

17. Self-Evaluation, Monitoring & Review

Version	Description of Amendments	Approval Date	Implementation Date
1.0	Original Draft copy of QA Guidelines	18/05/2018	18/05/2018
2.0	Re-engagement process		
2.1	Addition of table to track changes made to individual policies and procedures.	01/05/2023	01/06/2023
2.2	17.3 added Evaluation of Blended Learning Programmes	16/10/2023	3/11/2023
	New section 17.3.1 description of evaluation of BL	16/10/2023	3/11/2023

Policy Title **Self-Evaluation, Monitoring and Review**

Date Approved 17/12/2018

Effective From 02/01/2019

Monitor Dean of Academic Affairs / QA Committee

Summary This policy details how the College will review its provision of education programmes, both on an on-going basis and periodically.

Related Policies

Revision History & Commencement Version 1 – 2019
Version 2.2 - 2023

Date & Date of Next Review Commencement Date (Version 1): 02/01/2020

Date of Next Review: Following Independent Assessment from Re-engagement process

Purpose The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the College has structure to the review of its administration, operations and management of education and that the concept of reviewing what the College does is embedded in its structure.

Scope This policy covers review of all validated programmes and their associated quality assurance of the College.

Policy Statement The College recognises the importance of reviewing what it does and the need to ensure that such review mechanisms are embedded into its quality assurance structures. Therefore, this policy provides such structure and delineates between the ongoing review mechanisms and periodic reviews.

17.1. Internal Self-Monitoring

Internal Self-Monitoring in the College is an ongoing process that focuses on specific indicators. The data for this monitoring is collected on an ongoing basis. Preliminary or supplemental statistics or reports are derived from this data regularly, to inform day-to-day decisions of the College. The use of this data also culminates in the production of formal Annual Monitoring Reports.

The specific quality indicators that the College uses for its Internal Self-Monitoring are:

- Learner satisfaction ratings, derived from learner surveys.
- Learner services satisfaction ratings, derived from learner surveys.
- Completion/certification rates, derived from broadsheets.
- Grade analysis, derived from broadsheets.
- Attendance rates, derived from monitored attendance.
- Graduate employability, derived from graduate survey.
- Library usage, derived from annual library report.

17.2. Internal Self-Monitoring Report

These quality indicators culminate in the production of an Annual Monitoring Report for each programme. The production of these reports is led by the Dean of Academic Affairs, with information provided by the owner of each quality indicator.

An Annual Monitoring Report will:

- Assess the performance of the College against stated objectives (set out in the previous Annual Monitoring Report).
- Outline recommended objectives for the improvement of the College's quality assurance policies and procedures.
- Prioritise the stated recommendations.

The Dean of Academic Affairs presents the Annual Monitoring Reports to the Academic Council, who discusses the recommendations outlined in each. The AQC will then agree a Quality Improvement Plan, which sets out the areas of improvement for the College for the upcoming year. These areas of improvement will be derived from all the Annual Monitoring Reports, and each will have an assigned owner and schedule as to when the associated action should be complete.

17.3. Self-Evaluation

The College's Self-Evaluation is focused on the impact to learners rather than specifically on a review of policies and procedures. Self-Evaluation has a broader purview than Internal Self-Monitoring, as it requires the College to engage with external stakeholders and has a broader and more systematic



focus. The College will ordinarily engage in a self-evaluation every three years, or more frequently if requested by the Academic Council.

Self-Evaluation will also culminate in a report and improvement plan. However, the focus of the report and improvement plan will be more systematic. They will reflect on the College's operations and how the College should function going forward. The Academic Council will review and action appropriate recommendations from the Self-Evaluation Report.

The Self-Evaluation Report will consider, amongst other things, the following:

- The continued viability of the programmes that the College offers.
- The strategic direction of the College.
- New programme development of the College in line with the stated strategic direction.
- Evaluation of blended learning programmes
- Staffing of the College and areas for additional staffing needs.
- Investment in College facilities.
- The established industry links of the College.
- The learning environment for the learner.
- The teaching & learning philosophy of the College.

17.3.1. Self Evaluation of Blended Learning Programmes

Dorset College has identified additional requirements that must be included in the design, development, approval, monitoring and review of Blended Learning Programmes. The programmes must be regularly reviewed, updated, and improved using feedback from relevant stakeholders (e.g. learners, academic staff, and industry members). Specifically, Dorset College must review:

- The effectiveness of integration between online and face-to-face components
- The outcomes of programmes delivered by Blended Learning
- Learning resources, materials and delivery mechanisms delivered online or with an online component
- All materials and media used to deliver online learning
- Blended and online-specific learner support
- The effectiveness of the technology and technological infrastructure, including its ease of use and adequacy
- The effectiveness with which the programme actively engages learners with their lecturers, each other and with their learning

The criteria stipulated in this section must be considered during the 5-year cycle of programmatic review of Blended Learning Programmes or Programme components and included in the Programme Evaluation Report.

Similarly, during Dorset College's institutional review, consideration must be given to how Dorset College complies with regulatory requirements including QQI Policies and guidelines. Therefore, the Institutional review must include a review of the effectiveness of our Blended Learning Policy.

17.3.2. Procedure for Self Evaluation

	Procedure Stage	Responsibility	Evidence
1	<p>Purpose of Self-Evaluation: The Academic Council will agree on the commencement of a Self-Evaluation and nominate an individual/team/Lead to lead this. The scope and purpose of the Self-Evaluation will also be agreed and specified by the Academic Council.</p>	Academic Council	Scope and Purpose of Self-Evaluation
2	<p>Appointment of Self-Evaluation team: The lead of the self-evaluation will coordinate a team to conduct the self-evaluation.</p>	Coordinator of Self-Evaluation	
3	<p>Stakeholder Engagement: The Self-Evaluation team will engage with an array of external and internal stakeholders to attain a holistic assessment of the College under the agreed scope and purpose.</p>	Self-Evaluation Team	Notes on Stakeholder Engagement
4	<p>Review of Internal Reports: The Self-Evaluation Team will review internal reports produced by the College for other purposes (e.g. Annual Monitoring) to help assess the performance of the College, learner feedback etc.</p>	Self-Evaluation Team	Notes on Internal Reports
5	<p>Self-Evaluation Report: The Self-Evaluation Team will then prepare the Self-Evaluation Report. Ordinarily, a single person will write the report to ensure consistency and coherence, although the team will collectively contribute. The report will consider its scope and purpose (which will be derived from the Self-Evaluation Policy), through data-informed assessment (derived from stakeholder engagement and review of the internal reports).</p>	Self-Evaluation Team	Self-Evaluation Report
6	<p>Consideration of Recommendations: The Self-Evaluation Report will be considered by the Academic Council, who will action items for development under its purview or recommend actions to the Senior Management Team where an action requires the approval of both.</p>	Academic Council	Minutes of Academic Council



17.4. Review of Self-Evaluation, Monitoring and Review Policies and Procedures

The College will review the Self-Evaluation, Monitoring and Review policies and procedures on an annual basis. This review will assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the policies and procedures.

The following individual(s) will be involved in this review:

- Dean of Academic Affairs
- Leads
- Quality Assurance Lead
- 1 Learner