

**ABERDEEN COLLEGE**

**DISSEMINATION OF GOOD PRACTICE IN THE CURRICULUM STRATEGY**

Revision Date: 23 January 2012

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## **DISSEMINATION OF GOOD PRACTICE IN THE CURRICULUM STRATEGY**

### **1.0 Introduction and Purpose**

- i) Aberdeen College is committed to providing the highest quality of learning and teaching opportunities for all students.
- ii) Aberdeen College is committed to engaging learners in enhancing their own learning by encouraging them to be effective contributors, confident individuals, responsible citizens and successful learners.
- iii) Aberdeen College recognises the need to identify good practice and to embed it as the required standard on all programmes. It is expected that the teaching staff of the College will continuously seek to improve their practice so that good practice becomes the norm and excellence is the aim.
- iv) Aberdeen College recognises that good and innovative practice can be identified and acknowledged through lesson observations, quality audits, peer observation, learner focus groups, course committees involving learners and other means. The challenge is to ensure that the high standard of learning and teaching identified through these approaches is provided universally in all areas of provision and for each student, irrespective of the mode of attendance or location.
- v) Aberdeen College recognises that the main challenge is the dissemination – not the identification – of that good practice.

### **2.0 The Strategy**

The main strands of the strategy are to:

- i) Ensure that all staff recognise good practice and apply it across the curriculum and in all modes of attendance.
- ii) Ensure that all staff understand the benefits of sharing good practice with colleagues.
- iii) Assist staff with the identification and dissemination of good practice.
- iv) Ensure that learners are engaged in the identification and promotion of good practice in learning and teaching.
- v) Facilitate good practice dissemination events for all staff.
- vi) Measure the extent to which the benefits of good practice dissemination are having a positive impact on learner progress and the achievement of relevant high quality outcomes.
- vii) Undertake lesson observation to ensure that good practice is implemented in each class group and in accordance with the needs of individuals within the group.
- viii) Ensure that individual members of staff take responsibility for embedding good practice in the learning and teaching experience of their students.
- ix) Ensure that technology is utilised fully to disseminate good and innovative practice across the curriculum.

### **3.0 The Methodology**

Good Practice Dissemination Events will be held for teaching staff and managers as follows:

- i) Good Practice in Learning and Teaching Events are held regularly throughout the year, comprising lecturers, instructors, PN Visiting Lecturers and Guidance staff as appropriate and are chaired by the Director (Curriculum and Learning) or by a Sector Manager.

- ii) The Curriculum Leaders' Good Practice Forum, comprising all Curriculum Leaders, meets twice each Block to disseminate good practice in learning and teaching. Curriculum Leaders who have identified good practice, make presentations to the group. This Group is chaired by the Director (Curriculum and Learning).
- v) Curriculum Leaders are fully involved in promoting good practice in identified curriculum areas.
- vi) Good Practice in the Curriculum events for learners, chaired by the Director (Curriculum and Learning) are held once each Block and encourage learners to identify good and innovative practice that can be captured and disseminated across the curriculum for the benefit of current and future learners.

#### **4.0 Further Opportunities to Disseminate Good Practice include:**

- (i) Student Discussion Groups are chaired by members of the Senior Management Team throughout the year. This is an opportunity for students to comment on their experience and where good practice is identified, this is included as an agenda item for dissemination at the regular Good Practice Dissemination Events with staff and managers.
- (ii) Learner Focus Groups are held with Senior Lecturers (Quality Improvement) from the start of the year to engage learners at the earliest stage in the identification of good practice in their learning and teaching and to seek their views on areas for improvement.
- (iii) Good Practice ideas discussed at Good Practice Events throughout the year can be accessed in the Knowledge Base section of AbNet.
- (iv) The Good Practice area in Blackboard collects examples of the effective use of the VLE from across all College teams and specific events are held twice per year to showcase staff whose use of the VLE is innovative and sector leading.
- (v) To complement the work of the Good Practice in Learning and Teaching Strategy, a Good Practice Forum for support staff, chaired by the Associate Principal (Student Support Services) meets regularly in recognition of the impact of student support services on the learner experience.
- (vi) The College works with colleagues in the school and university sectors to promote good practice in Curriculum for Excellence and participates in events hosted by Scotland's Colleges to disseminate good practice in Curriculum for Excellence within the College and across the Sector.

#### **5.0 Responsibilities**

- i) Director (Curriculum and Learning):
  - Provides overall leadership for the dissemination of good practice in the curriculum, in line with the College's Learning and Teaching Strategy
  - Chairs the Good Practice Events for Lecturers and Curriculum Leaders
  - Establishes the schedule of meetings at the start of each academic year
  - Approves the agenda and invites individuals to give innovative practice presentations.
- ii) Sector and Department Managers:
  - Ensure that good and innovative practice is fully embedded in areas of responsibility
  - Ensure that Curriculum Leaders and lecturers attend the appropriate Good Practice Dissemination Events.
  - Participate as required in a range of good practice events.
- iii) Curriculum Leaders:
  - Identify good practice in learning and teaching and present this to colleagues
  - Ensure good practice is fully embedded in the curriculum
  - Present innovative practice to lecturing staff as required
  - Engage with learners to identify good practice in learning and teaching.
- iv) Lecturers and Instructors:
  - Participate fully in Good Practice Events throughout the year
  - Ensure good practice is fully embedded in the learning experience of each student.