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European
Social Fund



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SCHEDULE OF FEES 2024/2025

**Covering the period
1 August 2024 to 31 July 2025**

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1. FURTHER EDUCATION UK STUDENTS – 16-18 AND ADULT

1.1 FULL-TIME & PART TIME STUDENTS (For SKFL and CL Courses - see Section 10; for Employer Responsive see Section 5)

1.1.1 ESFA Funded 16-18 and 19-24 with an EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan) including T levels

	Tuition Fees	Examination Board and Registration Fee	Materials, Residential and Other Course Related Contributions
16–18	NIL* (ESFA Fee Remission)	NIL	FULL

- * Where a student commences a two-year programme aged 16–18 and becomes 19 for the second year, no tuition or examination fees should be charged for that year. However, if the learner aim changes for the second year, the student will be liable for fees in the second year of their course. For this purpose, an AS level followed by A2 level course over two years counts as a two-year programme.
See Section 8.1 for policy on examination resits and examination non-attendance.

1.1.2 Government Contribution Table

AEB funding is only available for eligible individuals residing in areas of England outside of devolved authority areas, which is determined by the student's home postcode at the start of their qualification. Individuals resident in a devolved authority area cannot be funded by the ESFA AEB. The level of government contribution for ESFA funded AEB is as follows:

