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Writtle University College Student TEF Submission 2023

Submission Rationale

We decided to create a filmed student TEF submission as we believe it will give those viewing the submission a greater understanding of who are students are and how they experience academic life at Writtle University College.

Students were briefed on TEF and why the student submission was an important element alongside the institution submission

Writtle University College is a small specialist land-based provider for higher education with around 700 students currently studying at the higher education level, due to the size of the institution there is understandably a smaller amount of resource available which could be directed towards this submission without having an impact on the experience of students whilst this submission was being compiled.

The students featured within this submission were selected to give a true representation of our diverse student body, those selected were independently checked by a group of students to confirm that those featured were a fair representation of the student body.

STUDENT TEF SUBMISSION TRANSCRIPTION

January 2023

Hi I am _____ the president of the student union here at Writtle university college. I was a student here for 3 years studying horticulture before being elected in to the student union as the president. I help deal with all different aspects of student life, and with the ultimate goal of improving things and the outcomes for students here at the university college. Writtle has been around now in this year for 130 years and is a well know institution turning out students in mainly land based subjects, including horticulture, agriculture, equine, animal sciences and many many more. There is approximately about two thousand FE and HE students that study here along with this many people taking short courses too. Out of those two thousand there is at the moment about seven hundred HE Students, some of them living here on site here on the campus and some commuting in to study. Students while they are here are encouraged to take part and help shape the way in which student life is here and the courses which they are on, this is done through student success advisory board, the HE council and the HE forum and also the course scheme review meetings, this student TEF submission, focuses on the student voice, who are these people, who are they that come here to study here, why did they come here, what's helped them achieve while they have been here, and what's going to help them when they leave here going into more education or the industry that they came here to study. You are going to hear from these students within this TEF student submission and I hope you get a deeper understanding of these people, why they come here and are brilliant students that make up the student body here at Writtle.

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Hi, there, my name is _____, a first year student here at Writtle. I'm on a Sport and Exercise Science course. I'd like to begin about talking about our teaching here, being a first year student, it's meant It's all new to me, it's a new experience. So I think one of the best things are the facilities, we started in the laboratory, where we have a multitude of equipment, which today in a lesson actually has really been helpful doing pressure pad work, it has made the teaching tailored to me and it also helped to make it more relatable to my career being a teacher. With regards to feedback as well, we've had a few assignments so far, not too many. But again, having that one to one is quite often common, especially with a module we've done recently coaching, we had a sit down chat, one to one, and we went through step by step how we can improve each assignment, which again really helped me as being a teacher, I'm constantly going to be reviewing work and analyse and other students work so that might be more relatable for me and allowed me to pick up more methods that teachers who use that written as a lecturer. So the industry that I'm looking to go in is to be a secondary school teacher, specifically in sport. And one way Writtle has helped me to succeed is by introducing the new module teaching and assessment, which is also located at sevic campus and it's given me an opportunity to experience teaching in the real world as I am able to observe a teacher and almost mimic their methods and style of teaching. For me, I'm a practical learner and that's the one way in which I learn best so it's really given me a broad insight into the way in which I can develop my own skills for the future in my career.

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Hi I am [redacted] I am a residential student and have been for the entirety of my degree. I am a veterinary physiotherapy student. I chose Writtle university because I knew that this course would give me a gateway in to the industry I would like, as well as the potential to go and follow up my degree with a second masters in chiropractic. When I first came to campus and first started at the university I did struggle to feel a sense of belonging

[redacted]. This intern led to me helping run and develop the LGBTQ society on campus, which was made to provide students with a base to feel community and belonging on campus, which I feel is vital, at a home away from home for many students and myself included in this, many students are not out to their family's so being able to be away at university and be themselves is vital, to not only belonging but to their mental health as well. [redacted] I am now looking at going and gaining some career advice to further help my transition from student into industry professional. I am especially looking to go into the physiotherapy field to ensure that I make the most of my degree and years I spent studying for it. Thanks.

