, safety and wellbeing and is supported by the principles of the University Mental Health Charter. Care has been taken to ensure that the policy is written compassionately, with consideration of the potential impact on staff and students.</i> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

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## 1. Scope

- 1.1 The processes that are referenced in the policy apply to all collaborative arrangements where the University works with one or more other organisations to design and/or deliver programmes and/or award qualifications. This includes:
- Provision which leads to either a programme or award of credit from the University of Winchester being delivered in collaboration with an external partner.
  - Provision delivered by University of Winchester staff using off-site delivery and transnational 'flying faculty' arrangements.
  - Articulation and progression arrangements.
  - Provision provided by an external partner which contributes to a University of Winchester award.
- 1.2 Collaborative arrangements may operate either within the UK or transnationally and include, for example, different modes of delivery such as online, validation arrangements, franchised programmes, multiple awards or apprenticeships.

## 2. Principles

- 2.1 **Strategic objectives:** the development of collaborative academic partnerships, both regionally and internationally, shall reflect the values, commitments and objectives in the University Strategic Plan.
- 2.2 **Ethics:** The University is committed to establishing and maintaining partnerships with organisations that demonstrate high standards of ethical conduct, integrity, and social responsibility.
- 2.3 **Academic standards and quality:** the University is responsible for the quality and academic standards of all awards and credit granted in its name and must be able to satisfy itself that all programmes meet Office for Students (OfS) requirements for quality and standards.
- 2.4 **Approval and risk:** each proposed partner or partnership arrangement is subject to formal approval in accordance with the terms of reference set out in the [TBC] Committee, together with an assessment of risk. The process for approving potential partnerships is designed to ensure that the University can satisfy itself about the good standing of a prospective partner and their capacity to fulfil their intended role in the partnership arrangement; and that the necessary commitment and resource implications have been considered in the planning of new collaborative partnerships arrangements. Risk is reviewed on an annual basis as part of the partnership review process or earlier if circumstances demand a review.
- 2.5 **Funding arrangements:** funding arrangements for collaborative arrangements shall be agreed with potential partners in advance of partnership approval and reviewed annually considering the University's and partner's costs including the cost of programme development and/support, approval processes, registration, assessment and certification, and the oversight and maintenance of academic quality and standards.
- 2.6 **Formal agreements:** all collaborative partnerships must have a formal written and legally binding partnership agreement, setting out the responsibilities and obligations of the University and the partner, including the arrangements for termination or withdrawal from the partnership, and a financial schedule. Agreements shall accurately reflect the collaboration as agreed at approval or as amended by the agreement of both parties and be signed by the relevant authorities prior to the commencement of the delivery of the provision. Agreements are

prepared by [TBC] and a central record of all partnership activity is maintained by the University.

- 2.7 **Quality assurance:** the University sets out quality assurance procedures for partnership arrangements in accordance with its own procedures. These include approval of partners, approval of programmes, continuous monitoring, External Examiner arrangements and Progression and Award Boards. The University has established the role of the Academic Liaison Officer to support the delivery of collaborative programmes by partners.
- 2.8 **University policies and regulations:** Students enrolled on programmes leading to credit or awards of the University shall be subject to university regulations, policy and procedural documentation governing all matters associated with the development and delivery of an academic programme, including the Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes and other applicable policies, unless otherwise specified in the partnership agreement.
- 2.9 **Assessment:** Students will be subject to the University's Assessment Regulations including those relating to late and non-submission of work, exceptional circumstances, academic misconduct, academic appeals and re-assessment.
- 2.10 **Certificates and transcripts:** The University is the sole authority for awarding certificates for provision leading to a University of Winchester award or credit, and for issuing transcripts unless otherwise specified in the partnership agreement.
- 2.11 **Staff:** the University ensures that staff engaged in delivering programmes leading to its awards or credit are appropriately qualified, and that the partner has sound mechanisms to monitor and develop staff.
- 2.12 **Information:** all promotional material and public information generated by a partner organisation relating to a collaborative arrangement is subject to approval by the University.
- 2.13 **Additional Regulatory requirements:** In order to comply with Office for Students Condition E10, for any UK based Franchise arrangements, the University of Winchester shall maintain a Subcontracting Information Source (SiS).

