Teaching Excellence Framework: Year two

Statement of findings

The Royal Central School of Speech and Drama

UKPRN: 10007816

TEF Gold

This award was made in June 2017 and is valid for up to three years.

The TEF Panel reviewed the provider metrics and provider submission according to the process and criteria specified in the TEF guidance.

The provider metrics supplemented by the submission indicate that students achieve outstanding outcomes. Very high proportions of students from all backgrounds continue with their studies and progress to employment, highly skilled employment or further study, notably exceeding benchmarks. The metrics indicate very high levels of satisfaction with academic support, and outstanding levels of student satisfaction with teaching on my course that are notably above the provider benchmark. Students are satisfied with assessment and feedback, although at levels below the provider benchmark. The Panel deemed this was fully addressed by the provider submission.

The Panel considered the University submission in relation to the TEF criteria and its judgement reflects, in particular, evidence of:

- an exemplary commitment to professionally and vocationally oriented training in the performing arts, ensuring students acquire knowledge and skills that are most highly valued by employers
- sector-leading provision in disciplines surrounding theatre and the performing arts, which ensures the highest levels of engagement and commitment to learning
- consistent and systematic preparation of students to achieve outstanding outcomes in a highly competitive industry, including employer engagement and the profiling of students to influential organisations in the industry
- the consistent integration of employability both within and outside the curriculum, including placements, live project work, public productions and support for student enterprise
- outstanding resources to embed a simulated employment environment which familiarises students with industry standards, and the involvement of students in the development and testing of such resources
- strategic use of practitioner-teachers who provide students with a vocational education engaged with developments at the forefront of research, scholarship

and professional practice, consistently and frequently collaborating with students in practice and research

- an embedded culture that facilitates, recognises and rewards excellent teaching, including funded sabbaticals to undertake teaching and learning enhancement projects.

Overall, the TEF Panel judged that the combination of evidence in the provider metrics and the provider submission best fits the descriptor for a Gold award.