

Obtaining the Views of Staff and Students in Relation to Educational Character, Mission and Oversight of Activities

Context

The introduction of Article 3-(1)(aa) provided a responsibility for the Corporation to publish arrangements for obtaining the views of staff and students on the determination and periodic review of the educational character and mission of the institution and the oversight of its activities.

The Corporation reviews the educational character and mission and takes an oversight of activities through a cycle of business that incorporates monitoring, assessment, strategic review, and planning.

The current Strategic Plan 2021/2025 was approved in 2021, following development over several months through consultation with staff, students, governors, managers, employers, schools, and a wide range of partners and stakeholders.

Commencing the summer term 2023, the College has undertaken to renew the Strategic Plan and has taken further consultation. Staff were consulted through a series of staff briefings at the end of the summer term and were provided with the opportunity to vote on the College values. Similarly, students were surveyed and focus groups were undertaken in addition to voting on the College values.

A new Strategic Plan will be approved by the Corporation and widely disseminated.

Staff Views

Halesowen College has established procedures for engaging and consulting staff to develop understanding, receive the benefit of staff knowledge and experience and engender greater commitment to the College mission and the achievement of strategic objectives.

The College has in place a staff briefing structure incorporating both teaching and support staff and a staff bulletin newsletter is now provided weekly. Other mechanisms for obtaining staff views in relation to character, mission and oversight of activities include surveys, area self-assessment and development processes including operational reviews which are aligned to organisational objectives.

The Corporation includes membership of an elected staff governor who, whilst not mandated by the staff body, may contribute their own views in relation to the strategic development and oversight aspects of their governance role.

Student Views

The Corporation places importance on understanding student views of the quality of their experience at Halesowen College incorporating pre-entry, induction, teaching and learning, wellbeing, safety, achievement and progression.

Halesowen College has established procedures for engaging and consulting students. A detailed Learner Involvement Strategy outlines student involvement across the annual cycle. This recognises the benefits to both Learner and College.

Student views are also obtained through the work of the student ambassadors.

The Corporation includes membership of an elected student governor who whilst not mandated by the student body may contribute their own views in relation to the strategic development and oversight aspects of their governance role.