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Hi my name is [redacted] and I am [redacted] in the veterinary physiotherapy program. I am an international student from [redacted]. This is also a course that's not offered back home or very many other places, which makes it a really unique place to come and study. In my first year I found that there are many different bodies that help you settle in student life such as the student union and the academic support team, and so in my second year I decided to join the student union. I am the vice president and welfare officer, which means I try and tackle some of the issues the students are facing. The other things that I am involved in are I work in the library, which has always been something I have been wanting to do and it offers the opportunity, it's quite a nice quiet place, it's really supportive and really offers all the materials that you would need to do your assignments and the other thing that I do to really help me settle in is to do the ambassador role which means that during open days for prospective students, just being around and talk to people about my experiences. On the academic side of things, there is a lot of different support teams that are available to you. The ones I have accessed the most is academic writing for most of my assignments and what I found is that, it's amazing, it's actually really helpful to go in there and have your referencing checked over and have your essay read over by a 3rd person to see if there are any mistakes.

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I am [redacted] studying animal management and the livestock technology pathway. I'm a resident student and so I chose to come to Writtle because the location is only

what two miles away from Chelmsford in town and it's in a quite nice countryside setting. So in my livestock subject especially, we have a lot of guest speakers that come in and they're really good at organizing trips to like the farms and assignments, we have feedback, which so it'd be a positive point on our assignment and also like a negative point to what we could improve and to get a higher grade and that's usually across all assignments. we do exams, we have the opportunity as well to go and see the exam after we've done it, like if you need to, so if you say in nutrition, we were allowed to go and see the exam after and he was able to point out points that we could improve on and how well we've done it. And yeah, a lot of guest lectures come in, which is really nice to get an idea of the like careers and careers that you don't even think about in the livestock industry.

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Hello _____ I am a _____ horticulture student here at Writtle university college. I have been studying here in the tropical glass house for the last eighteen months and the reason I chose to come and study at Writtle was that it feels like studying in a botanical garden every day, all over the campus its lovely and green all year round and as well as the land based focus all of the courses here at the university has covering animals, agriculture and horticulture as well as landscape design and the academic support which I receive has been really good starting from before I even enrolled with the Flying Start Program which helped me especially as a career changing mature student transition back in to academic life. Going through the first year I was the mature student society president which has enabled me to build networks with peers across all of the year groups here as well as being the course rep for horticulture which enables me to give constructive criticism to staff and raise my peers concerns as well as their positive feedback of the course and I am also a member on the student advisory board which again helps build a community across all of the courses here and input student led focuses to improve the community.

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Hello, _____ I'm a _____ student here at Writtle University College. I'm studying animal management with the pet behaviour and welfare specialism. I chose to come to Writtle because the course reflects my career aspirations which are eventually to qualify as a clinical animal behaviourist. I have really enjoyed the course it's been very broad. As I am a _____ student now I've already studied ethics, animal welfare, animal biology, which are all helped me to learn about animals in general. Writtle have developed recently to support the course a pet behaviour clinic, which is going to give students like myself the opportunity to work with members of the public with their animals in diagnosing and treating behavioural problems, so that's really useful experience for people like myself, going into that field of work. I've enjoyed the delivery of the course, different lecturers have different styles.

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Hi my name is _____, I am in my third year of equine behavioural science here at Writtle I decided to come here when I came on the open day, everyone was super welcoming and friendly, the campus seem, even though it was a weekend it was quite busy and everyone was chatting in groups and looked like everyone could get on quite well. I started to feel like I belong here because everyone on my course we've all got quite similar thinking styles, so where it comes to academically working

together we did really well as a group. The student success stuff that I have accessed while here is the writing styles for dissertation mainly this year because when we got our dissertation at the start of the year I really struggled to picture it in my head, so after working with one of the members for about an hour and a half I finally had a plan set out and I was ready to start my dissertation writing. So in the future I am now coming to the end of my final semester of my studies I am looking towards going in to further education, going up to a masters degree in animal behaviour, I am hoping the student success at other university's will be just as supportive as it has been here at Writtle.

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Hello . I am an equine sports therapy student here at Writtle,
I am a residential student. I chose Writtle because it was the only place in the country that studied my course and that had that specific equine sports therapy and rehabilitation, it took me quite a while to find Writtle amongst the rest but I do feel that it's a really really nice course and that was the main thing I was attracted to. I really like the campus not so much the accommodation but I really love the campus and the community, I'm from , so I didn't want to go somewhere big, so I really liked the community, the smallness, the closeness that Writtle offered, so that's kind of why I chose Writtle and I did find that I did become part of the community here. Academic wise I do feel that Writtle has supported me, again I've gone to the wellbeing team and their wonderful. I am currently talking to the disability team about potentially going through figuring out if I have but again I haven't gone through the whole process I am still kind of waiting for a referral but that is something I've gone for. I have also talked to student support with a lovely gentleman , whole helped me with one of my assignments, just kind of working through sentence structure which was very beneficial and it kind of made me feel a little bit more comfortable on my course, I tend to be quite academic and practical so I am not too worried about that but I did feel the help was definitely needed and it did help me and help my academic side.

