

Supply Chain Fee Policy - Academic Year 2018-19

The City of Liverpool College works with a number of partners on a subcontracted basis to deliver high quality training and education against a number of key priorities. The College's main aim is to increase the impact on local communities through extended reach and investing in local community partners.

The College works with providers when:

- A partner provides a niche service, emerging market or works with a specific learner target group. We work closely with partner links to access new sectors.
- A partner can support the College where we have capacity issues. We are able to widen our curriculum offer; offering new areas of curriculum which the College does not offer.
- A partner supports our strategic agenda e.g. community stakeholder. These partners are trusted within a deprived area of Liverpool and deliver innovative programmes to local disadvantaged people. Their focus is on lifelong learning and progression into either the College or employment. They have the ability to engage with specific target groups; working with learners with disabilities, disadvantaged postcodes, students with multiple disadvantage and priority sectors.

The College will work with approximately 3-6 partners on a subcontracted basis this academic year, subject to the restrictions of the existing SFA Notice of Concern. Subcontracts will be offered on ESFA programmes across both Adults (19+) and Young People (16-18). The City of Liverpool College has robust partnership management processes in place that have been subject to external and internal audit.

Through the supply chain, The City of Liverpool College is able to develop understanding and knowledge of different sectors and communities; learning through shared good practice.

Fees and Payments

The College will retain an agreed amount of funding generated from subcontracted provision, ranging from 15% to 20%.

For new providers, the College will retain 20% of the funding generated for the first contract year. The College will review the retained amount for Partners who achieve a range of metrics including performance, quality and compliance and therefore require less support. The retained amount may be reduced by up to 5% in subsequent years.

The College retains an element of funding to meet provider obligations in respect of; the ILR, compliance and audit, quality and curriculum assurance and training.

The exact mix and level of support for each subcontractor will vary, depending on needs. However, they will receive input and guidance to ensure that provider obligations are met including:

- Support with due diligence
- Quality management systems
- Certification and registration with awarding bodies, if required
- Management information services and data control advice
- Audit of management systems
- Support & audit of learner paperwork

- Curriculum, OTL and Quality support
- Partner development
- Partner training sessions.

Payment Arrangements

- Payments will be made monthly, or as agreed with partner and will be reviewed quarterly
- Following the validation of evidence in the ILR return, the College will make the appropriate payment to the subcontractor based on the level of income calculated, less the agreed management fee and any adjustments for reconciliation. Specific payment profiles will be attached to each contract
- Payment terms are 30 days from invoice date.

Teaching and Learning

The City of Liverpool College is committed to improving the quality of teaching and learning within its supply chain, and along with the partnership quarterly review meeting, the additional quality checks include:

- Initial Quality and Curriculum Visit - Before a contract is given, a quality and curriculum representative will visit a partner provider and complete the initial quality assessment report.
- Partner Training Events on developing and embedding good consistent practice e.g. safeguarding, reviews, PREVENT.
- Termly curriculum visit - A curriculum representative will visit the partner provider each term prior to the partner review and complete the curriculum visit report. Any actions will be highlighted in the quarterly partner review meetings. If the partner is classed as high risk, a member of the quality team will also attend until the risk is addressed.
- Termly unannounced visit - A quality/curriculum representative will undertake an unannounced visit for those partners delivering to 16-18 learners.
- Self-Assessment - Support with the completion of the annual SAR cycle.

Communication of Policy

The City of Liverpool College will discuss fees, details of the paperwork processes and partnership procedures for the academic year with all potential partners at the start of 2018/19.

Head of Apprenticeships and Partnership Provision manages the business and day-to-day relationship with subcontractors.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed in July 2019 and a revised policy issued in 2019/20, if appropriate.

Publication of Policy

This policy is published on The City of Liverpool College's website and issued to all partner organisations.