MORLEY COLLEGE LONDON

Student Engagement Policy

POLICY OWNER: Vice Principal (Student Engagement)
FINAL APPROVAL BY: Governing Body

Policy Category: Student
Approved by Policy Committee: 23 May 2024
Approved by Governing Body: 15 July 2024
Review Date: 31 July 2026

1. Introduction, Purpose and Scope of Policy:

1.1 At Morley College London, our Student Engagement Policy embodies our commitment to a culture of inclusion for all. At the heart of this policy is a recognition that students are essential partners in shaping their whole college experience. Through meaningful engagement opportunity, we commit to working with all students to empower the student body to share their perspectives, talents, and aspirations to both the individual and collective journey of learning.

1.2 Morley College London is committed to its mission to empower individuals and strengthen communities through the transformative impact of learning and recognises that this can only be achieved through a commitment to, and the close involvement of, its student body.

1.3 This policy provides the framework in which the College seeks to engage students in its curriculum development and business operations.

2. Equality and Diversity Analysis Screening:

2.1 In accordance with the College's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Statement, the development of this policy complies with the Equality Act 2010 in ensuring due regard to eliminating discrimination, advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations.

2.2 An equality analysis has been completed to ensure the policy does not affect different groups protected from discrimination.

3. Applicability:

3.1 This policy applies to all students enrolled in programs and courses offered by Morley College London, prospective applicant students and alumni students, and those who work with them directly and otherwise. Therefore the policy absolutely applies to all staff in a student centred space (the college) and should influence how they all operate. Decisions should not only consider the impact upon students but consider "what will students say" in response to strategic and local decisions.

3.2 The policy encompasses both accredited and non-accredited course types and any activities that contribute to overall student well-being and development.

4. Definitions:

4.1 *Student Engagement* refers to the various opportunities through which students can actively participate and collaborate with the College, through course-based and College-wide extracurricular activities, in turn contributing to a holistic learner experience and a richer education experience at Morley College London.

5. Statutory and regulatory requirements:

5.1 This policy has been drafted in accordance with the Office for Students Conditions of Registration, and taking into consideration the best practice advice from Ofsted that student voice will be central to College considerations.

6. Policy Objectives:

6.1 This policy aims to provide Student Engagement activities within the College that will:

- Engage students through partnership, working to support enhancements, innovation and transformation, driving improvements to the experience of students;

- Foster active student participation in the learner voice, engagement and the Quality Enhancement Framework;
- Support the Quality Enhancement Framework through the representation of students drawn from the Student body into college committees, the Student Council and selected student representatives on the Governing Body;
- Implement transparent mechanisms, agreed with students, for the nomination and election of student representatives;
- Monitor, review and enhance through mechanisms outlined within this policy.

7. Policy Statement

7.1 The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and expectations for fostering active student engagement within Morley College London, for all sites of learning and teaching and for all learner types.

7.2 The College believes a vibrant and engaged student body is essential for creating a positive learning environment, promoting success and achievement, and fostering a sense of community within all aspects of the work of Morley College London.

8. Implementation of Policy:

8.1 *College and College Staff responsibilities.*

The College and its staff are responsible for creating a supportive and inclusive learning environment that encourages student participation and interaction.

8.1.1 Curriculum staff will employ diverse teaching strategies to maximise achievement opportunities for the learner, promoting maximum student engagement in the learning process.

8.1.2 In communication with students, the college will employ diverse methods which reflect the student body and multiple methods to engage different learner types with college messaging and engagement opportunities.

8.1.3 Staff responsibilities may vary according to learner type and centre. The feedback mechanisms in section 8.6 will connect directly to roles and responsibilities of particular staff.

8.1.4 In team meetings at a minimum of half-termly, all colleagues at Morley College London will regularly consider the impact of their decision making upon student engagement.

8.2 *Student responsibilities.*

8.2.1 Students are expected to actively participate in all enrolled learning opportunities provided by Morley College London as part of the learning agreement.

8.2.2 Attendance, as laid out in the attendance policy, is paramount for baseline student engagement.

8.2.3 To take appropriate and respectful advantage of engagement opportunities which should include but is not limited to the opportunities outlined in section 6.

8.2.4 To engage in focus groups created with the sole purpose of improving the student experience (linked to 8.1.4). For example: Student facing course guides, revisions to application and enrolment processes, and new student induction.

8.3 *The promotion of enrichment.*

Morley College London will actively promote and support a variety of enrichment activities, including clubs and societies, learning and development activities outside of the immediate curriculum area, events, exhibitions, trips and visits to provide students

with opportunities for personal and professional development as part of a rich and diverse wider curriculum.