So , I would like to stay here and study a little bit longer, I do quite like the masters course, master courses that are offered. I know I have a couple of lectures about career paths after Writtle but it is coming up. So I'll be waiting for them to kind of figure it out but I have looked into some of the Masters courses offered here and actually, I would like to stay here. So I am feeling very loyal to Writtle, also just because the courses make a lot of sense in the Masters-wise, it is something that I want to go down my career path, and I think Writtle really has taken into account how these would link to previous courses. I also love that there is support for masters students as well and that student success stays the same and kind of that's how it is throughout Writtle.

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Hello, my name is , I'm a student here at Writtle, doing animal management zoo and wildlife conservation. I don't live on site, I live locally, so I travel in every day. I chose this course because it's local to me and it offers what I want to try and get into, I originally wanted to look at zoos but how, sorry, I'm originally wanted to work in zoos but how the course has kind of gone on I'm more looking into work in conservation now. The actual course has been really good these have been fantastic. We've been to Zoo trips, have had speakers from the zoo, which has been really interesting but we've also gone to Epping Forest where we spoke to some people there talking about cows within Epping Forest and how they use them for conservation managing the forests, which has been really interesting. So like, yeah, I like really enjoy this course.

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Hi, I'm _____, I'm a _____ regenerative agriculture student here at Writtle University College. I chose this university due to the fact that I've got _____ . So I chose it based on their wellbeing _____ team, and how good they are. Whereas other universities aren't as holistic in their approach on looking after you. So Writtle makes me feel like I belong, where they allow me to develop my interests that aren't academic,

_____ with the help of the Student Union and the chaplain. So it just keeps the whole belonging and helps me be a part of the Writtle community. The _____ team are really useful here, so I get study skills support and mentoring so that I can achieve academically but also in a way achieve like in my life, and so that when I leave, I will be a functional member of society and I will also get a job and do well in my current future career. _____ which means that I've got to start thinking about what I'm going to do my dissertation and the university are really good at supporting us in that, so they teach us _____ how to do our research proposal and get on with everything. So to help succeed, the university has student success team, and we're introduced to them through tutorial which are lecturers set up. They're really useful so you can send off assignments to them so that they can check them and help you improve them before you have to submit them which is really good or they can teach you how to reference using Zotero, which helps make referencing so much easier or, if you need careers advice about what you want to do in the future and how to get there or even if it's as simple as how to write a CV, they come in, you can send that to careers advisor and he'll help you write a personal statement or your CV, which is also really useful for the future.

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My name is _____ and I'm a _____ student studying veterinary physiotherapy. _____ I have experienced University in the past, I dropped out early on after a year and I left with such a negative experience at hand, so I was absolutely anxious and nervous when starting my first year at Writtle. I did really believe that coming back to uni was a mistake, I was very scared to see if it was going to be very similar to my past experience and thankfully, I have made no regrets coming back here, I'm super, super happy that I'm here, it's probably one of the best decisions I've made. I decided this year to be on campus, I've decided that it was going to be more convenient for me, I made a bunch of friends while being here in my first year, so knowing that I will be on campus made me feel super comfortable, because I've started to get to know people and it was just, you know, it felt like it was the right thing to do. During my first year at uni, I decided to live off campus because I was very very afraid of what, you know, I was very afraid of what to expect,

I was very afraid of what you know, what could happen, how I would approach people, how people would approach me, you know, the diversity at this university is very, very low and I'm not trying to say that in the negative sense, I'm trying to say that there's a lot of improvement that I would love to see, and I'm pretty sure a lot of other students would love to see. And I feel like it might just be because, you know, I'm not saying that the university doesn't cater for everyone's needs, it really does, maybe it's just, you know, the advertisement or this university not being known to students from all over but that was my fear in first year. However, _____ I've definitely come out of my shell and feel much more confident and comfortable being here. Though, I've met a lot of lovely people, students, staff, lecturers, everyone, I've met so many beautiful souls.