Table 1: 19 to 23-year-olds

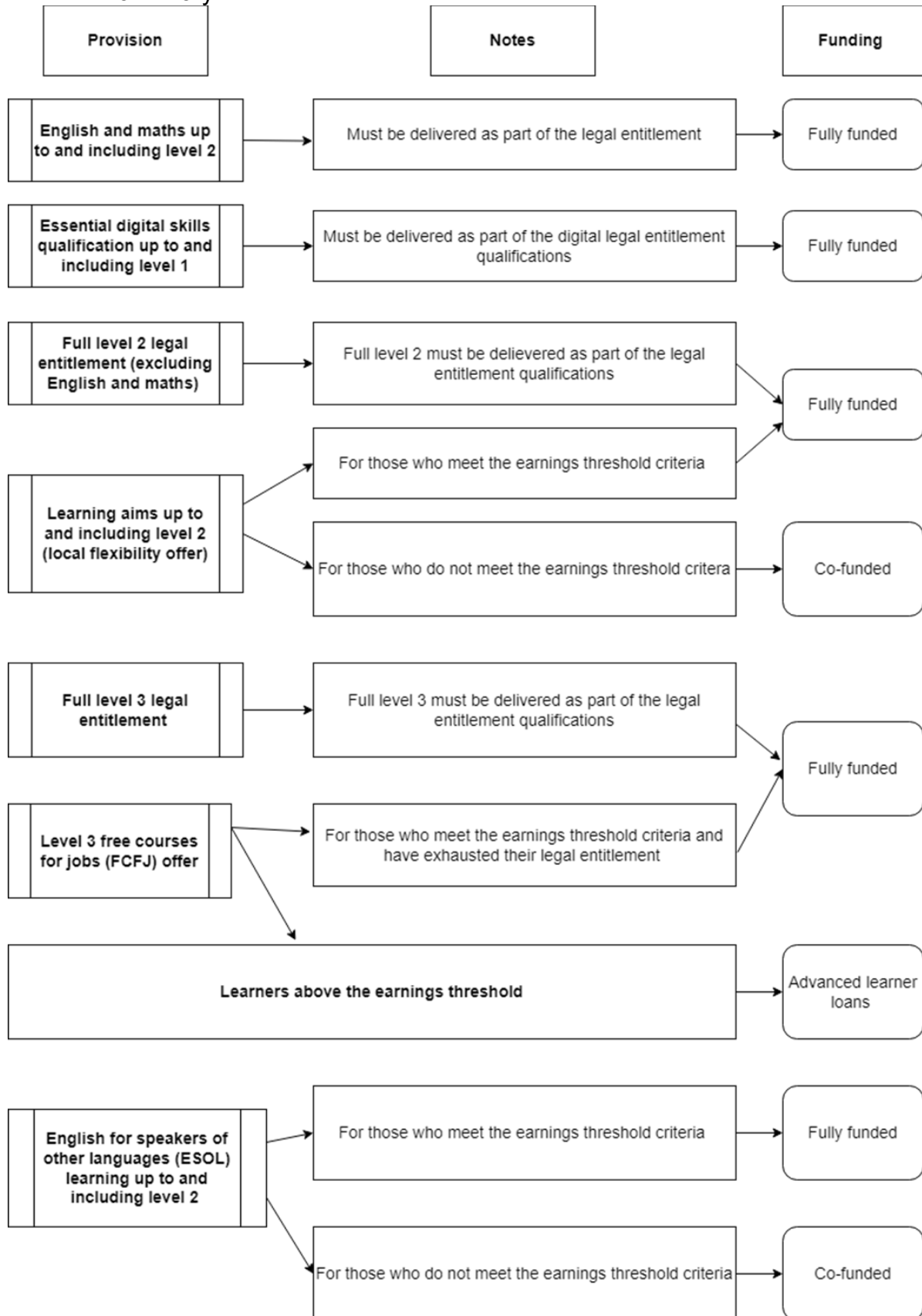
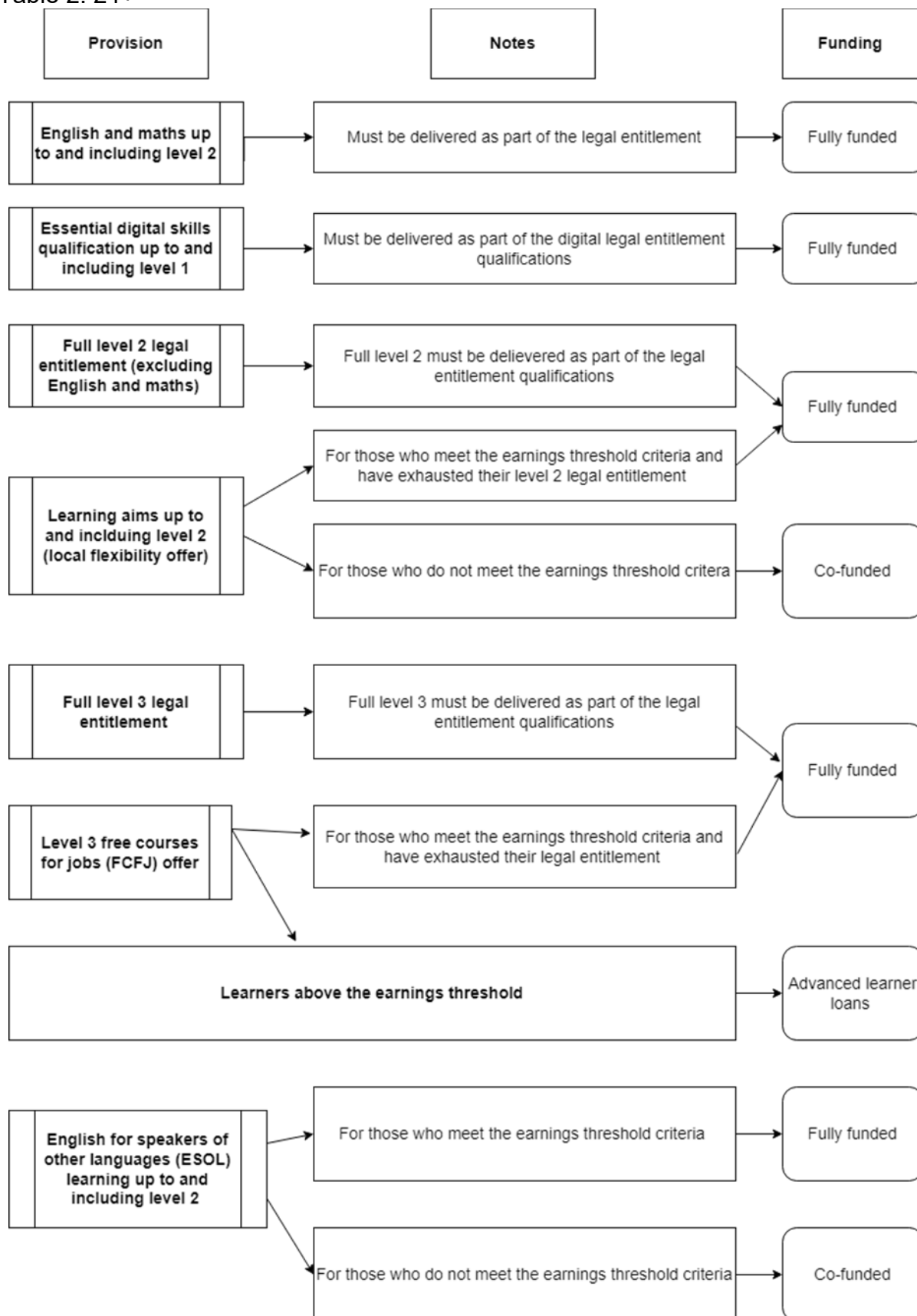


