



Higher Education Admissions Policy & Procedure

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| This policy applies to : | Higher Education students |
| Author/Department: | Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead |
| Area/Person responsible: | Senior Admissions Officer, Marketing Officer & Higher Education staff |
| Date approved: | June 2015 |
| Related Documents/ Policies: | Fees Policy CEIAG Strategy |
| Date of Next Review: | May 2020 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Date of most recent review: | May 2019 |
| Changes made: | Annual update |

The Equality Act 2010: The Equality Duty

The College has a duty to consider the needs of all individuals in our day-to-day work – in shaping policy, in delivering services and in relation to our employees. The Equality Duty has three aims, which require the College to have due regard to the need to:

- **Eliminate unlawful discrimination**, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Act;
- **Advance equality of opportunity** between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and
- **Foster good relations** between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

| | | | | | | |
|--|------------|---|-----------|--|------------|--|
| Does the policy support the aims of the Equality Duty? | Yes | ✓ | No | | N/A | |
| If no, please state which groups may be affected and complete a full equalities impact assessment (guidance and forms available on the intranet) | | | | | | |
| Impact Assessment Reference: | | | | | | |

| | |
|--|--|
| Initial Impact Assessment Completed | |
| Review of Policy | |

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Date | |
| Date | |

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this policy is to provide prospective students and staff with a guide to the admission of Higher Education (HE) students at Ashton Sixth Form College. The policy has been drawn up following examination of sector best practice guidance from Supporting Professionalism in Admissions (SPA) and the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) and aims to provide an efficient, fair and transparent admission function for higher education students at the College.
- 1.2 The College vision is to be outstanding and pursue excellence. We value the diversity of our students and are committed to providing a high standard admissions service for all.
- 1.3 The college is fully responsible for admissions related decisions for all our courses and H.E. programmes run in partnership with Staffordshire University.
- 1.4 This policy covers admissions to all full time and part time HE courses at the college and is available at <https://www.asfc.ac.uk/he-and-adult/he-consumer-rights>
For further information regarding admissions to courses awarded by our partner institution, please refer to the Staffordshire University admissions policy:
http://www.staffs.ac.uk/support_depts/admissions/index.jsp

2. Principles of Fair Admissions

- 2.1. The College staff support the core activities of fair recruitment, admissions and widening participation/access for our students.
- 2.2. The HE & Adult Education Department is committed to providing a fair admissions system which provides equal opportunity for all individuals, regardless of background, to gain admission to a course suited to their ability and aspirations. We uphold the principals of fair admission through being transparent, fair, honest, consistent, accessible, personalised and timely [Schwartz Report (2004)].
- 2.3. The aims of the department are to ensure that:
 - 2.3.1. Applicants are provided with as much information as possible to enable them to make informed choices and appropriate applications. Appendix D outlines the main interactive stages between the college and prospective students and consumer protection law compliance. We will provide high quality information and advice on all aspects of recruitment, selection and admissions including our entry requirements, course information, duration and fees through our Senior Admissions Officer, Marketing Officer, specialist teaching staff, external advertising, course leaflets, open evenings/days, information and application packs and employer events.
 - 2.3.2. Applicants are treated fairly and equitably in their application to the college.
 - 2.3.3. Applicants can achieve success on the appropriate level of course, in light of previous experience, qualifications and career plans
 - 2.3.4. Applicants are dealt with in a timely and professional manner.
 - 2.3.5. Students receive a high quality service.
 - 2.3.6. Applicants are given clear details about entry criteria and application procedures for admission.
 - 2.3.7. Applicants are provided with an initial guidance interview/discussion.

3. Learner Eligibility

- 3.1. Detailed guidance is followed in line with the Office for Students. The College will use this guidance to support enrolment and funding decisions during admissions.
- 3.2. On admission, the following checks will be made:
 - 3.2.1. Is the learner a UK National or EEA National? If NO, a copy of their passport will be requested and nationality established. A passport or birth certificate is required at enrolment for all learners.
 - 3.2.2. Has the learner been ordinarily resident in the UK or EEA for the past 3 years? If NO further assessments will be made regarding eligibility to be in the UK and/or be funded. Even where a learner indicates YES, if the enroller believes a status check is required, this will be pursued.
 - 3.2.3. The following documentation may be requested:
 - Passport
 - Visa details (or parent/spouse details)
 - Exam Certificates
 - Home Office documents
 - 3.2.4. Where a student has a visa that allows them to be in the UK and to undertake funded or unfunded learning, a check will be made to ensure that the visa expiry date is after the course end date.

