



## Student Contract

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This contract sets out the terms and conditions of study on Pearson programmes offered by Weymouth College.
- 1.2 You are (or will be) enrolled with the College as a student on your programme. The College has full contractual responsibility to you for providing the programme with reasonable skill and care and in accordance with all applicable requirements. The College has primary responsibility for complying with your rights as a consumer under relevant consumer protection legislation.

### 2. Your Contract with the College

- 2.1 Before you accept an offer of a place at the College, you should check that the details in the offer are complete and accurate. If you have any queries, you should contact the College by email ([roz\\_osborne@weymouth.ac.uk](mailto:roz_osborne@weymouth.ac.uk)) or telephone (+44 (0)1305 764733).
- 2.2 When you accept an offer of a place and your contract with the College, you agree to be bound by the terms of this document and the College's regulations, policies and procedures (including the student handbook), any requirements notified to you by the College, any additional agreement that is required as part of your programme and the other documents referred to in this document. Accordingly, you should read this and the other documents carefully. They can be found on the College website.
- 2.3 For students who receive their offer directly from the College, your contract takes effect when you accept the College's offer of admission in accordance with the terms of your offer letter.
- 2.4 For students who receive their offer through UCAS, your contract takes effect either:-
  - 2.4.1 when you accept your offer as your "Firm Choice"; or
  - 2.4.2 if you accept your offer as your "Insurance Choice", when your "Insurance Choice" automatically becomes your "Firm Choice" (ie, because you do not achieve the required grades for your original "Firm Choice").

For HNC students who receive their offer via the College Admission process:

- 2.4.3 when you accept your offer online.

### 3. Immigration requirements

- 3.1 The College is under a legal obligation to ensure that all students comply with relevant visa or immigration requirements and they may report any non-compliance to the Home Office or UK Visas and Immigration (or any body that replaces it). The College may request information and documents from you to ensure that you are complying with any visa or immigration requirements. You must comply with such requests within a reasonable time (or

any specific timeframe stipulated by the College). If you do not meet any visa or immigration requirements, or if you fail to provide the necessary information within a reasonable time, the College may elect to terminate your contract (whether immediately or otherwise) and withdraw you from your course.

- 3.2** If you are a Tier 4 international student, you must familiarise yourself and comply with your specific attendance monitoring requirements as well as any other requirements specified in your visa. If you do not comply with the attendance, monitoring and other requirements for Tier 4 international students, with the conditions of your Tier 4 or any other visa, or with the United Kingdom's immigration rules, the College may withdraw you from your course and report you to the Home Office or UK Visas and Immigration (or any body that replaces it). Further information is provided on the College's website.

#### **4. Changes to your Programme or this Document**

- 4.1** If the College decides to make a significant change to your programme of study, the College will consult you in advance on the change, except where the change is required for regulatory or legal reasons, or on account of events beyond the College's control, in which case the College will notify you of this as soon as possible and the College shall try to minimise any adverse impact on you.
- 4.2** The College may change this document from time to time to comply with any legal or regulatory requirements.

#### **5. Your Programme of Study**

- 5.1** The College will provide you with education services (including teaching, learning and, where applicable, research opportunities; course materials and assignments; resources, facilities and support; and administration, enrolment, assessment, placement and other services) and related activities which the College considers appropriate for your programme. Details such as timetable and venue will be provided to you on or after your enrolment as a student.
- 5.2** You will need to participate fully in your programme. This will include attending and taking part in teaching, learning and/or research events included in your programme; meeting regularly with your supervisory team as appropriate; making proper use of all the resources available; and preparing and submitting work on time.
- 5.3** Some courses and units may require a specific level of attendance and your programme leader will outline these to you at Induction. You must comply with such requirements in order to progress with the course or to attain the appropriate award or qualification.
- 5.4** If you are undertaking a course which may be subject to attendance requirements specified by an employer, a professional or regulatory body or other party, you must comply with a detailed attendance policy which will be provided to you by the College.
- 5.5** If your record of engagement is considered unsatisfactory, you may be invited to a meeting to discuss how this issue can be addressed. If you do not attend the meeting (or any subsequent meeting arranged to deal with this issue) without good reason, the College may withdraw you from your course.

#### **6. Placements**

If your course or programme involves you undertaking a placement, you will be provided with further information by the College. The College will not be responsible for any acts or omissions of a third-party placement provider.

#### **7. Intellectual Property**

You will own and retain the rights to any intellectual property (such as copyright, trademarks and patents) that you create during the course of your studies or research activities, unless you agree otherwise with the College.