Table 2: 24+



Notes:

Definitions used in the adult education budget (AEB):

Earnings threshold

ESFA have introduced the earnings threshold as part of a new eligibility criteria that enables learners to be fully funded if they earn below £25,000. The policy entitlement includes learners who are unemployed, employed or self-employed.

You may fully fund learners who are unemployed, employed, or self-employed, up to and including level 2 and the level 3 offers, if they earn below £25,000 annual gross salary.

You must have seen evidence of the learner’s gross annual wages in these circumstances. This could be a wage slip or a UC statement within 3 months of the learner’s learning start date, or a current employment contract which states gross monthly/annual wages. Please note this is not an exhaustive list, but you must evidence your decision to award full funding to an individual who would normally be eligible for co-funding.

If the learner is unemployed and is claiming benefits you must complete the Benefit Status Indicator (BSI) to identify the learner is in receipt of Jobseeker’s Allowance (BSI 1) Universal Credit (BSI 4), or Employment and Support Allowance (all categories) (BSI 5).

Fee type	Full time		Part time	
	Fully funded	Co-funded	Fully funded	Co-funded
Tuition (T)	NIL	Specified on course file	NIL	Specified on course file
Materials (M)	FULL	FULL	FULL	FULL
Exam and Registration (E)	NIL	FULL	NIL	FULL

Fees have been set by Curriculum Directors at a course level based on subject sector knowledge, market conditions and competition.

For fees for advanced learner loans no additional charges will be made for materials, examinations or any supplementary qualifications that support the main programme.

Note:

- (a) Where examination and registration fees are chargeable, those for supplementary (additional) subjects will be charged at full cost.
- (b) Where a full-time student with a NIL tuition fee enrolls on a part-time course which is relevant to the full-time course, the part-time course will also attract a NIL fee. However, for part-time courses which are not relevant, fees will be due as per

tables in 1.1. The Curriculum Director has the authority to determine relevance of part-time courses.

- (c) The minimum tuition, examination or materials fee is £10.
- (d) English and Maths and full level 2 and 3 qualifications must have a legal entitlement to qualify for funding.

1.2 TAILORED LEARNING

As part of the new Adult Skills Fund (ASF), the term tailored learning brings together what was AEB Community Learning, formula funded AEB non-regulated learning (previously delivered through adult skills) and any new employer facing innovative provision that is not qualification based.

Students must be eligible for Adult Skills funding to be enrolled onto a Tailored Learning Programme.

The Primary purpose of tailored learning is to support learners into employment and to progress to further learning, in line with the overall purpose of the ASF. It will, however, also support wider outcomes including using it to improve health and wellbeing, equip parents / carers to support their child's learning and develop stronger communities.

