



Student Partnership Agreement

2025-30

Introduction

The Student Partnership Agreement (SPA) is a joint statement that outlines our agreed priorities to enhance and enrich the student experience at West College Scotland.

As one of Scotland's largest regional colleges, with around 20,000 students, 800 staff it is a huge organisation and a major employer, uniquely placed to help shape the West region's educational landscape and contribute to its social and economic development.

The College delivers further and higher education across the West Region covering the main local authority areas of Renfrewshire, Inverclyde and West Dunbartonshire.

In addition, the College provides education to other neighbouring local authorities including East Renfrewshire, Argyll and Bute, Ayrshire, Lanarkshire and Glasgow.

The Students' Association (SA) is the representative organisation for students within West College Scotland. It is run by students for students and aims to maintain and improve the student experience and facilities, both within the College and on a national level through affiliated membership of the National Union of Students (NUS).

Membership of West College Scotland Students' Association is free and automatic to individual students studying here (both full-time & part-time).

This document is designed to formalise the existing commitment between both West College Scotland and the Students' Association. Both parties agree to work in partnership to support and enhance the student experience.



Signed on behalf on West College Scotland,
Principal and Chief Executive Officer, Anne
Campbell

Signed on behalf on West College Scotland, students,
Student President

Operational Context

The College and Students' Association have a strong commitment to ensuring the student voice is carried through every aspect of the College. Highlighted below are the ways in which students can engage with the College currently.

Student Association Officers

The Students' Association is a student-led organisation, managed by students for the benefit of the wider student community. The Sabbatical officers comprises of three part-time, campus-based Student Presidents, who are elected annually. These officers represent the student body and actively contribute to the College's governance through their participation on the Board and various operational committees.

Liberation Officers Liberation Officers serve as dedicated representatives for specific student communities within the College, including those who may face systemic barriers or underrepresentation. Appointed through an annual recruitment process, these officers bring informed perspectives and lived experience to their roles, enabling them to advocate effectively for the unique needs, interests, and challenges faced by the groups they represent.

Representation Each class is encouraged to elect both a Class Representative and a Deputy Class Representative. These students participate in regular meetings and contribute actively to feedback processes coordinated by the Students' Association and the College. Curriculum areas are further represented by Sector Representatives, who form part of the Student Representative Council and provide an essential link between students, academic staff, and institutional decision-making.



Surveys

The College actively promotes opportunities for students to provide feedback across all aspects of their student journey including academic resources, campus facilities, support services and learning and teaching practices. In addition, individual curriculum/support departments periodically will conduct bespoke surveys designed to address the specific priorities and needs of their respective areas.

Focus Groups

The College conducts focus groups with students on an ongoing basis throughout the year. Participants are carefully selected from the specific target audience pertinent to the focus group's subject matter to ensure relevance and meaningful engagement.

Partnership at West

The priorities outlined in the SPA are aligned with the College's strategy, the Students' Association operational plan, and ongoing areas of continuous improvement. Collaboration is fundamental to the success of the SPA and underpins all of the work we undertake.

Student Experience

We will work collaboratively to support the implementation of the new Learning, Teaching, and Student Experience Strategy by engaging in meaningful consultation with both staff and students. This approach ensures the strategy is closely aligned with, and contributes to the advancement of, the College's and Students' Association's priorities and initiatives

Collaboration

Development of a partnership working group comprised of key staff members and students, will foster collaboration and innovation in addressing feedback and develop effective solutions to issues raised. As part of its remit, the partnership working group will review the priorities of the Student Partnership Agreement annually ensuring continuous improvement and enhancement of the student experience.

Health & Well-being

The College and the Students' Association will work together with a people centred approach to improve the health and well-being of our staff and students. This will be achieved by regular collaboration and consultation between the wellbeing team and the Students' Association officers, ensuring a co-ordinated and responsive approach to community well-being

Representation

The College and the Students' Association are committed to ensuring that the Student Voice is effectively represented. This will be underpinned by the enhancement of the current student representation system and CPD opportunities to strengthen staff capacity in supporting effective student engagement.