Teaching Excellence Framework: Year two

Statement of findings

RNN Group

UKPRN: 10005534

TEF Silver

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

In assessing the RNN Group, the TEF Panel took account of its merger with Dearne Valley College. The Panel reviewed the provider metrics and the provider submissions for both colleges involved in the merger, according to the process and criteria specified in the TEF guidance.

The provider metrics supplemented by the submission indicate that for the RNN Group, most students from the part-time majority mode of study progress to highly skilled employment or further study at levels notably below the provider's benchmark. In the full-time minority mode the provider notably exceeds benchmark for most students with regard to employment or further study. The metrics indicate very high levels of student satisfaction across both modes of study for teaching, assessment and feedback, and academic support.

For Dearne Valley College, the provider metrics supplemented by the submission indicate that very high proportions of students continue with their studies at levels above the provider's benchmark and most achieve good outcomes in relation to progression to employment or further study and highly skilled employment or further study. The metrics indicate very high levels of satisfaction with assessment and feedback, and academic support, however, satisfaction with the quality of teaching is notably below the provider's benchmark.

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

RNN

- support for developing teaching through peer observation, CPD and opportunities to secure recognised teacher status with validating partners
- active involvement of employers in curriculum design and delivery
- a strategic approach to employment of staff with vocational or professional expertise
- a strong commitment to outreach and widening participation.

Dearne Valley College

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

- effective involvement of students and employers in programme design and accreditation
- appropriate contact hours, personalised learning through personal tutorials and personal development modules
- clearly defined activities for the development of study and research skills through group tutorial supporting students' development, progression and attainment
- student-focused physical and digital resources, including a bursary scheme tailored to students' learning needs
- a developing culture for supporting and recognising excellence in teaching and learning through graded peer observations of teaching and the higher education Hub.

Overall, the TEF Panel judged that the combination of evidence in the provider metrics and the provider submissions for both constituent colleges, and therefore for the resultant merged provider, best fits the descriptor for a Silver award.