Tailored Learning funding must not be used for learning that is:

- Eligible for funding through an advanced learner loan
- Primarily, or the sole intent of the learning is for leisure purposes

Fees must be charged to those who can pay, and used where possible to extend provision to those who cannot. The earnings threshold as referred to above will be used to determine whether students will pay a fee.

1.3 INFILL ON TO FULL-TIME COURSES

Where a student needs to infill onto a unit or a module of a course which is full-time, they should be charged for the element that they are undertaking.

1.4 RESITS/REPEATS

All previously full-time students returning to repeat their studies on a part-time basis are to be charged for the element they are undertaking.

All examination resit fees and Examination Board Registration, where necessary, are payable in full. This applies to 16-18 and adult students (See Section 8.1).

1.5 NOTES TO ABOVE TABLES

- (a) Reducing or increasing fees to react to market conditions (see Section 6)

- (b) These charges also apply to franchise students. However, these may be subsumed within the franchise payment.
- (c) All tuition fees should be rounded up to the nearest whole pound (£)
- (d) Payment methods – see Section 7
- (e) On benefit = ESFA definition – see Section 14
- (f) No reduction for pensioners, unless as a means tested benefit or those set in the ESFA guidelines.
- (g) Definitions for age, country of residence – see Section 14.
- (h) A discount of 50% will be offered to DMU employees attending Leicester College courses
- (i) Different charges may apply to College staff attending courses depending on circumstances. The MIS Manager or Staff Development should be consulted before staff are enrolled.
- (j) A discount of 10% will be offered to any students enrolling on a second or subsequent full cost course in the same academic year. This discount is not available on courses which qualify for Advanced Learner Loan funding and Higher Education courses.
- (k) The fee a student is charged at enrolment is based on their age, employment status and qualification history, from information the student provides. If this information is subsequently found to be inaccurate or incorrect at any point in the year, and as a result further fees are chargeable, these will be invoiced to the student and they will be fully liable for the fees.

2. HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS

2.1 HONOURS DEGREE (TOP UP), FOUNDATION DEGREES and HNC/HND

Fees for higher education for UK students are to be charged as follows:

Franchised funded De Montfort University	The maximum fee is £6,165 for Full-Time and £4,625 for Part-Time per 120 credits For 2 year accelerated degrees the maximum fee is £9,250
Direct funded (Leicester College)	The maximum fee is £6,165 for Full-time and £4,625 for part-time per 120 credits

No additional charges to the above fees can be made.

Any exceptions to the above require awarding organisation and Office for Students approval.

2.2 RESITS/REPEATS

Repeating the same programme year and level is charged at the above flat fee rates. Any module/unit resit with attendance will be charged at £500 per 15 credit module (pro rata).

2.3 INFILL ONTO MODULES

Where a student wishes to infill onto a module/unit, the fee payable will be calculated at £15 per hour.

3 PRE-16 PROVISION

3.1 All income for pre-16 activity, with the exception of Elective Home Educated (see 3.2), is based on a Service Level Agreement agreed between the Vice Principal and the Home Institution. There should be no fees attached to any activities described below in 3.3, however there are set charges for each type of provision.

3.2 Young people aged 14 or 15 who are being electively home educated, can take College courses on an infill basis. These students will be entered on the ILR and will count towards the College's student numbers for lagged funding in the following year. Local authorities and parents are no longer expected to pay fees for this provision.

3.3 CHARGES FOR PROVISION

3.3.1 Alternative Provision (Infill): Fee waiver 99-UN16 (Aged under 16 Not Links). Charges are based on the ESFA Study Programme Funding Bands for 16 and 17 year olds. The Home Institution will be charged the equivalent income that the College would normally gain for the number of hours studied. Anything below 299 hours (Band 1) will be charged at the full time full cost rate of £10.00 per hour.