- 3.2.5 Where the student does not meet the criteria set out by the Office for Students funding eligibility guidance then fees will be charged for tuition/examination costs subject to confirmation of rights to live and study in the UK.
- 3.2.6 This Admissions Policy does not cover International Student Admissions.
- 3.2.7 Applicants must be aged 18 year or over to start one of our higher education courses.

4. Admissions Procedures

- 4.1. Admission to courses is continuous throughout the year. The process of applying varies depending on the course and level of study. Pages on our website provide a step-by-step guide to the application process for our Higher Education courses. The college acts fairly towards applicants for admission and exercises equal treatment without unlawful discrimination in line with the recommendations by the Quality Assurance Agency's Quality Code of Practice, chapter B2. We are committed to providing transparent recruitment and admissions activities ensuring all applicants are considered and evaluated on an individual basis. The college is committed to fair access and admissions encouraging and welcoming applications from all social and educational backgrounds.
- 4.2. All students are interviewed or have an admission discussion with specialist staff to assess suitability for the course. The main purpose of this is to provide advice and guidance about the courses applied for and any alternatives that could or should be considered. Interviews and admission discussions also provide an opportunity for applicants to find out more about the College.
- 4.3. Information regarding learning difficulties, disabilities, health, study needs, attendance or other issues which may affect a learner's progress will be discussed, as well as being requested from the student at the point of application and enrolment. The objective is to discuss the needs of such students so that the college can put in to place a suitable package of support.
- 4.4. The decision about whether to accept a learner onto the course for which they have applied, rests with those with authority during the enrolment period, the final decision rests with the Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead. Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:
 - Previous qualifications or predicted achievement – do they meet the entry requirements?
 - Previous experience.
 - Potential to succeed and progress from the course.
 - Personal statements (if applicable)
 - Portfolios (if applicable)
 - Interview
 - Additional needs
 - Ability to support the safety of others.
 - Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance where appropriate.
- 4.5. We promote equality of opportunity for all, which includes those who may possess a criminal conviction. When considering applicants with relevant criminal convictions, the college applies the legislation relating to the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974. Applicants to some H.E. courses require mandatory DBS checks and this is discussed at the interview stage. The Head of Subject in conjunction with the Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead, are responsible for considering the relevance and impact of any convictions declared. The applicant may be asked to sign a self-declaration confirming that they are aware that their conviction would bar entry to a related profession. Information on applicant's criminal convictions is appropriately safeguarded and only made available to the relevant admissions staff.
- 4.6. Every effort will be made to find a course appropriate for all applicants. However, despite all reasonable adjustments being made, in some circumstances, enrolment may not be possible. Reasons for this include, but are not limited to:
 - Not meeting academic standards,

