



Writtle  
University  
College



Erasmus+

## Writtle University College Erasmus Policy Statement January 2018

The Erasmus Policy Statement below, sets out our institutional strategy in relation to the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education and its aims to support European modernisation and internationalisation agendas in Higher Education, in particular the quality of student and staff mobility.

Writtle University College is a highly distinctive, specialist institution offering an inspiring portfolio of Higher Education subject areas designed to meet the needs of an ever-evolving global community. We are committed to international excellence through the creation of world-relevant research, working alongside our international partners, encouraging mobility of knowledge and skills and by providing high quality, inspirational teaching within an inclusive academic culture. At the heart of our value system is a commitment to provide an inclusive and welcoming community; a culture of quality delivery and performance; and a spirit of cooperation.

These core values expressed in our Strategic Plan underlie our approach to international engagement. We will explore and welcome opportunities to collaborate with other international education providers where strategic alliances will add value to the student experience through forging formal links. We also will welcome joint delivery of programmes to provide students with a wider choice of learning experience and styles, and access to a wider range of facilities and services.

All successful partnerships are the result of shared commitment to, and mutual benefit from, the relationship. Many of our partnerships stem from individual links developed over some period of time between academic staff. Others have been introduced through existing partners or other networks. The academic distinctiveness and mode of applied-learning that sets us apart from many competing universities in the UK is an appropriate incentive for seeking partnerships with similar institutions abroad that share a common goal to grow international collaboration.

The student experience is at the heart of the University College's strategy and values, and we acknowledge that both cultural and academic enrichment are the ethical endeavour of universities, and are essential requirements in shaping life skills and professional competency in future generations. While maintaining our existing geographical priorities (in European countries and in South Korea and Japan), we are eager to explore new and beneficial opportunities with institutes outside our current zone of influence. As part of our student recruitment programme we actively promote international mobility through various published literature and at in-country education fairs. We also have strong links to the British Council in a number of key countries and have recently forged links with the Department of International Trade and the Enterprise Europe Network, who have representatives worldwide.

Through our commitment to quality student and staff mobility, we will seek to increase and improve the opportunities we can offer to our students, as part of our portfolio of degree programmes. For instance, with international study tours and work placements. We also encourage and support international student internships during their summer breaks.

In all our international activities we recognise the importance of monitoring and evaluating regularly student experience and progress as well as benchmarking against competitors, in order to inform and influence our future practice, policy and strategy.

We envisage that the impact of the European Union's Modernisation and Internationalisation Agenda in Higher Education will be seen at Writtle University College in each of the five priority areas:

### **1. Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs**

By investing in our academics, with a focus on the mobility of staff to broaden their knowledge and experience, we demonstrate we are committed to increasing the attainment levels of our graduates. Our Student Support services team offer guidance for students to enhance their wellbeing and in turn give them every chance to increase their academic success.

### **2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education**

We work closely with industry to create and deliver degrees which produce global intelligent citizens, trained well for delivering effective solutions to problems.

### **3. Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border collaboration**

We encourage our staff and students to learn from others, working alongside our partners and respecting their views and practices, thus broadening and deepening the knowledge and experience of both staff and students in matters related to culture, different education systems, qualifications and processes so that our student experience on campus can be reviewed and improved.

### **4. Higher Education, research and business for excellence and regional development**

We work with real-life case studies and closely with regional and international industry experts to strengthen the links and relevance of academic theory to practice.

### **5. Improving governance and funding**

We continue to seek funding in a number of diverse ways, through new partnerships and activities. We place importance on our third stream income and are committed to re-investing funds across the University College in line with the core values of our Strategic Vision.