### 3. Types of Academic Partnerships

This typology is not definitive and from time to time the University agrees to initiate other forms of collaborative partnership and/or to vary the nature of the arrangement to take account of particular circumstances or needs. Such variations will always be considered and approved through the relevant committee process. For further information, see Annex A: Collaborative Arrangements Typology.

- 3.1 **Articulation:** an articulation agreement is a formal agreement that allows specific credit that has been gained from one higher education institution to be transferred to another institution, guaranteeing admission with advanced standing. The right to such advanced standing applies to all students covered by the agreement, who have gained that specific credit, subject to any limitations set out in the agreement. As the University receives credits, UoW will assure itself of the quality and standards of the learning that is undertaken at the partner institution.
- 3.2 **Progression Agreement:** Agreements that allow students who have successfully completed a programme at a specified organisation to be considered on an individual basis for entry to a University of Winchester programme, either with or without advanced standing (as specified in the Progression Agreement).
- 3.3 **Validation:** a partnership arrangement whereby a new or existing programme owned, developed and delivered by a partner, following UoW procedures, is approved and validated

by the University as of appropriate quality and standards to a UoW award. The programme is delivered by the partner, and the University remains responsible for the academic standards of the award granted in its name. Students are enrolled at the partner institution and will be registered with the UoW. The partner institution is responsible for the day-to-day management of the student experience. The UoW is responsible for the Quality of the programmes (see Annex A)

- 3.4 **Franchise:** an arrangement whereby a partner delivers a programme or part of a programme owned, developed, designed, approved and/or delivered by the University leading to an award or the award of credit by the University. The University allows a partner to deliver a University programme and retains overall control of the programme content, delivery, assessment and quality assurance arrangements. Students on this type of arrangement will be enrolled and registered with UoW and the teaching and resourcing shall be subcontracted to the partner institution.
- 3.5 **Off-site Delivery:** UoW credit-bearing modules or programmes delivered by University staff outside University premises in conjunction with a partner which provides premises and equipment, learning resources, and/or student or administrative support that is integral to the student learning experience.
- 3.6 **Dual Award:** an arrangement where the University works with one or more degree-awarding bodies to offer a jointly conceived programme leading to separate and independent awards granted by each awarding institution. Dual awards require students to achieve more than one set of learning outcomes. Each degree-awarding body is responsible for its own award but the two components form a single package. Where a student meets the requirements of one degree-awarding body only, they receive only a single award.
- 3.7 **Joint Award:** an arrangement where the University works with one or more degree-awarding bodies for the purposes of programme design, development, delivery, assessment, management and decision-making on student achievement of a programme and where a student successfully completing the programme gains a single award jointly awarded by all of the degree-awarding bodies.

#### **4. Approval of new Collaborative Provision**

- 4.1 The UoW has processes which provide the requirements to approve a new partnership. The exact nature of the approval process in terms of information required, financial, legal and academic scrutiny, and the requirement for a formal approval visit, will vary according to the nature of the collaboration proposed, and consideration of the risks involved.
- 4.2 **[TBC]**, in consultation with relevant colleagues, is responsible for determining the approval processes in accordance with the process and principles of risk management.

#### **5. Changes to a Collaborative Partnership**

- 5.1 Partnerships and programmes will change and develop over time. Partner programmes will follow University of Winchester processes, including but not limited to programme design and programme amendments.

#### **6. Review and monitoring of educational programmes and partnerships**

- 6.1 All collaborative arrangements are subject to the same quality assurance processes as implemented at the University of Winchester concerning formal approval of amendments, continuous monitoring and annual compliance reviews.

## **7. Renewal of a Collaborative partnership**

- 7.1 Each partnership is subject to a formal partner review 2 years before the expiration of the formal contract.

