

Meeting **Student Panel**

Date **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023, 18:00-19:00, Zoom**

Attendees City Lit: Karin Kalfus (KK), Dragana Ramsden (DR), Wendy McKaig (WM)

Notes Student Panel Members: 10 panel members attended.

Notes Melanie Headley (MH)

Summary of discussions:

1.0	KK	Welcome & Ground rules
2.0	WM	<p><b>Exec update</b></p> <p><b>OFSTED inspection</b></p> <p>OFSTED inspection took place in May. A new aspect of the inspection is assessing how well a provider contributes to meeting skills needs. A team of 7 inspectors were on site for 1 week and undertook 13 deep dives. The college was graded as Outstanding against the separate judgement areas of the inspection framework:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality of education</li> <li>• Personal development</li> <li>• Behaviour and attitudes</li> <li>• Leadership and management</li> </ul> <p>The college was also found to have made a strong contribution to skills. The grade was welcome after the past 2 years of challenges. There will be no further inspections for another 5 years.</p> <p><b>Self-assessment</b></p> <p>In previous years, panel members have been involved in the college self-assessment process. Curriculum managers write departmental self-assessment reports and student panel members attended the moderation meetings to share their insights from a student perspective. Given the outcome of the OFSTED inspection, the curriculum managers will not be required to submit a report this year, therefore panel member participation will not be</p>

required. Structured professional meetings will be held to discuss highlights from the past year which will contribute to the college SAR.

## Capital projects

Department for Education funding has allowed for the following projects:

- Replacement of lighting throughout the college for an environmentally friendly and efficient system. The project is underway and will continue throughout the summer.
- Replacement of the goods and passenger lifts.

## Events

Several events have taken place across the college and in conjunction with external partners:

- Classics Day,
- Exhibitions, performances, weekly gallery shows.
- Learning Disabilities Education Department worked with the Royal Ballet to compose an original piece of work which was performed by the dance group and the inclusive choir. The performance took place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July.

## MP visits

Lilian Greenwood – Chair of the all party parliamentary group on deafness. Discussions centred around the provision of access and funding. 90% of deaf children are born to hearing adults. The ability to effectively communicate with their children by learning BSL to a high standard is critical. A student on a level 3 BSL course shared her story regarding the financial burden of funding (BSL) courses which allow her to communicate with her daughter and the constant struggle to gain access to a high standard of education (for her child). Lillian Greenwood hopes to put the issue of funding on the agenda for a commons debate at some point in the next session.

Margaret Greenwood – Chair of the all-party parliamentary group on adult education. She is key in ensuring that:

- adult education continues to be funded,
- looking at potential developments of the funding landscape,
- assessing which parts of the adult education sector are being appropriately funded,

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>investigating the potential introduction of a lifetime learning loan.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mental Wealth Festival</b></p> <p>The festival will be taking place in October, consisting of talks, events, and tasters.</p> <p><b>City Lit awards</b></p> <p>The City Lit awards ceremony will be taking place in November. It is an annual opportunity for tutors to nominate students and vice versa.</p>
3.0	KK	<p><b>Apply system – panel feedback</b></p> <p>The Apply system has been used by some areas for a while, whilst new to others. The system has been thoroughly tested by the departments. To support further improvement of the system, the panel were asked to test the system from a student perspective. Each panel member was assigned 2 applications for courses from different areas (School of Visual Arts and School of Skills, Employability and Wellbeing).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All but 2 panel members who participated in the testing could apply to at least 1 course.</li> <li>3 panel members applied and were offered a course.</li> </ul> <p>The test system will be kept open until Tuesday 1 August for those who have yet to test the system; please submit your notes by then.</p> <p>Following the testing KK will collate discussion notes from the meeting and student feedback, and this will be passed on to the development team.</p>
4.0		KK will confirm with individual panel members whether they wish to continue into the next academic year
5.0		Next meeting: November 2023. Date to be confirmed