- Physical requirements are unable to be catered for (e.g. unable to complete assessments for physical reasons).
 - Failing DBS check where this is a requirement.
 - Failure to achieve pass mark in any required pre-entry tests.
- 4.7 Learners are required to disclose any support needs and medical conditions on their application/enrolment form. The college will take all reasonable steps to provide additional learning support or other support needs if a need is declared.
- 4.8 In line with the Equality Act 2010, we promote equality of access to education, training and development. No applicant judged to be academically suitable will be refused admission on grounds of disability without compelling reasons. It is important that students tell us on the application form of any impairment so that, wherever possible, we can ensure that we provide the facilities and support they require.
- 4.9 We welcome applications and support students who are leaving care. We welcome applicants of all ages and backgrounds. Applications will be considered from mature students who may not have qualifications which fit into our standard entry criteria and each application will be assessed taking into account any relevant experience and skills.
- 4.10 If an application is received from a learner who is related to a member of teaching staff or has a close personal involvement, this results in a circumstance which may cause a conflict of interest. The student will be made aware on application that an alternate tutor or dual observations/second marking will be put in place for the duration of the course.
- 4.11 Decisions re applications will be made at interview and communicated to applicants as quickly as possible. Where we are unable to make an offer for an applicant's original choice of course, we may offer an alternative course for the applicant to consider. An enrolment form and learning agreement is completed at the start of the course (Appendix E).
- 4.12 Where assessments are part of the interview process, full details of the process will be sent prior to the interview. Any course specific additional information required for interview will be sent with the interview invitation.
- 4.13 Decisions reached following interviews will be communicated to the applicant directly from the college by letter and via UCAS (if applicable). The Offer Letter will include the College's Terms and Conditions and a PDF file link of the university's academic regulations, and details on the applicant's right to cancel. The applicant is requested to return the Course Offer Acceptance Form where they are agreeing to enter into a contract with the College.
- 4.14 When a particular course has too few applications from learners to proceed, the college will advise applicants as soon as possible of alternative courses available in the event of the original course being closed.
- 4.15 In this circumstance a course closure process is followed and the Higher & Adult Education Course Closure Form is to be completed and signed off by the Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead (please see Appendix C). Initial discussions take place between the course closure proposer and the Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead. The Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead discusses the course closure at SLT. If approved, the process at course level will begin. The Curriculum Leader or Head of Area completes the Higher & Adult Education Course Closure form. The Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead signs the form. The Senior Admissions Officer informs the MIS department and partner organisation (if applicable).
- 4.16 We recognise that it is important that unsuccessful applicants have the opportunity to receive feedback on their application. Applicants will automatically receive feedback regarding unsuccessful application decisions.

- 4.17 Support and training is provided for admissions staff who will continue to attend the Student Loan Company training events as required for CPD, and meetings at our partner university to ensure compliance with university policies.

5. Appeals Process

- 5.1 Unsuccessful applicants have the right of appeal. Applicants are requested to write in the first instance to the Senior Admissions Officer, via H.E.& Adult Education Admissions, using the Admissions Appeal Process. Please see Appendix B for more details. The applicant will be informed in writing of the outcome of the appeal and given an explanation for the decision which has been reached.

6. References

- 6.1 This policy is informed by the College's internal Equality and Diversity Policy, H.E. Teaching, Learning & Assessment Policy, Fee Policy, HE Complaints Policy and Procedure, CEIAG Strategy, Enterprise and Employability Strategy, Staffordshire University's Admissions Policy, UK Quality Code for Higher Education (chapter B2), UK higher education providers-advice on consumer protection law and by the following external Acts:

- Children Act 2004
- Education Act 2011
- Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974
- Equality Act 2010
- Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015
- Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulations

The College will review this Admissions Policy annually.

Appendix A **Entry Requirements**

Our entry requirements and fee information is regularly reviewed to ensure parity of requirements between qualifications and consider whether additional qualifications may be included within our published entry requirements.

This is published on the college's web pages, in printed materials and on external websites such as UCAS and is shared with all relevant staff, and added to this policy annually.

| Subject | Entry Criteria |
|----------------|---|
| Level 4 | The relevant university or awarding body's guidelines will be followed. In general, most applicants are expected to hold some level 3 qualifications or have relevant work experience prior to course entry. An interview will be held to assess suitability. |
| Level 6 | The University's guidelines will be followed. The learner is expected to already hold level 5 qualifications. |

Appendix B

Admissions Appeal Procedure

All applications are considered on their individual merits and treated in a fair and equal way based on all information provided to the College through the application process. The responsibility of making offers for available places is with the Admissions Team and Head of Subject areas.

We reserve the right to refuse admission to applicants who do not meet entry requirements or who the College believes, for specific reasons, would not be fit to be a student at the College.

Our approach to the admission of mature applicants and applicants from non-traditional or non-standard academic routes is flexible. Each application is considered individually. The College recognises that previous experience gained in work or other areas of life may have prepared mature applicants for a course of study.

Applicants should only be rejected:

- If the Head of the subject area has informed admissions to stop recruiting for the programme (i.e. the course is full).
- The student cannot possibly meet the standard entry requirements in the time frame –e.g. the student has a level 3 but not in a relevant subject and cannot demonstrate suitable subject knowledge.
- An applicant who cannot be assessed against standard entry criteria cannot demonstrate capacity to study for example at level 4 and/or relevant subject knowledge.
- Two interviews have been missed with no explanation for absence.