#### **8. Accommodation, Insurance, Funding and Immigration**

- 8.1** During your time as a student of the College, you should:-
- 8.1.1 arrange your own accommodation;

- 8.1.2 have adequate insurance for your own personal belongings (you are strongly recommended to obtain insurance against risks such as theft and damage) and, where appropriate, medical insurance;
- 8.1.3 arrange sufficient funding for all tuition, living and other fees and expenses arising from your studies. The College is not responsible for the decisions, actions or omissions of any independent funding providers (such as Student Finance England or any organisation that replaces it);
- 8.1.4 satisfy any applicable visa or other immigration requirements that apply from time to time, including any language competence requirements.

## **9. Your Personal Information**

**9.1** You agree that, during and after your time at the College, the College will hold and process your personal data (including sensitive personal data) in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

**9.2** The personal data held by the College will include information that you provide as part of the application and enrolment process, as well as necessary information which the College or will process whilst you are a student. The personal data will be held by the College to assist with (amongst other things):-

- 9.2.1 the normal functioning of the College (including general administrative and academic functions);
- 9.2.2 providing you with services and support;
- 9.2.3 managing student finances, collecting tuition fees and recovering outstanding debts;
- 9.2.4 taking disciplinary action, where appropriate;
- 9.2.5 the prevention of crime and disorder;
- 9.2.6 analysing student records to monitor quality and performance.

**9.3** The College may disclose personal data held about you to other parties, including the following organisations:-

- 9.3.1 your Local authority, council tax offices and electoral registration officers;
- 9.3.2 the Student Loans Company, the Local Education Authority and any relevant sponsoring body;
- 9.3.3 the Home Office, UK Visas and Immigration (or any body that replaces it), the Higher Education Statistics Agency and any professional and regulatory bodies;
- 9.3.4 the Police and other law enforcement agencies and emergency services;
- 9.3.5 debt collection agents, third party service providers and external research and survey organisations; and

This list is not exhaustive and the College may also disclose personal data held about you to other parties if it considers it to be in your vital interests to do so.

You can find out further information (including the circumstances in which your personal information is likely to be shared with other organisations) in the Data Protection section of the College website. This section may be updated from time to time to reflect legal or regulatory changes, or the general academic and administrative requirements of the College. The latest version of the section will apply to your contract with the College from the time when that section is published or updated.

**9.4** The College may record lectures and other educational events and activities in which you may be involved.

**9.5** The College may record or photograph you and other students for promotional and other purposes. Wherever possible, the College will notify you of this and provide an opportunity for you to request to be excluded from such activity.

**9.6** The College may check the accuracy of information held and processed with external sources or databases.

## **10. IT and Information Security**

**10.1** You must comply with all policies, rules and regulations in relation to the use of IT during the course of your studies and any IT or computer policy of the College in force from time to time (as set out on the College's website or Moodle VLE).

**10.2** By connecting to the IT network of the College, you are accepting all of the associated risks. This includes when you connect to the network with any of your own devices. The College will not be liable for any damage that is caused by your use of IT equipment and/or connection to the network of the College, except in the case of any foreseeable damage resulting directly from negligence or a failure to comply with this contract on the part of the College.

## **11. Health and Safety**

**11.1** The College will act in accordance with all health and safety legislation and regulations to provide a safe working environment for you during the course of your studies. This applies to all campuses and locations where staff and students may be working or studying.

**11.2** The College will monitor health and safety to ensure continuous improvement, to reduce the risk of an accident and to prevent injury and ill-health.

**11.3** The College will provide such information, instruction, training and supervision as is reasonably necessary to ensure the health and safety of its staff and students.

**11.4** You must make yourself familiar with all of the College's procedures and regulations relating to health and safety, including the College's health and safety policy (which is available on the College's website) and any specific rules that apply to your course or the building in which you are located. All health and safety procedures and regulations must also be followed when you are studying off campus. If you fail to follow health and safety procedures and regulations, the College may take disciplinary action against you.

**11.5** You must inform the College if you have any mobility issues or if there is any other reason which would affect your ability to follow any health and safety procedures or regulations. The College will make any reasonable adjustments and provide you with additional support to ensure your safety and wellbeing.

**11.6** If you have any queries in relation to your health, safety or wellbeing, you should contact the College.

## **12. Tuition Fees**

**12.1** Every student is charged a tuition fee for each year of their programme. Information on tuition fees (including the amounts and how to make payment) is included on the College's website. There are additional costs for some programmes. Please check the College's website for details of these.

**12.2** You must pay the tuition fees for your programme and any other charges you incur to the College by the due date. If a third party is paying these amounts on your behalf (such as Student Finance England or your Employer), you must make sure that payment is made on time.

**12.3** If your tuition fees are not paid in full on time, you may be referred to a debt collection agent, or you may not be allowed to re-enrol on a programme until all arrears have been paid. The College's student debt procedure within the Fees policy will apply (which is available on the College's website).

