



UK Educational Partnerships Strategy 2018-2021

Strategic Vision:

To enhance the sustainability of the University of Worcester as an expanding and successful University through a coherent network of high quality UK collaborative partnerships.

Strategic Approach

1. The University will have a targeted, proactive approach to partnership working, based on evidence and market information;
2. The University will develop and implement individual strategies to support the growth of the key partnerships which deliver the majority of the partnership income;
3. The University will consolidate and enhance existing partnerships alongside developing a small number of new large scale partnership opportunities;
3. The University will forge new partnerships only where such a partnership will address strategic priority (i) and at least one of the priorities listed under (ii)
 - (i) Enable the delivery of the strategic aims and values of the University
 - (ii) Support successful, financially viable and sustainable educational provision relating to:-
 - Either - two or more schools
 - Or - one school with several courses
 - Or - a niche area
 - Or - apprenticeships

Provide significant student progression to UW
Facilitate widening participation
4. Any new partnership proposal will be mindful of any new national agenda or Government initiatives which may impact on the University's priorities;
5. There will be two types of UW educational partnership engagement, which relate to
 - Academic Partnership (Education provision under a Partnership Agreement)
 - Non-academic Partnership (Memorandum of Collaboration)
6. Reputation and quality outcomes will be important considerations for all partnerships; however, the University will only enter into Academic Partnerships with organisations which can demonstrate appropriate academic, financial and legal standing;

7. The process for becoming a partner will be proportionate, transparent and timely. A Non-Academic Partnership will follow a standard process at school level; however, agreement for an Academic Partnership will follow the enhanced due diligence and approval process in accordance with University policy and overseen by the University's Academic Quality Unit;

8. Academic Partnerships will be formally agreed by Academic Board following recommendation by ASQEC.

Criteria for Partnership:

All University of Worcester Educational Partnerships will:-

1. Create positive and life/career enhancing opportunities for students;
2. Offer clear mutual benefits to both UW and the partner;
3. Be financially viable and sustainable for both UW and the partner;
4. Enhance the profile of both UW and the partner.

Academic partnerships will:-

1. Provide high quality HE opportunities for students who do not want to, or are unable to, access a local university;
2. Extend and enhance the academic offer of UW;
3. Extend the geographic recruitment footprint of UW;
4. Protect existing UW provision from current or emerging competitors;
5. Raise awareness of UW and increase progression to UW;
6. Increase the diversity of the UW student community.

Non-academic partnerships will:-

- Either Increase progression to UW
- Or Facilitate employer engagement for work experience or Apprenticeships

Date approved	<i>17th October 2018</i>
Approval Authority	<i>Academic Board</i>
Date of Commencement	<i>November 2018</i>
Amendment Dates	
Date for Next Review	
Related Policies, Procedures, Guidance, Forms or Templates	
Guidance superseded by this version	