A reason must be provided when an applicant is rejected, particularly where the applicant cannot be assessed against standard entry criteria. For Staffordshire University programmes a reject code must be selected.

The College recognises that it is important that unsuccessful applicants have the opportunity to receive feedback on their application. UCAS applicants will automatically receive minimum feedback via UCAS Track, however we are happy to provide further feedback if possible. Any unsuccessful decision for non-UCAS applicants will be made by letter from the College.

The College recognises that on occasion an applicant may wish to appeal against a selection decision. An appeal is a request for a formal review of an admissions decision or the wording/terms/conditions of an offer.

1. If an applicant considers that they may have cause for an appeal, they are requested to write in the first instance to the Senior Admissions Officer, via H.E. & Adult Education Admissions, using the Admissions Appeal Form, and this must be received in writing within 10 working days of the decision to which the appeal relates.
2. The College will provide a response to the appeal within 10 working days inviting the applicant to a meeting with the Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead and the Head of the subject area to discuss whether the appeal is upheld or rejected and the reasons for the decision.
3. The applicant will be informed in writing of the outcome of the appeal and given an explanation for the decision which has been reached.
4. The decision is final and there is no further right of appeal.
5. No applicants will be discriminated against in any future application on the basis of appealing a previous admissions decision.

Admissions will collate annual statistics relating to the number of formal appeals received and the outcomes.

In accordance with principles of the Data Protection Act 2018, appeals will only be accepted from the individual who applied to the programme of study. Appeals will not be accepted from parents, carers, friends, teachers or any other third person unless the applicant has provided written confirmation that we may correspond with a named alternative contact.

Complaints

A complaint is a specific concern related to a procedural error, irregularity or maladministration in the admissions procedures or policies.

Complaints relating to HE admissions will be managed in accordance with Stage 2 of the Higher Education Complaints Policy and Procedure which can be found at:

<https://www.asfc.ac.uk/he-and-adult/he-consumer-rights>

This procedure should be used when an applicant is dissatisfied with the service they have received from the college with regard to an application.

Higher Education Admissions Appeal Form

| | |
|--|-------|
| Applicant's full name: | |
| Programme: | |
| Postal address: | |
| Email address: | |
| Date decision received – appeals must be submitted within 10 working days of receipt of the unsuccessful decision. Late appeals will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances and reasons for the delay should be stated here. | |
| Please provide a statement below giving further details of the grounds on which you appeal. Any available evidence which the applicant wishes the College to consider must be submitted with this form. (Continue on separate sheets if necessary). | |
| | |
| Sign name: | Date: |

Please return this form to:

Senior Admissions Officer
H.E.& Adult Education Admissions
Ashton Sixth Form College
Darnton Road
Ashton-under-Lyne
OL6 9RL

Appendix C

Higher & Adult Education Course Closure Form

This form is to be completed for any HE or Adult Education course that is to be closed. This includes any partner franchised course, and any course validated by a partner HEI. All sections should be completed. A signed copy of the form should be forwarded to the Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead.

1. Title of Course:
2. If Edexcel or WJEC course, then please state:
3. Name of partner organisation if course is being closed:
4. Course Codes for all modes applying for closure (e.g. full time, part time):
5. Mode(s) of Study it is proposed to close:.....
6. Mode(s) of Study (if any) remaining:
7. Last academic year there is to be a first year intake:.....
8. Last academic year it is estimated that there will be any continuing students on the course:.....
9. Provide details of plans for any continuing students:.....
10. If there are current applicants, please explain what arrangements will be made to advise them of alternative courses:.....
.....
11. Reasons for Closure of the Programme:

Print name of proposer of course closure:

Print name of Head of Area:

This form should be sent to the Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead

Signature of Assistant Principal - Higher and Adult Education & Practitioner Research Lead:

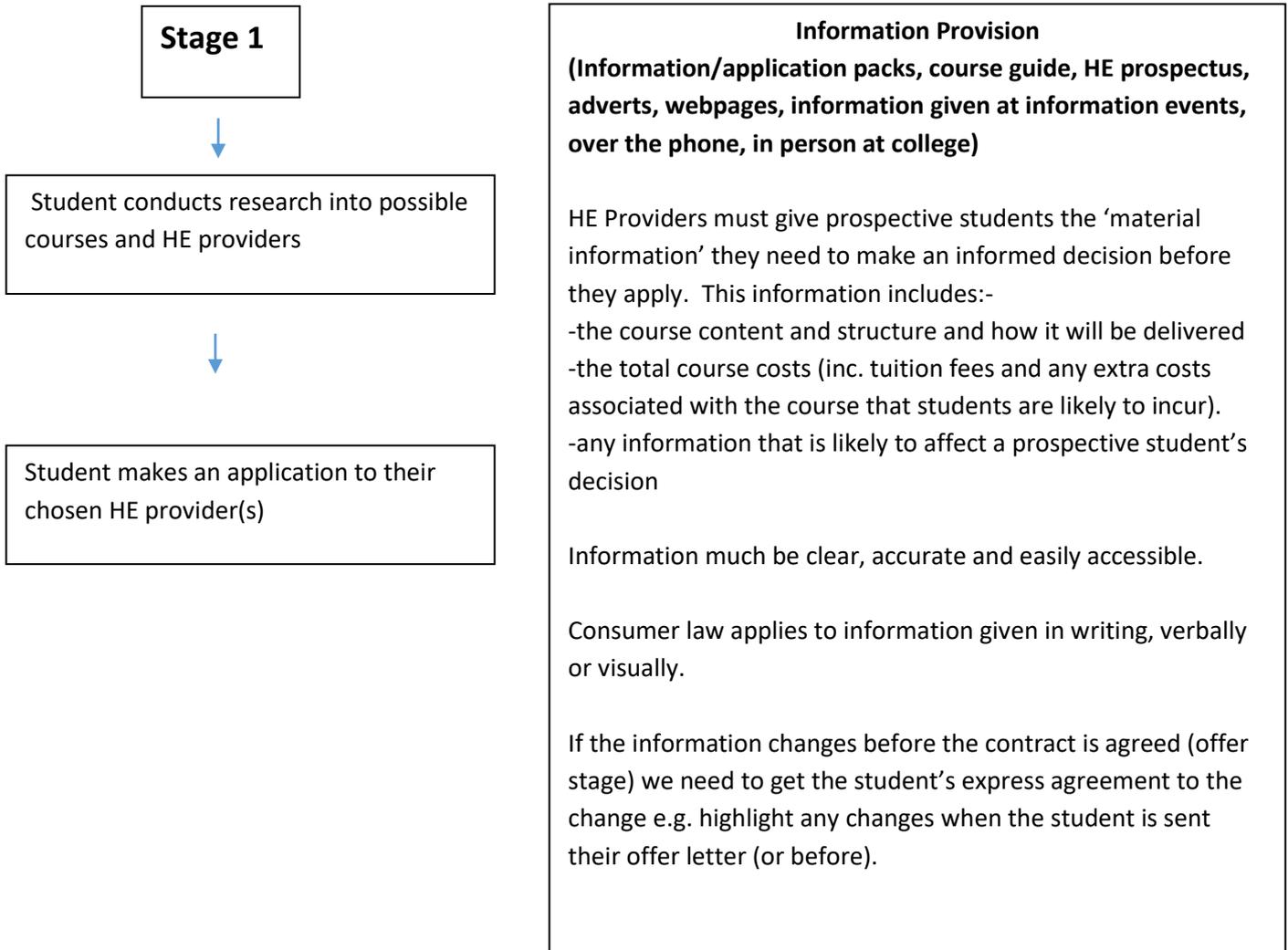
.....

Date:

The relevant form should be sent to the partner organisation, (if applicable).

Appendix D
Consumer Protection Law flowchart

Main interaction stages between HE provider and prospective students



Stage 2

Student receives a

- firm offer or a
- conditional offer which is subject to entry requirements being met.

Student receives a firm offer or meets the entry requirements

When an offer is accepted, the HE provider and prospective student will enter into a contract for admission to a course.