## **8. Suspension and termination of a collaborative partnership**

- 8.1 Details of the arrangements for suspension and/or termination of the partnership will be detailed in the formal contract. If the University or a partner wishes to withdraw from a collaborative arrangement, the University shall ensure that there is an appropriate discontinuation of the partnership or arrangement which protects the interests and student experience of the students registered for, or accepted for admission, to the collaborative programme or other arrangement. Full details of the principles governing termination of a partnership shall be set out in the formal contract.

## **9. University's Register of Collaborative Provision**

- 9.1 Registry and Academic Quality is responsible for the maintenance of the University's Register of Collaborative Provision. This is a publicly available document.

| Equality Impact Assessment                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Summary of process undertaken to determine equality impacts:                                                                                                                                                         | Author assessment.                                                                             |
| University Committee (name/ date) where equality impacts discussed (may be Committee of approval, or another):                                                                                                       | ARPP 04/03/2026                                                                                |
| <b>Identified equality impact(s) on colleagues and students</b><br>(i.e. any specific impacts related to this policy that may cause disadvantage for people due to one or more particular protective characteristic) |                                                                                                |
| Protected Characteristic                                                                                                                                                                                             | Impact(s) identified and any action(s)/mitigation(s) to address these impact(s), as necessary. |
| Age                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | None                                                                                           |
| Disability                                                                                                                                                                                                           | None                                                                                           |
| Gender Identity                                                                                                                                                                                                      | None                                                                                           |
| Marriage/Civil Partnership                                                                                                                                                                                           | None                                                                                           |
| Pregnancy and Maternity                                                                                                                                                                                              | None                                                                                           |
| Race (incl. nationality)                                                                                                                                                                                             | None                                                                                           |
| Religion and Belief                                                                                                                                                                                                  | None                                                                                           |
| Sex                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | None                                                                                           |
| Sexual Orientation                                                                                                                                                                                                   | None                                                                                           |



## Annex A: Collaborative Arrangements Typology.

|                  | Articulation                                                                                                                                                                      | Progression                                                                                                                                                                  | Validation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Franchise                                                                                                                                                | Off-Site Delivery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Dual Award                                                                                                                                                              | Joint Award                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Definition       | A partnership arrangement which recognises and grants guaranteed admission with advanced standing to a UoW award from a programme undertaken at an approved partner organisation. | A partnership arrangement which recognises formally a named award from another institution as appropriate for entry onto a UoW programme, with or without advanced standing. | A partnership arrangement whereby a new or existing programme owned, developed and delivered by a partner, following UoW protocols, is approved and validated by the University as of appropriate quality and standard leading to a UoW award. The programme is delivered by the partner and the University remains responsible for the academic standards of the award granted in its name. | A partnership arrangement whereby a programme or part of a programme owned, developed and/or delivered by UoW is also delivered by one or more partners. | UoW credit-bearing modules or programmes delivered by UoW staff outside UoW premises in conjunction with a partner who provides premises and equipment, learning resources, and/or student or administrative support that is integral to the student learning experience | The University, with one or more partner institutions, together provide a jointly delivered programme leading to separate awards being granted by both, or all, of them | A programme delivered by UoW together with one or more degree awarding institutions, leading to a single award made jointly by both or all partners. Students normally undertake a period of study at UoW and a period of study at one or more partner organisations |
| Approval Process | Partnership Approval Process                                                                                                                                                      | Partnership Approval Process                                                                                                                                                 | Partnership Approval Process                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Partnership Approval Process                                                                                                                             | If off-site delivery only (ie: no further functions provided by the partner organisation), approval is via a site visit.                                                                                                                                                 | Partnership Approval Process                                                                                                                                            | Partnership Approval Process                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Contract         | Covered by a formal agreement between the partner and UoW. The articulation agreement is time limited for a period of three years in the first instance.                          | Covered by a formal agreement between the partner and UoW. The progression agreement is time limited for a period of three years in the first instance.                      | Covered by a formal agreement between the partner and UoW, which includes financial arrangement. The agreement is for a period of six years.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Covered by a formal agreement between the partner and UoW, which includes financial arrangement. The agreement is for a period of six years.             | Covered by a formal agreement between the partner and UoW, which includes financial arrangements, and sets out the responsibilities of the partner.                                                                                                                      | Covered by a formal agreement, between the partner and UoW, which includes any financial arrangements, and agreement as to certification of the award(s).               | Covered by a formal agreement between the partner(s) and UoW, which includes any financial arrangements, and arrangements for all aspects of quality assurance and management.                                                                                       |