I've met a lot of lovely people here who've taken me under their wing, and who's made me, you know just feel like I'm welcome here and they've, you know, feel like, you know, we can all have the same experience, no one's experience should be any different and that's just an amazing feeling for me. one factor I would love to improve on this campus, is that Educational and that awareness raising of the diversity of race and religion on this campus. I'm not saying it's an issue, or nor do I believe it's an issue, however, I would love to see so much more change, in that sense, I would love to see more, what's the word I would love to see more, I want to say appreciation but recognition, I would love to see more recognition for these three things. Because like I said previously, sometimes it is kind of hard , sometimes it is kind of isolating and I do feel very anxious from time to time, especially living on campus when I like we are such a small diversity. So it can be difficult from time to time, however, I would just love to see much more recognition. Don't get me wrong, I do believe that me moving on campus was probably the best thing that I've done, I was just so afraid last year, I was like, first of all,

given my experience from my last uni, which wasn't the best, I was very, very anxious so the first thing I was going to first thing that came to mind was don't live on campus because I did already believe that I wasn't going to fit in, I told myself that I wasn't going to enjoy myself and I think that's a very, very negative way of thinking but being here, I feel like it brings out the best in you. You can definitely see that your friends and your peers and your teachers and your lecturers they want you to achieve, they want to see you, you know, achieve your goals achieve your aims, you know and that's one thing that's a great thing that I love about this place is you can see that they're really willing and they will try and they will help you to the best of their abilities. You know, it's not really just words, actions follow through with it and that really makes me feel supported too and I'm proud of that and I think Writtle has really helped me with that, they supported me with that and I wouldn't change it for the world.

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Hello, my name is . I'm studying animal management, zoo and wildlife conservation and the reason I chose to study here at Writtle is the facilities. They are very impressive compared to a lot of other places I looked at. They have a lot of practical elements, we have our own farm and Titchmarsh Centre, where we have all our reptiles and fish and amphibians. So it's very useful on the practical side, as I get to learn while being hands on. The class sizes are quite small as my course has a specific pathway and they are very helpful because myself, small class sizes work a lot better for me as I can focus more not get distracted and be able to ask questions and the lecturer is very supportive comes over and helps you. They go slowly, and they will pause if you need them to, as well I do find that the coursework we do they give us very constructive criticism, which helps me work on specific areas I need to, the feedback is also given on time quite a lot so you'd have time to look at what you could do better in preparation for the next assignment you can get given.

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My name is and I'm studying animal management, pet behaviour and welfare at Writtle University. I'm currently living on site in the accommodation. I chose this course, because it was the only one that offered what I wanted in respect to animal training,

specifically dog behaviour, there was no others that I could see like that in the country. And when I joined this course, well, when I applied to the university, I had a look on the website, and I was really impressed by what wellbeing stuff was offered, I knew that I would need some wellbeing support after college. And so when I came here and moved here, specifically, I knew that would need that kind of residential support. And then when I've joined the uni, I have accessed the residential student support a lot here in the hub, we have four officers, and I know all of them really well and I would say, knowing the staff members so well, and having them know my name, ask how I'm doing even not in a, you know, specific way just to see how I'm getting on and say hello to me in the night time, I find that really, really helpful. But alongside that I also have meetings with specific officers, you know, every week or so just to make sure I'm getting on all right and it's really nice to be able to access that in the night-time, rather than the daytime. Because I'm so busy in the daytime, I don't get to access wellbeing support anyway. That being said, I have spoken to the wellbeing team, the daytime team, and they are really, really helpful, I do find that we have quite a quick response from them, which is really good. And I do feel listened to whenever I do have to speak to them, whether it's about myself or the students, I can always trust that they will follow up on things. Other than that, I've also accessed the _____, I did that to get accommodations for my exams and I found that they did that really, really quickly. Not only did that help me sit my exams, but that also reduced a lot of anxiety before the exams, because I was worried that I would not know what room I would be in and things like that but they sorted that really quickly, let me know in a really concise email. So that was really, really helpful. I do have a really good sense of belonging at Writtle. I think that is because I know so many people so well, a lot of the staff members that can say hello to every day and I do feel like I know everyone here and they know me here even though that might not be true, it certainly feels like that. So overall, I'm having a good time at Writtle.

I will hopefully be speaking to the careers team. I'm hoping that we'll get told more about the careers team and where to find them. So that I can go on and know what I want to do after finishing up here.