Requirement to give confirmation of a distance contract and pre contract information using a 'durable medium', within a reasonable time after the contract is entered into (unless it was already provided on a durable medium) e.g. letter or email with documents attached (but not a website link).

Information Provision – pre-contract information – The offer Letter (include our terms and conditions and academic regulations)

Provide information students need to make a decision, including pre-contract information, before they accept a formal offer of a place on the course.

Where relevant, the conditions under which the provider will reserve a place for the student on the course and important information about the course, including:

- course title
- core and optional modules for the course
- award to be received on completion and the awarding body
- whether the course is accredited and by whom
- duration of course
- total price
- details of any other costs
- whether fees in future years might or will increase, who this would apply to and method by which any increases will be calculated
- identity of HE provider the student is contracting with, address, telephone number
- if different from the HE provider offering the course, include the name/address of the HE provider awarding the qualification, plus the relevant contact details
- The HE provider's fax number and email address
- the complaint handling policy and complaint/redress mechanism
- include details about the complaint handling process for academic and non-academic complaints and where to locate the full policy, and any other redress options that are available to the student with third parties such as the OIA (where applicable)
- payment, service delivery and performance arrangements
- payment of tuition fees
- location of study
- composition of course and how it will be delivered
- number and type of contact hours that students can expect
- expected workload of students
- details about the general level of experience or status of the staff
- overall method(s) of assessment for the course
- details of any applicable codes of conduct the college is a member of and how to obtain a copy of that code
- details of deposits required and to be paid by the student and when
- information about the right to cancel and a model cancellation form. (Student has the right to cancel and withdraw during a 14 day period from the date the contract is entered into - the day the student accepts the offer).

Stage 3

Enrolment

When prospective students enrol you should ensure that:

-you check the pre-contract information you gave them at the offer stage or before is still accurate on enrolment

-difficulties will arise if you seek to change and replace pre-contract information about the educational service that was given at the offer stage.

-Much of the pre-contract information will already have been provided or made available at the offer stage and, where it is the same, this does not need to be given again on enrolment.

-re-enrolment for each year of study, where applicable, does not trigger a new contract being entered into for each year of study. The contract is for the full duration of the course with milestones to be achieved in order to progress to the next year.

| 4. Term time accommodation (to be completed by full-time and sandwich learners) | | |
|---|--|--|
| Where are you living in the current year? : | | |
| 2 | Parental/guardian home | |
| 4 | Other (institution acts as an agent but not the primary owner) | |
| 7 | Own residence (owned or rented – permanent residence) | |
| 8 | Other rented accommodation (number of learners each rent a room in the same house) | |
| 9 | Private sector halls | |

| 5. Qualification on entry | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------|
| What is your highest qualification on entry? | | | |
| | Qualification | Grade (or predicted grade if awaiting result/s) | Year Achieved |
| Qualification at Level 1 | e.g. Fewer than 5 GCSE's A*-C or grade 4 or above/more than 5 D-G/Foundation GNVQ/1 AS level | | |
| Full Level 2 | e.g. 5 O Levels/GCSEs at grade A*- C/9-4 or 5 CSE grade ones/Intermediate GNVQ/NVQ2/BTEC 1 st Diploma/1 Full A-Level/2AS | | |
| Full Level 3 | e.g. 2 A Levels or 4 or more AS levels/ AVCE/NVQ3/BTEC Nat Cert/Diploma/Access to HE or equivalent | | |
| Level 4 | e.g. HNC/HND/NVQ4 | | |
| Level 5 & above | e.g. 2 year part-time Foundation Degree/BAHons/MA/Post Graduate/Higher Degree | | |
| Other Qualification (Level not known, Non-UK qualification please give details) | | | |
| No formal qualification | | | |

| Previous Learning - Do you hold any of the following Level 2 qualifications? | | |
|--|-------|---------------|
| | Grade | Year Achieved |
| GCSE C or above in Maths | | |
| GCSE C or above in English | | |
| GCSE C or above in Science | | |