|                                  | Articulation                               | Progression                                 | Validation                                                                                                                                                        | Franchise                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Off-Site Delivery                                                  | Dual Award                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Joint Award                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Contact                          | Named UoW contact.                         | Named UoW contact.                          | Academic Liaison Officer (ALO) is appointed to oversee the delivery of the programme(s) and provide liaison to the UoW, including the UoW ALO.                    | Academic Liaison Officer (ALO) is appointed to support the delivery of the programme(s) at the partner and provide liaison with the UoW ALO.                                                                                                                                                        | Named faculty contact is responsible for all liaison.              | Academic Liaison Officer (ALO) is appointed to support the delivery of the programme(s) at the partner and provide liaison with the UoW ALO.                                                                        | Academic Liaison Officer (ALO) is appointed to support the delivery of the programme(s) at the partner and provide liaison with the UoW ALO.                                                                          |
| External Examiner and Exam Board | N/A                                        | N/A                                         | UoW appoints an External Examiner and the Progression and Award Board is chaired by UoW. Students are enrolled with the partner and registered by the University. | UoW appoints an External Examiner. Student results (identified by the partner) are presented to UoW Progression and Award Board and the External Examiner is asked to specifically comment on the results by the partner in their report. Students are enrolled and registered with the University. | N/A                                                                | UoW appoints an External Examiner. Progression and Award Boards held and chaired by UoW for a UoW award. Students are registered with UoW for the duration of the period of time they are studying for a UoW award. | Arrangements for Progression and Award Boards, including the arrangements for External Examiners must enable the University to assure the quality and standards of its awards and are set out in the formal contract. |
| Review                           | Subject to review prior to end of contract | Subject to review prior to end of contract. | Continuous Monitoring. Annual Standards Review. Subject to review prior to end of contract.                                                                       | Continuous Monitoring. Annual Standards Review. Subject to review prior to end of contract.                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Continuous Monitoring. Subject to review prior to end of contract. | Continuous Monitoring. Subject to review prior to end of contract. The partner is responsible for assuring the quality and standards of its own award.                                                              | Continuous Monitoring. Subject to review prior to end of contract.                                                                                                                                                    |

|                       | Articulation                                 | Progression                                  | Validation                                                                            | Franchise                                                                                                                                                             | Off-Site Delivery                                                                                                                                                        | Dual Award                                                                                                                                                     | Joint Award                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Intellectual Property | Students join a UoW programme; no IP issues. | Students join a UoW programme; no IP issues. | The programme is designed, developed and owned by the partner.                        | UoW owns the programme and retains control of and responsibility for its content, the learning and teaching strategy, assessment and all aspects of quality assurance | UoW owns and delivers the programme and retains direct control of and responsibility for its content, learning and teaching strategy, assessment and overall management. | Each partner would maintain IP of their distinct part of the award.                                                                                            | IP to be covered in the formal contract.                                                                                                                         |
| Marketing             | N/A                                          | N/A                                          | Publicly available information, including marketing materials, to be approved by UoW. | Publicly available information, including marketing materials, to be approved by UoW.                                                                                 | Marketing materials produced by UoW                                                                                                                                      | UoW to approve marketing and promotional materials. Ongoing monitoring undertaken by the ALO. Awards shall be marketed, promoted and managed as a 'dual award' | UoW to agree marketing and promotional materials. Ongoing monitoring is undertaken by the ALO. Awards shall be marketed, promoted and managed as a 'joint award' |