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Hello my name is _____, I am a _____ veterinary physio therapy student, and I chose Writtle initially because its close to home and it was sort of one of the only universities that offer the course that I am after. I do feel like I belong at Writtle, because being a residential student its quite a close-knit community, there is lots of support from wellbeing, from the SU also I have my horse down at the yard here, so I feel quite involved in Writtle life here. So in my three and a half year here I have accessed lots of different areas of support, the wellbeing team are very good, especially as a residential student, they offer nigh time and daytime support, which is helpful, its been helpful towards my academic stuff and at times kept me in uni and kept me motivated.

Also I've accessed, since my first year accessing academic writing support and _____ I found this really helpful because they look through your entire work, they improve stuff and it really helped me aim for those firsts and 2:1's as well. _____ the masters year and level 7 writing, _____ there is not as much support for that and it would be nice to have specific level seven writing support or workshops to kind of help people who then want to aim for those higher grades in that as well and lastly because I am thinking about moving on after uni I have accessed careers support recently, this is really helpful because I was able to write a CV and I got help with writing cover letters as well, they have offered to help me through out the semester with mock interviews to sort of prepare me for when I go out in to the industry.

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Hi my name is _____, I'm a _____ equine behaviour student here at Writtle I live locally to the university campus so hence why I chose to study here. I feel Writtle has helped me make loads more friends within the equine industry, it's helped me further my education and my knowledge of my degree and my interests. I love to study here and I love to come down from my house so I can study with my friends, socialise and come to the events. I find that Writtle is so inviting and is really helped me feel more comfortable to do what I love. I did look to the student success team for support and they helped me further my academic writing and my referencing skills which has aided me to help to write my HE assignments.

I found it really has helped me progress on to level six type style and I have definitely seen that in the feedback from my lecturers. I did look towards the careers department as well to help me with my applications towards university, they are very helpful and very friendly team, I did have a few meetings with them as I didn't quite get my head around it all but as it was also during covid, so during lockdown it was quite a big struggle with the applications and all of the communication and how to apply but with their help I got through and I'm now in my last year and I've loved everything.

We aim to be as representative as possible with those featured within this Student Tef submission. Those featured have been independently verified to check that we have been representative by other students here at Writtle university college. We hope this has come across and we hope that you have found watching this video has given you a deeper in site to those who come and study here and how they access education and the things they are looking forward to going on to do once they complete there studies here. Thank you

TEF Student Survey results

To support our TEF Student Submission we conducted our own research looking at student opinion into academic life and experiences at Writtle University College, this survey was sent out to all higher education students with 58 students choosing to take part.

We hope the survey results provides a wider overview of student opinion and supports the individual statements made with the filmed TEF submission.

1. Are you a residential student living on campus? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

 Insights



2. Are you aware of the additional financial hardship support and/or bursaries on offer at WUC? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

 Insights

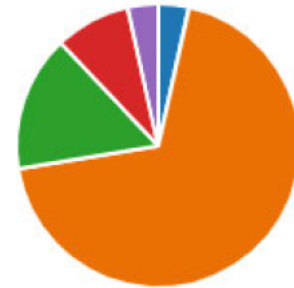


3. I feel supported at Writtle University College? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

- Strongly agree
- Agree 40
- Neither Agree Nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree



4. Do you participate in any extra curricular activities at WUC? (e.g. Societies, Sports, Volunteering etc) (0 point)

[More Details](#)

- Yes 19
- No 39



5. Are you aware of the academic support offered by the student success team? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

[Insights](#)

- Yes 51
- No



6. Do you know how to make comments, concerns or suggestions about your course? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

 Insights

 Yes	39
 No	19



7. Are you aware of the careers team at WUC? (0 point)


[More Details](#)

 Yes	51
 No	



8. Are you aware of the student spotlight awards? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

 Insights

 Yes	38
 No	20

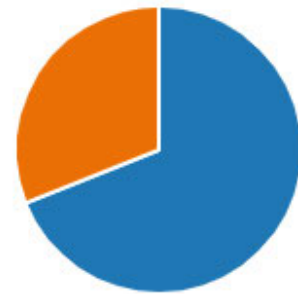


9. Do you feel a sense of belonging at WUC? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

 Insights

 Yes	40
 No	18



10. Have you received any well-being support at WUC? (0 point)

[More Details](#)

 Yes	26
 No	32