8.3.1 Curriculum teams to outline through team meetings and annual planning processes what aspects of their provision may be adapted as enrichment for learner groups from other areas of the college.

8.3.2 Student experience staff to engage with organisations that provide opportunities not found in the college.

8.3.3 Marketing and communications to internally promote alongside technological support such as student engagement software.

8.4 *Technology and technological developments.*

Morley College London will leverage technology to enhance student engagement and experience, providing online resources and activities to support engagement which should include but are not limited to the following:

- Online discussion/feedback forums which reflect opportunities outlined in section 6.
- Student engagement interactive platforms and apps that provide clear and accessible opportunities for the sharing of information and for student engagement.
- To remain current in engaging with and to be mindful of, technological advances as they emerge. eg: Artificial Intelligence.

8.5 *Mechanisms for feedback.*

Morley College London will provide an accessible range of opportunities for feedback, and will encourage all students to participate, highlighting the importance of their contribution to the College. The mechanisms of feedback should include, but are not limited to, the following:

- On course/in-class engagement and discussion.
- Timely election of appropriate class representatives.
- Course based quality fora to feed into departmental and centre wide student fora.
- Programme Management Committees and wider curriculum feedback.
- Learning visits and lesson observations.
- Student Council and Student Governor Posts.
- Student membership of college committees.
- Student participation in the recruitment of staff (lesson observations)
- Enrichment and the planning thereof.
- Work experience and the planning thereof.
- Student surveys
- Public facing events, exhibitions and open days/evenings.
- The friends of Morley
- Governor engagement visits

8.6 *Recognition and Reward.*

Morley College London will recognize and reward students who actively contribute to the course based, broader educational journey and social aspects of the college community through awards, bursaries and scholarships when available, and other forms of celebratory acknowledgment.

8.7 *Inclusive Practice.*

Morley College London will actively take the necessary steps to ensure that student engagement initiatives are inclusive and accessible to all, taking into consideration all aspects of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and supported by the EDI steering group.

Feedback on matters of EDI will be actively sought through the channels outlined in section 8.5.

8.8 *Continuous Improvement***.**

Morley College London and its staff will regularly assess and review the effectiveness of student engagement initiatives, making adjustments as needed to meet the evolving needs of the student body and broader college community.

8.8.1 Morley will adopt and promote "You said-We did" as a demonstration of listening and responding to all students, in order to capture key issues and common themes arising from the feedback mechanisms outlined herein.

8.8.2 These include any issues of high risk pertaining to a specific student or groups of students (e.g. student safety, welfare, achievement) that require immediate intervention and action by the relevant Vice and/or Centre Principal or Professional Service lead.

8.8.3 This cross-college approach is led by the Vice Principal (Student Engagement), working with Senior Leadership Team colleagues.

8.8.4 To manage and monitor feedback processes to ensure "You said-We did" is an effective mechanism that serves students' interests, Morley maintains a termly process of:

- 'Listening' to student evaluation and feedback available from the various types of engagement referenced herein.

- Analysing to discern common themes or issues of high risk (i.e. student safety, welfare, achievement)

- Agreeing recommended actions within relevant committees, Student Council and governors.

- Communicating with the college community (staff and students) in a timely manner on the actions taken, led by the Student Services Team.

9. Communication and Training:

9.1 This policy will be available to all staff via the College's intranet and will be publicly available on the College website.

9.2 Training and communication opportunities will be undertaken to ensure that all members of the College are aware of their roles and responsibilities in promoting student engagement.

9.3 Student engagement practices will follow those outlined in the EIF notwithstanding that the opportunities for engagement are a significant factor in providing students with opportunities for Personal and Professional Development.

10. Monitoring and Reporting:

10.1 This policy will be regularly reviewed by the policy owner to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness. Any necessary revisions will be made in consultation with relevant stakeholders. It will be formally reviewed every two years by the College's Policy Committee.

10.3 The implementation of the Student Engagement Policy will be monitored by the College Student Voice sub-committee and the Curriculum and Quality Committee of the Governing Body.

11. Related References, Policies, Procedures, Forms and other Appendices:

- [Safeguarding and Prevent Policy for Young People and Vulnerable Adults](#)
- [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Statement](#)
- [Complaints Policy and Procedure](#)
- [Attendance and Punctuality Policy](#)

Version History

Date	Nature	Details
Nov 2023	Review of Policy	Redrafting of policy as part of 4yr review cycle.