



# Modern Slavery Statement 2023-24

## **Modern Slavery Act Statement 2023/24**

### **Introduction**

This statement is made pursuant to section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes our Group's slavery and human trafficking statement for the academic year ending 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

West Herts College Group is a Further Education College Group established under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992. It is an exempt charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011.

The Group's main business is to deliver education and training to students aged 16 and upwards and covers a wide range of vocational and academic programmes. The Group consists of four main sites, in Watford, Hemel Hempstead and two in Luton.

The Group also operates an apprenticeship and training business through a subsidiary.

For more information about the West Herts College Group, please visit our Website.

### **Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement**

Modern slavery is a crime and a violation of a person's fundamental human rights. Modern slavery can take various forms; such as slavery, servitude, forced and compulsory labour and human trafficking, all of which have in common the deprivation of a person's liberty by another in order to exploit them for personal or commercial gain.

The West Herts College Group has core values that are at the heart of all decision-making. We are committed to running the College responsibly and in accordance with the high standards embedded in these core values.

'Respecting and integrity' are just two of our core values. Slavery and human trafficking are plainly incompatible with these values.

Employees employed indirectly through agencies are employed through agreed, reputable agencies. To mitigate the risk of any potential occurrences of modern slavery, the College conducts checks on such agencies before they are approved.

Through its recruitment processes, the College ensures that all approved recruitment agencies conduct all relevant pre-recruitment checks and provide evidence that all such checks have been conducted.

We expect the same high standards from our suppliers and all other organisations we work with.

We will work with our principal suppliers to ensure that our approach to slavery and human trafficking is reflected in all our purchases of goods and services so that neither we nor they are involved in any way, either directly or indirectly, in slavery and human trafficking.

When procuring any type of goods or services, the college requires any potential third-party suppliers to evidence that they operate a high level of corporate social responsibility during any tendering and selection process.

Any supplier or potential supplier that does not comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015, or the College's own policies and procedures, will be removed from the College's list of suppliers, and will not be considered for future supply to the College unless they can demonstrate that these compliance requirements are met.

### **Our Commitment**

We are committed to ensuring that slavery and human trafficking have no place in the College or its supply chains.

**This statement is approved by the College Corporation.**

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