

Access and Participation Statement

Introduction

JFC Training College is an alternative provider for further education located in Woolwich, South East London. The College intention is to offer high quality and flexible learning programmes easily accessible to all students who have the ability to benefit from them and to empower people to make personal changes to meet the demand in the local community.

The mission of JFC is to be “A trainer of excellence for excellence by being an outstanding and responsive college” in providing high quality education and training that responds to the needs of the individuals in the local community.

The college operates from Woolwich, which is an ethnically diverse ward of Royal Borough of Greenwich. It has extremely diverse economic, social and cultural mix of people. 58% of residents were born in the UK with 75.1% speak English. 42.4% are White, 32.9% Black and 16.8% Asian and an overall BME population of 65.6%. The majority of the residents are economically active (68.8%) and over half (50.4%) are educated at level 2 or below. The Index for Multiple Deprivation (2015) indicates a borough ranking of 50th.

Access and Participation Priorities

JFC Training College is committed to developing participation into Higher Education, and we will provide a supportive learning environment for students from a wide range of backgrounds and will develop full and part time Higher National Certificate and Diploma courses. This flexible approach will enable access to higher education for people in the local community who need to continue to work and for students who need a differentiated learning approach.

JFC Training College develop programmes with flexible entry requirements, wherever possible, this includes recognizing the value of work experience for mature students to ensure higher education is accessible to a widening participation demographic. This will allow the college to attract students from all social and cultural backgrounds.

JFC Training College is fully committed to promoting equal opportunity in respect of student recruitment and admissions, in consideration of students meeting the entry requirements.

Flexible Approach of Study

The college flexible approach of learning means that programmes are designed to facilitate flexible delivery. This enables students in employment to attend on a part time basis, for example; evening or weekend lessons. Full time delivery is also planned in a way that students are not required to attend across a number of days. This flexibility means students are able to work and therefore maintain an income whilst studying.

Access for disabled students

It reflects on our commitment to diversity, as far as practically possible to accommodate disabled students in the college. The college has taken numbers of measures towards full access of disabled student by making the premises accessible to mobility impaired students. There is a large screen set out which can accommodate specialized software for visually impaired students, there is funding set aside to accommodate special arrangements which may be required. JFC recognize that the proportion of the potential student population in the local community is still under represented and as such this will be a key area to address.

Participation

It is within the college strategic objective to create an inclusive learning environment which is committed to celebrating diversity. This is based on the following:

Respect:

- respect for learners and their academic needs
- respect of stakeholders and their opinion
- respect industry needs and challenges

Affordability

- affordability in terms of cost of learning and training to students
- affordability in terms of flexibility of access to learning resources

Commitment

- commitment to the vision and mission of the College
- commitment to the students welfare and safety
- commitment to staff training and development
- commitment to timely, fair and constructive assessment or feedback

Excellence

- excellence by demonstrating evidence of quality teaching staff, facilities and services
- excellence through self reflection and peer reviews
- excellence through continuous improvement

JFC will make every effort to ensure that the retention and achievement rate is well above national benchmark, this will be achieved through ensuring students are able to access appropriate and ongoing support for both academic and non-academic throughout their student journey. The college is fully committed to implementing an inclusive learning environment which allows students to feel safe and confident.

Digital Support

Student learning journey will be supported through availability of online course resources and digital library, including use of Virtual Learning Environment.

Engagement with the Public

The college will contribute to the local community through education and its support; this will be seen as a key part of the access and participation programme as we identify our accountability to actively engage with the community that we serve. It enables us to develop solid relationships with the local employers and other organizations. This gives students advantage on our public engagement in regards to industry experience and new perspectives.

Partnership Working

The college will seek to work in partnership with other organisations that have similar approaches and strategies to create more opportunities for our students and for local community. For example, to participate with another college to offer HNC/HND programmes, this will allow JFC to accommodate the demand of the programme.

JFC Training College will seek to involve in hosting community events in Woolwich with local community leaders to promote collaboration, develop relationships and gain feedback on industry trends and its provision.

Student Voice

JFC Training College works in partnership with students. The approach taken is that all students attend meetings, and not just student representatives attend meetings with the management. This gives students the opportunity to have a say, be involved in consultations and enhance the student learning experience.

Evaluation

The college will evaluate the demographics, details and patterns in its student recruitment, achievements and progression as evidence to ensure that access and outreach are effective and successful. The progress will be reported to Senior Management Team and will ensure that each and every student admitted to the college is rightly provided with all the support needed that empowers them to succeed in their chosen subject of study.