| 6. Employment/Voluntary Work Details | |
|--|----------------------|
| My enrolment is related to my employment/voluntary work <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Please state full name and address of employer: _____ Is this: Paid Work <input type="checkbox"/> or Voluntary Work <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| _____ | |
| Post Code: _____ | Contact Name: _____ |
| Contact Number: _____ | Email Address: _____ |
| My enrolment is unrelated to my employment/voluntary work <input type="checkbox"/> | |

| 7. Ethnicity | | |
|---|--|--|
| To help us monitor our Equal Opportunities Policy please tick the option that best describes your ethnic origin. This information will be treated confidentially. | | |
| White | Asian/Asian British | Other ethnic group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 31 English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British | <input type="checkbox"/> 39 Indian | <input type="checkbox"/> 47 Arab |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 32 Irish | <input type="checkbox"/> 40 Pakistani | <input type="checkbox"/> 98 Any other ethnic group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 33 Gypsy or Irish Traveller | <input type="checkbox"/> 41 Bangladeshi | <input type="checkbox"/> 99 Not provided |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 34 Any Other White background | <input type="checkbox"/> 42 Chinese | |
| Mixed/Multiple ethnic group | <input type="checkbox"/> 43 Any other Asian background | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35 White and Black Caribbean | Black/African/Caribbean/Black British | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 36 White and Black African | <input type="checkbox"/> 44 African | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 37 White and Asian | <input type="checkbox"/> 45 Caribbean | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 38 Any Other Mixed/multiple ethnic background | <input type="checkbox"/> 46 Any other Black/African/Caribbean background | |

8. Support – Disability, Health Issues or Learning Difficulty

Please tick any disabilities in the boxes on the left and indicate your primary disability on the right hand side
This information will be treated confidentially.

| | Primary | | Primary |
|--|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 01 Emotional/behavioural difficulties | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Dyscalculia | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 02 Multiple disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Autism spectrum disorder | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 03 Multiple learning difficulties | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 15 Asperger's syndrome | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 04 Visual impairment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 16 Temporary disability after illness (e.g. post – viral) or accident | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 05 Hearing impairment | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 93 Other physical disability | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 06 Disability affecting mobility | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 94 Other specific learning difficulty (e.g. Dyspraxia) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 07 Profound complex disabilities | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 95 Other medical condition (for example epilepsy, asthma, diabetes) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 08 Social and emotional difficulties | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 96 Other learning difficulty | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 09 Mental health difficulty | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 97 Other disability | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Moderate learning difficulty | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 98 Prefer not to say | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Severe learning difficulty | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> 99 Not provided | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Dyslexia | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> No disability | |

If you have any health issues, disability or learning difficulties that you need to make staff aware of, please outline any support you feel you will need to successfully complete your course:

When an offer of a place is made, the College may contact you to discuss your needs in more detail. If you would like to visit the College or talk to a tutor, please contact the Senior Admissions Officer on 0161 6668215. If you would prefer to speak to the Senior Admissions Officer in confidence about your needs, please indicate this.

9. Learning Agreement

This agreement explains what services we will provide and gives details of what you can expect from us. It also outlines what we expect from learners. We value the diversity of our learners and are committed to providing a high standard of provision and service for all.

Our Commitments:

- We will provide you with accurate information and impartial advice about the provision and services we offer taking into account of your qualifications, interests and career choices.
- We will provide you with clear details about entry requirements and application procedures for courses.
- We will provide information on sources of available financial assistance and advice on obtaining such support.
- We will provide the opportunity to study for an appropriate qualification and also to add breadth to your learning experience.
- We will provide an induction to college.
- We will provide thoroughly prepared and varied teaching and learning that supports individual achievement.
- We will provide information at regular intervals on your progress.
- We will provide access to additional learning support.
- We will provide a range of pastoral support services including guidance, counselling, chaplaincy and careers facilities.
- We will provide opportunities to help you develop your employability skills.
- We will provide the opportunity for you to comment on and influence the college environment and your courses.

- We will provide a safe environment and access to resources.
- We will provide an honest and fair reference for further study or employment.
- We will strive to achieve equality of opportunity for all in a tolerant and supportive environment.

For students with learning difficulties or disabilities we will:

- Provide specialist assessment of your learning needs.
- Provide a wide range of support and services according to individual need.