**12.4** If you raise what the College considers to be a genuine dispute regarding an invoice for tuition fees and notify the College of that dispute promptly after receiving the invoice, then, until the dispute has been resolved, the College will not exercise its rights to withdraw you from your programme.

### **13. Student Fee Status Classification**

The College applies government regulations to assess which fee rate should apply to each student.

### **14. The Liability of the College to You**

**14.1** If the College fails to comply with its contract with you, the College is responsible for any loss or damage you suffer that is a foreseeable result of the College's breach of contract or failure to use reasonable skill and care. Loss or damage is foreseeable if it is an obvious consequence of the College's breach or if it was contemplated by you and the College at the time the contract was entered into..

**14.2** The College excludes or limits its own liability for:-

14.2.1 death or personal injury caused by its own negligence or that of its own employees, agents or sub-contractors;

14.2.2 fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation; or

14.2.3 any other act or omission, liability for which may not be limited by law.

**14.3** Subject to paragraph 14.23, the College's total liability to you (whether in contract, tort (including negligence), breach of statutory duty, or otherwise), in connection with your contract with the College shall be limited to the value of the tuition fees paid by you or on your behalf or the amount, if any, that the College receives from its insurers in respect of a particular loss, whichever is the greater.

**14.4** The College will not be liable to you for any lost or unreturned work submitted for assessment. It is important that you follow any instructions from the College in submitting work and that you retain copies of work submitted.

**14.5** You will not be liable to the College for any failure or delay in performing your obligations under this contract which is due to any cause beyond your reasonable control. Similarly, the College will not be liable to you for any failure or delay in performing their respective obligations under this contract which is due to any cause beyond their reasonable control (including those circumstances described in paragraph 16.1 below).

### **15. How to Cancel or Withdraw**

**15.1** You have a statutory right to cancel your contract with the College under the Consumer Contracts Regulations 2013. If you wish to exercise this cancellation right, you must notify the College of your cancellation request within a 14 days' "cooling off" period, starting on the day after your contract with the College takes effect in accordance with paragraph 22.1.

**15.2** To exercise this right to cancel, you must provide the College with a clear statement setting out your decision to cancel your contract with the College.

**15.3** If any fees are due to be reimbursed to you under the terms of your contract with the College, or any policy of the College in force from time to time, the College will use the same payment method as you used to make your original payments.

### **16. Programme Changes in Circumstances outside the Control of the College**

**16.1** It may be necessary for the College to:-

16.1.1 revise the terms, content or delivery of programmes from those set out in the prospectus or relevant website; or

16.1.2 discontinue, suspend, merge or combine options within programmes; or introduce new options or programmes,

These circumstances may include the lack of availability of key personnel without whom the College cannot provide its services; over- or under-demand from students; lack of funding; the acts or omissions of placement providers and other third parties; cancellation of third party licences; changes in the requirements of a commissioning or accrediting body; strikes and other industrial action; and other events such as government restrictions, civil unrest, severe weather or failure of public or private communications networks.

- 16.2** If the services of the College are affected by an event referred to in paragraph 16.1, the College will give you as much notice as possible and:-
- 16.2.1 if an entire programme is cancelled before its start date and you have made any payments in advance, the College will take steps to provide you with an alternative programme or will refund those payments to you; and
  - 16.2.2 if part of a programme is cancelled (after its start date) or changed (either before or after its start date), the College will take steps to mitigate the effects on the services it provides to you (which may include providing you with an alternative programme).
- 16.3** The College also reserve their respective rights to cancel a programme or course before that programme or course starts in circumstances where:
- 16.3.1 an insufficient number of applications, offers or acceptances mean that the student experience cannot be guaranteed; or
  - 16.3.2 the programme or course is no longer viable for academic, regulatory, legal, commercial, financial or other reasons.

## **17. Termination of the Contract**

- 17.1** Apart from their other rights to terminate under the terms of this contract, the College y may terminate its contract with you with immediate effect by notifying you in writing, if you:
- 17.1.1 fail to pay any outstanding tuition fees;
  - 17.1.2 do not enrol on your course;
  - 17.1.3 are withdrawn from the College for any reason whatsoever;
  - 17.1.4 are convicted of a criminal offence; or
  - 17.1.5 commit a material breach or repeated breaches.
- 17.2** Your admission and continued registration at the College are also subject to:-
- 17.2.1 any requirements set out in the College's offer to you;
  - 17.2.2 any entry and attendance requirements relevant to your programme of study;
  - 17.2.3 payment to the College by the due date of the tuition fees for your programme and any other charges;
  - 17.2.4 any health, welfare, fitness to practice screening and criminal record checks which apply to your programme; and
  - 17.2.5 any immigration or visa checks and requirements that may apply from time to time.
- 18.3** Any offer made to you may be withdrawn or revised, and you may be withdrawn as a student of the College, if your application is found to contain information or omissions that are false or misleading.

