



Teaching & Learning Strategy

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1. REVISION HISTORY AND APPROVAL

Revision	Nature of change	Approval	Date
1.0	First Issue	JL	27/07/21

2. COMMITMENT TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

- 2.1. PCI College has a commitment to education, teaching and learning in a quality way.
- 2.2. Striving for excellence and high quality provision in order to support learners engagement in a meaningful, enhanced and progressive way is embedded in all PCI College practices.
- 2.3. In order to satisfy us as a training and education provider, we create and maintain relationships nationally and internationally with other training and education institutions in the field.
- 2.4. National collaboration with other training providers is evidenced by our institutional participation in the IACP Course Provider Meetings.
- 2.5. International collaboration with other training providers is evidenced by our institutional participation in Middelsex University collaborative partner meetings and trainings.
- 2.6. The PCI College commitment to teaching and learning is evident throughout its policies and procedures and within its Mission, Vision and Values, outlined below.
- 2.7. Teaching and learning principles and practices apply to all programmes across PCI College, including taught programmes, online, blended learning and transnational provision.
- 2.8. Robust and comprehensive quality assurance policies and procedures are in place to support all teaching and learning aims.
- 2.9. PCI College will ensure its teaching, learning, and assessment practices are accessible to all learners, through the implementation of a Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework to improve and optimise teaching and learning for all. This approach is embedded throughout our quality system.

3. PCI COLLEGE MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

- 3.1. PCI College's Mission Statement provides direction and intention for the institution and an aspirational goal form which effective, consistent and sustained leadership can provide direction for the work of the institution. With teaching and learning at the heart of its intentions, PCI College endeavours:
 - 3.1.1. "To make transformative contributions to individuals and society as the leading educational establishment in the field of mental health and wellbeing, contributing significantly towards excellence in contemporary academic knowledge and ethical practice within the helping professions in Ireland."
- 3.2. Vision & Values Statement
 - 3.2.1. The following values describe the foundation of PCI College. In achieving its Mission, PCI College will be a successful and profitable business, continuously expanding opportunities for the benefit of learners, staff and the community, and will:
 - 3.2.1.1. Become well established as a centre of excellence and innovation in Mental Health & Wellbeing and psychological education and training in Ireland.
 - 3.2.1.2. Be committed to, and renowned for the provision of high quality, inspiring, memorable, positive, professional and potentially life-changing learning experiences through participative, experiential programmes which value the prior lived experience of each learner.
 - 3.2.1.3. Become contributor and influencer within academic and professional sectors and be contemporary and responsive to the developing professional climate.
 - 3.2.1.4. Offer optimum experiences and opportunities in inclusive provision so that every learner will feel warmly welcomed, cared for, respected and supported, with focus on the needs of the adult learner and mature learner.

- 3.2.1.5. Be a place where learning and development accepts and values openness, honesty, diversity, freedom of expression and the sharing of experience.
- 3.2.1.6. Be an excellent employer, so that staff will be well supported, empowered, valued and respected, with clear and positive expectations of involvement, contribution, recognition and achievement.
- 3.3. The values underpinning the work of PCI College are explicit in the following key concepts:
 - 3.3.1. **Excellence** - striving for the highest quality in all that we do.
 - 3.3.2. **Accountability** - inviting scrutiny to maintain excellence in standards.
 - 3.3.3. **Ethics** - operating with integrity, honesty, empathy and respect, and including:
 - 3.3.3.1. Protection of, and respect for, freedom of belief.
 - 3.3.3.2. The free expression of ideas without fear or hindrance.
 - 3.3.4. **Nurture** - responsive support to enable individuals to maximise potential, including:
 - 3.3.4.1. Development of academic programmes that are relevant to the intellectual and vocational needs of individuals.
 - 3.3.4.2. Provision of educational opportunities for all those who can take advantage of the College's programmes and positive consideration of those groups traditionally under- represented in higher education.
 - 3.3.4.3. Commitment to the principle of life-long learning and the provision of opportunities for the personal development of all learners and staff.
 - 3.3.5. **Responsibility** - to learners, staff and the wider community, demonstrated in:
 - 3.3.5.1. The development of a caring organisation that emphasises openness, trust and cooperation.
 - 3.3.5.2. Commitment to the promotion and development of personal and social responsibility.
 - 3.3.6. **Diversity** - valuing and actively welcoming difference, shown in:
 - 3.3.6.1. Recognition and encouragement of the diversity of cultures and traditions within the PCI College campus and in the broader community.
 - 3.3.6.2. Commitment to equality of opportunity, regardless of age, colour, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or special needs.
 - 3.3.7. **Equality** - embedding transparency and fairness in all college procedures.
 - 3.3.8. **Collaboration** - prioritising consultative / collaborative work internally & externally.
 - 3.3.9. **Aspiration** - seeking out innovation and opportunity to maximise potential.

4. TEACHING AND LEARNING AIMS

- 4.1. All strategic decisions related to teaching and learning align to the PCI College Mission, Vision and Values and are outlined within the PCI College 5 Year Plan.
- 4.2. Validating and Accrediting body requirements are robustly adhered to across all programmes as relevant.
- 4.3. There are clear and transparent quality assurance and governance systems across all categories of PCI College operations and academic provision
- 4.4. External quality assurance is invited regularly and systematically.
- 4.5. Internal self-evaluation and review is ongoing.
- 4.6. Learner recruitment processes are fair and transparent.
- 4.7. Staff recruitment processes are fair, transparent and reflective of the needs of the programmes and the support required for learners.
- 4.8. Lecturer recruitment encapsulates the criteria as set by accrediting and validating bodies and emphasises the value of the practitioner lecturer in order to connect teaching and learning activities to the real world lives of the learners and to the profession.
- 4.9. Research to enhance teaching activities among learners and staff is valued and encouraged.
- 4.10. Clinical placement opportunities are quality assured, managed and monitored to support learner's engagement with the clinical requirements associated with programmes.

- 4.11. Staff and lecturers are supported in ongoing professional development opportunities to enhance the provision of teaching and learning activities.
- 4.12. There are effective methods of communication in place for learners
- 4.13. There are processes in place to ensure the design, implementation and review of new programmes are carried out in accordance with validating and accrediting body requirements.
- 4.14. Academic Programmes are regularly and systematically reviewed to ensure that:
 - 4.14.1. They remain relevant and up to date in relation to academic and industry standard, both nationally and internationally
 - 4.14.2. Programme and module aims are met appropriately
 - 4.14.3. Resources (libraries, portals, etc.) and teaching methods remain fit for purpose, representative of the most up to date and relevant pedagogical methods
 - 4.14.4. Teaching staff are suitably experienced and qualified
 - 4.14.5. The voice of the learner is accurately captured and responded to, including their right to complain and appeal
 - 4.14.6. Adequate support for learners is in place from an academic, pastoral and clinical perspective
 - 4.14.7. The diversity of learning styles is valued and captured within a myriad of teaching styles, methods and modes
 - 4.14.8. Experiential learning is highly valued to promote an environment that encourages learning through experiencing, opportunities for formative feedback and enhanced relationships between learners and lecturers
 - 4.14.9. Information available to learners is clear and accessible to all
 - 4.14.10. The learning environments and required facilities, both in person and online, PCI College owned or outsourced, are fit for purpose
 - 4.14.11. The assessments strategies, guidance and resources are clear, transparent and fit for purpose and encourage both independent and directed learning

5. LINKED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Quality Assurance System
