Teaching Excellence Framework: Year two

Statement of findings

Sussex Downs College

UKPRN: 10006432

TEF Silver

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 most students achieve excellent outcomes. A large proportion of students progress to employment or further study. A notably large proportion of students also progress to highly skilled employment, although for some full-time student groups the metrics are below the provider's benchmark. The Panel deemed that this was largely addressed in the provider submission. Students continue with their studies at levels below the provider benchmark. The Panel deemed that this was partially addressed in the provider's submission. The metrics indicate very high levels of satisfaction with teaching on my course, and outstanding levels of satisfaction with academic support, and assessment and feedback that are notably above the provider's benchmark.

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

- excellent opportunities for students to engage with employers through placements and practice-based learning, including progression to on-site top-up programmes, reflecting high quality vocational approaches to the higher education delivery
- high levels of input from employers for course design that consistently balances contact time with independent study and placement opportunities
- the consistent use of formative and summative assessment incorporating peer and individual feedback, including the implementation of an online system for agreeing learning targets
- the development of high quality physical and digital resources with an integrated approach to learning support across the provider
- an embedded virtual classroom resulting in the sharing of curriculum-developed resources that impact on subject-based communities of practice.

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

For further information see: www.hefce.ac.uk/TEFoutcomes