

## **West Herts College Group – Access and Participation Statement 2022**

The West Herts College Group (trading as West Herts College and Barnfield College) is committed to providing a high quality service designed to meet local and regional needs and those of our College community. The WHC Group provides a Higher Education (HE) environment that is dedicated to equality of opportunity and freedom from discrimination. The WHC Group highly values the diversity of its student body and is committed to minimising barriers and widening access to entry for all HE applicants.

In addition to setting transparent criteria for entry to HE courses, the WHC Group welcomes and values applications irrespective of background and previous work related experience that students might bring.

The WHC Group is committed to providing impartial advice and guidance to ensure applicants and students are placed and supported on appropriate courses from application through to course completion and onto their future destinations. This is outlined in full in the WHC Group Admissions, Information, Advice and Guidance Policy and in accordance with the Expectation for Quality Core Practice 1 of the UK Quality Code.

West Herts College adheres to the University of Hertfordshire admissions Procedures for entry to Foundation Degrees and Extended Degree programmes. Barnfield College adheres to University of Bedfordshire admissions procedures for teacher training programmes and Foundation Degree programmes.

In addition, the WHC Group has its own internal policy and procedure for students wishing to access Higher National qualifications, which is implemented by the College's Head of Marketing, Communications and Admissions.

The WHC Group actively conducts outreach work in the community engaging with local schools, other colleges, employers, community groups and the University partners to promote its full HE course offering. In addition, the WHC Group is committed to providing progression opportunities to best meet the needs of students, enhancing their career opportunities and long-term earning potential.

Transitional and ongoing support for students are extensive both inside and outside of the classroom and include personal and welfare support, academic and study skills support and support for those students with additional learning needs.

To facilitate students in reaching their full potential, the WHC Group monitors all aspects of student performance throughout the academic journey. Regular Target, Progress and Attainment (TPA) sessions raise aspirations, provide students with feedback of progress and facilitate continued personal development.