

The Green Paper Project: Support and aspiration

West Cheshire College- Student President



Our organisation

West Cheshire College is a vocational college which provides courses in a wide variety of vocational areas from Entry level to level 3. HND and HNC qualifications and Foundation Degrees in a growing number of curriculum areas are also on offer. The college offer includes Professional qualifications and Access courses.

There are 2,400 full-time learners and over 17,000 part time learners. The college operate over two new campuses which have been specifically designed to offer innovative opportunities to learners and to equip them with the skills and knowledge necessary for work and higher education.

Our approach

The college employs a Student President for a one year term. Candidates put themselves forward during the summer term and canvass the student population, a cross-college vote takes place and there is a 'handover' period between the retiring President and the new President.

The Student Executive Committee is formed and officers are voted in – this body is represented at Governors meetings (usually by the President).

During induction Course Representatives for each course across college, are nominated and voted for by peers. The Course Representatives attend training delivered by the Student Union, Assistant Manager Quality and the Assistant Manager responsible for supporting the Union.

The Course Representatives main responsibilities are as follows:

- Hold meetings with their course groups to collect learner views
- Feedback to course team leaders (staff)
- Attend staff team meetings in the Curriculum areas
- Attend termly focus group meetings with the curriculum Assistant Manager to feedback learner views / concerns

- Attend Quality focus group meetings (two per year)
- Feed into Qualification Reports at the end of year

The Quality team feedback to Management meetings and the Corporation.

'You said, we did' information is reported back to Representatives and is publicised on screens around college.

For further views there are comment boxes around college.

Learner feedback is collected on a yearly basis and externally collated and nationally benchmarked.

The outcome and impact of the work

Learner voice continues to bring about ongoing development across the college, here are a few examples of the developments we've undertaken in response to learner voice;

You Said	We Did
You wanted more salads in the Port Café at Ellesmere Port Campus	We are trialling a Salad Bar
You wanted to be able to use your own laptops in College at Ellesmere Port Campus	Free wireless access is now available at both the Chester and Ellesmere Port campuses
The computer speed at the Chester Campus was slow when logging on	The operating system has been changed on all PCs
You wanted to be able to buy hot drinks before 8:30am at the Chester Campus	The café at Chester campus now opens at 8:15 for hot drinks.
When will the gym be available at Ellesmere Port Campus	The gym at Ellesmere Port campus will be open for membership from May 2012.