3.3.2 Home Educated: Fee Waiver 99-UN16 (Aged under 16 Not Links) students can be entered on the ILR to obtain funding, in the same way as part time 16-19 students. Their programme must be less than 580 hours. They may be charged materials fees.

3.3.3 Qualifications: Fee waiver 99-UN16 (Aged under 16 School Links). This provision is for discreet cohorts of pre-16 students. These will be charged at £10 per hour per student for 2024/25 with a minimum of 10 students in the group plus any materials, PPE or uniform and Awarding Organisation registration fees. This must be agreed in a service level agreement with the Home Institution.

3.3.4 Taster Programmes: Fee Waiver 99 UN-16 (Aged under 16 Not Links). Activity usually related to marketing. These will be charged at £10 per hour per student for a group of 10 minimum, plus any materials and uniform costs.

3.4 Refunds should be dealt with in accordance with Section 9.

3.5 Any queries or requests for authorisation for allowing an under 16 student to enrol should be directed to the Distance Learning Manager for Re-engagement. .

4. UNFUNDED STUDENTS

4.1 ENDING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RECRUITMENT

The College decided in 2022 to surrender its Home Office Student Sponsor Licence and to cease recruiting international students from abroad.

Accordingly, this section relates specifically to those UK resident students who have been assessed as unfunded students as they do not meet the criteria to be home funded status under the relevant ESFA or Student Finance England funding rules.

4.2 UNFUNDED FEE PAYING STUDENTS

Applicants / students who do not meet the requirements set out in the various ESFA rules for Further Education funding or Student Finance England rules for Higher Education funding are required to pay full fees to cover the cost of their studies. They must pay fees for each individual course on which they enrol.

For example, a student on a full-time FE course plus GCSE Maths and English must pay fees for each enrolment.

Any additional support provided to unfunded fee-paying students cannot be charged to the student, under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA), so needs should be assessed and the practicalities of providing support need to be considered.

Staff members who have completed Right to Study assessment training are the only people who are authorised to advise on the funded/unfunded fee status of students already resident in the UK.

From time-to-time applications are received from people who are in the UK temporarily on a Standard Visitor (Tourist) Visa, or similar. These people are permitted to study with us and still require a Right to Study assessment to confirm and document their Right to Study and their fee status – although it will automatically be unfunded, irrespective of the applicant's age.

Any questions or specific enquiries regarding Right to Study status and unfunded fees should be referred to the Welfare Team.

4.3 CHARGE RATES FOR UNFUNDED STUDENTS

Students who do not have home funded status will be charged the full funding value that the College would have received for that course for a student, who did not have to pay any fees.

4.4 FULL COST COURSES

As there is no funding receivable for home status or unfunded students undertaking full cost courses, all students will be charged the same full cost fee.

5. EMPLOYER RESPONSIVE

5.1 APPRENTICESHIPS

- 5.1.1 Fees charged will be in line with the maximum ESFA funding rate where the full apprenticeship is being delivered. The cost of an apprenticeship will depend on the content required to be delivered; existing knowledge, skills, behaviours and prior qualifications will be assessed, and a price determined on an individual basis. Where the College delivers apprenticeship programmes to its own staff, under ESFA rules, the College must deliver these programmes at cost.
- 5.1.2 For apprenticeship levy paying employers the fee, less 20% for completion and end point assessment, will be paid monthly over the length of the apprenticeship via the Digital Apprenticeship Service (DAS) system. The 20% for completion and end point assessment is payable via DAS when the apprentice completes. Where an employer has utilised all of its levy funds before the end of their apprentice's programme, the apprenticeship will convert to a co investment arrangement as detailed in 5.1.3.
- 5.1.3 Non-levy paying employers will contribute 5% of the negotiated price. This should be paid in full at the beginning of the apprenticeship, or for those on a programme of two years or more, may be paid annually. In exceptional circumstances, payment may be made in termly instalments, but this would require the approval of the Vice Principal.
- 5.1.4 All non-levy paying employers are also required to register themselves on DAS and reserve the required funding for their apprentices. This applies whether the company is liable to make a contribution to the funding or not. This enables the ESFA to be aware of the level of funding required.
- 5.1.5 Employers with 49 or fewer people working for them will be able to train 16-18 year old apprentices without making a contribution towards the cost of training and assessment up to the maximum funding band. The employer must still register themselves on DAS and reserve funding accordingly
- 5.1.6 The apprenticeship standards funding rules set out the rules regarding funding and employer contributions should there be a change in the circumstances of the employer, apprentice or lead provider, for example if an apprentice leaves the programme. In broad terms both funding and employer contributions are only payable while the