## **18. Contact with the College**

- 18.1** If you wish to contact the College in writing or are required to give the College written notice of any matter, you can send this to the College by hand, by e-mail (e-mail address [roz\\_osborne@weymouth.ac.uk](mailto:roz_osborne@weymouth.ac.uk)) or by pre-paid post to [Roz Osborne, HE Registrar, Weymouth College, Cranford Avenue, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 7LQ]. The College will contact you in writing to confirm receipt of this.
- 18.2** If the College has to contact or notify you in writing, they will do so by e-mail to your College or personal e-mail account (as appropriate), or pre-paid post to the most recent contact address you provide to the College (as the case may be).
- 18.3** You must:
- 18.3.1 inform the College promptly of any changes in your contact details; and
  - 18.3.2 check your College and personal e-mail accounts regularly (at least once per day).
- The College is not responsible if you fail to read notices sent to you.

## **19. What if Something Goes Wrong?**

- 19.1** The College aims to provide high quality services to its students. Unfortunately, there may be an occasion where something goes wrong with your programme or during your time at the College. If so, you can bring a complaint or appeal in accordance with this paragraph. Whatever your complaint or issue, you can expect it to be dealt with promptly and fairly and in line with the College's published complaints or appeals procedures (as updated from time to time). Information about these procedures can be found in your student handbook, the College's website or Moodle VLE. You can also contact the College by e-mail on [judith\_russell@weymouth.ac.uk] or telephone on +44 (0)[1305 764841].
- 19.2** If you want to appeal on an academic matter (including an appeal against results or the decisions of subject assessment panels), this should be made in writing to the College Pearson Quality Nominee ([mike\\_sharples@weymouth.ac.uk](mailto:mike_sharples@weymouth.ac.uk)) who will offer guidance and advice on the procedure.
- 19.3** If you need to complain about your programme or the educational services provided to you, you can do so in accordance with the College's complaints procedure (as detailed from time to time in the Student Handbook).
- 19.4** Any alleged or suspected academic offence or academic disciplinary matter involving a student shall be subject to the College's procedures in force from time to time, as set out in its regulations (which are detailed on the College's website). Any request by the College for a student to be formally withdrawn from their programme for an academic disciplinary matter
- 19.5** You will not be treated less favourably or disadvantaged for making a complaint or appeal on an academic matter. If you are unable to resolve a complaint or appeal with the College, you may be entitled to refer the matter to the Office of Independent Adjudicator (or any organisation that replaces it). Please check the Office of Independent Adjudicator's website at [www.oiahe.org.uk](http://www.oiahe.org.uk) for further information. You may also be able to use the Online Dispute Resolution platform to assist in resolving a dispute relating to your programme which is available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/consumers/odr/>.
- 19.6** You have legal rights in relation to any College services which are not provided with reasonable skill and care. Advice about your legal rights is available from Citizens' Advice Bureaux or Trading Standards offices. Nothing in your contract with the College will affect these legal rights.

## **20. College Information**

- 20.1** The College is a further education college corporation established under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 and is empowered by section 18 of that Act to provide further and higher education. The College is an exempt charity under the Charities Act 2011.
- 20.2** The College is regulated by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and is subject to inspection by the Office for Standards in Education.

## **21. Other Important Terms**

- 21.1** If there is any conflict or inconsistency between this document and the other documents which form part of your contract with the College, the various documents will apply in the following order of priority:-
- 21.1.1 the College's offer to you;
  - 21.1.2 this document;
  - 21.1.3 the College's website and/or Moodle VLE;
  - 21.1.4 the provisions of the prospectus that applies to your programme; and
  - 21.1.5 any agreement relevant to your programme.
- 21.2** The College may transfer their rights and delegate their obligations under this document to another organisation. However, the College will always notify you in writing if this happens and will ensure that no such transfer or delegation will affect your rights under this document.

- 21.3** Your contract (of which this document forms part) is between you and the College. No other person shall have any rights to enforce any of its terms.
- 21.4** Each of the provisions of your contract operates separately. If any court or relevant authority decides that any provision is unlawful (in whole or part), it shall be deemed to have been modified to the minimum extent necessary to make it lawful and the remaining provisions will be unaffected and will remain in full force and effect.
- 21.5** If you are in breach of your contract and the College decides to waive that breach or refrains from, or delays in, enforcing its rights against you or requiring you to perform your obligations, that will not mean that the College has waived its rights against you for that or any other breach, nor that you have been released from those obligations.
- 21.6** This document is governed by English law. You and the College each agrees to submit to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.
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