For the community we will:

- Promote Higher Education for all.
- Provide new technology and a wide range of strategies to continue to improve access and widen participation.

Your Commitments:

- You will have high expectations and conduct yourself in a considerate and respectful way.
- You will apply yourself to your studies with commitment in relation to attendance, effort, work rate and behaviour.
- You are expected to aim for 100% attendance and be punctual, and never less than 95% attendance.
- You will submit a copy of your Student Finance Entitlement Letter to the College or if self-funding pay your tuition fee by the required deadline.
- You will never take holidays during term time.
- You will be on time to all lessons and carry your student ID card at all times.
- You are expected to have full attendance at all scheduled examination periods at the college.
- You are expected to report all absences to the College, ensuring they are genuine and valid.
- You will inform us of where you have moved on to when you leave the college.

10. Learner Declaration

I understand that this document forms the basis of a learning agreement between myself and the College. This is based upon information on this form and the guidance I have received. I have discussed my learning needs and the support opportunities available to me.

Learner Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Staff Signature: _____

11.Data Protection & Privacy Notice

Privacy Notice for Students (Higher Education Courses)

This privacy notice explains how the college use your personal information. If you have any questions about the way we use your personal data, please contact our Data Protection Officer on 0161 330 2330 or by email to carolyn.wright@asfc.ac.uk.

Your personal information is used by us to exercise our official authority to provide further and higher education services within the legislative framework of the Further and Higher Education Act and the Education (Government of Further Education Colleges) Regulations 1992. We also have requirements placed on us by the Office for Students, and the Higher Education and Statistics Agency (HESA).

What information do we collect about you?

We collect information from you when you apply to join the college. Once you enrol as a student at the college, the information we collected at application is updated where necessary during the enrolment process. The information we collect includes your name, address, contact details, date of birth and previous education. We will also take your photograph for security purposes, and will keep a record of emergency contact details.

How will we use information about you?

We will use the information you provide at application to keep you updated on the progress of your application. Once you have enrolled, this information is used to support the provision of your education during your time with us, and will be shared with our university partner, Staffordshire University. We also pass information to relevant government bodies and agencies as part of our mandatory duty. Please see the section at the end of this notice for more information.

During your time with us, new information about you will be created in the form of academic assessments and learner feedback. Student photographs are displayed within the College, and may be used on marketing materials internally and externally for up to 3 years.

Your information will be securely destroyed after it is no longer required for these purposes, in accordance with our retention policy. You can request a copy of this policy from the college's data protection officer.

Marketing

When you apply to join us, we will write to you to share information about your application, our courses and the other benefits of joining our college. We will not share your details with any other organisation for marketing purposes. If you would not like to receive information about the college, please let us know, however, this may result in you not receiving important information to support your application.

The college would also like to maintain contact with you as one of our alumni. This means we need your consent to allow us to send you communications about various activities and events which may interest you, and information about how you can continue to connect with the college into the future.

If you are happy for us to contact you as an alumni, please indicate below:

- To receive newsletters and course information
- To receive information about alumni events

Special Categories of Information

The college will also ask you to provide information relating to your ethnicity and any health or additional learning needs you may have. This information is used to ensure that we meet our obligations under the Equality Duty. We also use any information you provide to us about your health or additional learning needs to ensure that we provide support to you as required during the application and enrolment processes and throughout your time with us at the college.

Under data protection legislation, explicit consent must be received to process special categories of data, including ethnicity and health needs, and therefore we request that you sign the following consent-to-process clause regarding the processing of this data. If you do not do so, we may be unable to offer you a course place and may withdraw any offer already made. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

I give permission for Ashton Sixth Form College to receive and process information provided by me or any other relevant agency regarding my health or other areas of need, in order to provide the necessary support whilst I am studying at the college. This information may also be used for statistical purposes and to ensure the college meets its obligations under the Equality Duty.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Who may we share your information with?

The information you provide may be shared with other partner organisations for purposes relating to education or training which include the Office for Students and HESA (Higher Education and Statistics Agency).

Please indicate by ticking the box whether you consent to be contacted:

- For surveys and research
- To receive newsletters and course information

Methods of contact:

- By post
- By phone
- By email