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Quality Assurance Handbook

SETANTA COLLEGE

Section 12: Other Parties Involved in Education and Training



SETANTA
College

12.1 Policy on Other Parties involved in Education and Training

12.1.1 Definition

Setanta College engages with other sport and exercise Colleges and Universities to promote the values and principles of physical fitness and athletic development education for its Learners/Learners. Collaboration implies that the College works with another educational institution to promote education programme connections between both institutions.

12.1.2 Purpose

The purpose of engaging in active partnerships in both education and within sport coaching industry is to advance the standing of the College both nationally and internationally. Further through its partnerships the College is in a position to ensure that it maintains currency and keeps up to date in relevant aspects of sports coaching and performance science.

12.1.3 Scope

The policy relates to all partnerships that Setanta College has in place and guides through its strategic plan for future partnerships.

12.1.4 Policy Statement

Setanta College has over time developed a working relationship with a number of education and industry partners. Establishing such partnerships fits within the overall vision and mission of the College as it sets about establishing itself as a leading education provider within human performance and sports science research, training and education.

12.1.5 Educational Partnerships

In partnership with Limerick Institute of Technology, Setanta College supports the delivery of the Bachelor of Science in Strength and Conditioning (S&C), a 4 year full-time programme offered at the LIT campus in Thurles.

Setanta College supports the full-time Bachelor of Science in Sports Strength and Conditioning which is delivered at the University of South Wales (USW).

Setanta College and Irish American University (American College Dublin) formally begun a partnership on a level 9 Master of Science programme in Performance Coaching which is accredited through the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

The role of Setanta College within these educational partnerships is initially to provide a complete range of module content and support to both partners. In addition, Setanta College had at the early stages an active role in the selection and provision of suitably qualified lecturing personnel. Setanta College is currently expanding its support role to include other international educational bodies and this also fits with its vision of being a leading provider of

strength and conditioning and human performance education through both direct delivery and through blended learning.

These partnerships assist the College in advancing its profile as both a national leader in human performance and sports science research, training and education and as an international provider in partnership with other educational bodies.

12.1.6 External Collaborations

a. National Strength and Conditioning Association

The National Strength and Conditioning Association is recognised as the global body that oversees the professional standing of strength and conditioning related programmes and qualifications. The NSCA is based in Colorado USA. It has over 50,000 members worldwide who are certified members of the NSCA. Their flagship membership is the Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS). This is a required certification for any professional who seeks to gain employment in the USA in particular. All professionals who seek to take the CSCS examination are required to have the equivalent of a Level 7 or higher academic qualification.

Setanta College is recognised as an education recognition provider of programmes of study by the NSCA within the field of strength and conditioning. Thus, graduates attaining a Setanta College degree are entitled to complete the CSCS preparation and take the examination.

b. World Rugby

Setanta College is the official strength and conditioning provider for World Rugby. World Rugby has a wide international reach and the College delivers non-QQI accredited start-up programmes for coaches within the World Rugby community. As part of the growing demand for S&C and performance science education within this sporting community internationally, the College intends to offer QQI validated programmes in the future to international Learners who graduate from the start up level 1 and 2 programmes. This is subject to adhering to all QQI international policies and procedures for such programme delivery.

c. Register of Exercise Professionals

Setanta College works closely with REPS Ireland to offer in conjunction with the Certificate of S&C (Level 6) an industry recognised personal training certification to its graduates. This relationship is important in allowing a greater reach of the vocational and professional skills that are now sought after within the health and fitness industry.

d. Sports Technology Industry partners

Setanta College has a close working relationship with the sports technology industry. This association with leading sport technology companies is important in attaining the stated mission of the college. Working with companies such as Statsports, ORRECO, PUSH, VALD and other technology-based companies, Setanta College is able to support the technology companies with feedback and bespoke reports on their company products. Further, the college takes an impartial approach to providing up

to date content regarding the scientific merit and practical application of these technologies to its Learner base. It does so through a regular editing and revision of its education content and through frequent public presentations.

12.1.7 Governing Board membership, examiners and authenticators

The membership of the Governing Board consists of external expertise in both an academic and an industry focused point of view. This composition of membership reflects an independence and externality of members. It ensures that the College's vision, mission and goals and strategic actions are independently informed. Further, through the composition of this board membership, the College programmes will reflect the most up-to-date applied coaching methods within human performance development and this also ensures that the College is aware of the development of internationally respected standards within Performance Science/Coaching and Strength and Conditioning as well as allied fields of study. Their role includes:

- To be active in the promotion of Setanta College
- Act in the capacity of Academic External Adviser
- To provide a real-world context to the college
- To be available to attend special occasions and workshops

12.1.8 Responsibility of this Policy

The Governing Board would initiate any external relationships that may impact positively on the College. If a partnership was developed that involved a joint or collaborative award then the Academic Council would be involved in making sure that the College complies with its Quality Assurance standards prior to a Memorandum of Understanding being signed by both Institutions.

12.1.9 Policy Control Sheet

Policy Area	Other Parties involved in Education and Training
Policy Title	Other Parties involved in Education and Training
Approval Date	3/9/2019
Effective Date	3/9/2019
Review Date	1/9/2020
Relevant Supporting Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Core Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines (2016), QQI - Qualification and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012 - Specific Guidelines Quality Assurance Guidelines (2016),
Monitoring Procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ongoing Learner completion rates - Graduate success - Number of new partner programmes - Annual review of partnership agreement