apprenticeship is on programme. Any additional fee is non refundable unless the student has withdrawn in the first 6 weeks of the apprenticeship.

5.17 Charges for exam resits and exam non-attendance will be as per Section 8.1.

5.2 NON-APPRENTICESHIP WORKPLACE DELIVERY

5.2.1 ESFA will fund any regulated qualification and/or learning aims at an employee's workplace. They must be approved for ESFA funded AEB and available on find a learning aim.

5.2.2 English and maths qualifications are fully funded for those students who have not achieved A*-C GCSE's or 9-4 in these subjects. The qualification must be included on the ESFA legal entitlement offer.

5.2.3 Traineeships are fully funded for individuals aged 16-24 who have not previously obtained a first full level 3 qualification where

- They are unemployed and in receipt of unemployment benefits as outlined in the ESFA rules, or
- They are unemployed at the start of the traineeship, or
- They are employed and work fewer than 16 hours per week, and they have little or no work experience and are focused on employment, an apprenticeship or the prospect of this, and they have been assessed as having the potential to be ready for employment or an apprenticeship within six months.

5.2.4 Queries as to the eligibility of workplace learning qualifications for ESFA funding should be taken up with the funding team (ext. 2300).

5.2.5 Fees for students aged 19+ undertaking a qualification which is not ESFA funded in the workplace will be charged at a rate to ensure that a 50% contribution is achieved.

5.2.6 Charges for exam resits and exam non-attendance will be as per Section 8.1.

5.2.7 Any refunds will be as per Section 9.

6. REDUCED AND ENHANCED FEES, DISCOUNTS TO EMPLOYERS

6.1 REDUCED AND ENHANCED FEES

- 6.1.1 It is incumbent on the College to maximise fees. Government policy is to rebalance the proportion of fees between the state and individuals or employers. Accordingly, government funding for fee-paying students is reducing year-on-year to be replaced by higher levels of fee income.
- 6.1.2 Curriculum Directors are encouraged to charge higher fees than those stated in tables 1.1 wherever the market will bear the increase. Advice on the interpretation of market conditions and fee levels can be sought from the Deputy Principal.
- 6.1.3 Fees can also be reduced to react to market conditions, but this is not encouraged. The Deputy Principal has the authority to reduce fees.

6.2 DISCOUNTS TO EMPLOYERS

In exceptional circumstances, the Deputy Principal has the authority to discount fees to employers or to training providers. There are other arrangements for Full Cost or Cost Recovery Courses (not funded by ESFA). Please refer to Section 13 for further details. These courses have to follow set guidelines and your Curriculum Director will be able to assist in the preparation of pricing for these courses.

6.3 OTHER TRAINING PROVIDERS

In exceptional circumstances other training providers' fees will be subject to individual negotiation. A charge below the College rate of £10.00 per hour will however require the agreement of the Deputy Principal.

7. PAYMENT METHODS

7.1 ACCEPTABLE PAYMENT METHODS

All fees are due on enrolment and payable by:

- Cash using normal UK Sterling
- Credit card
- Debit card
- Direct Debit

7.2 PAYMENT BY INSTALMENTS FOR SELF TO PAY STUDENTS

Where the combined fee is £150 or greater and a student has difficulty in paying it in full on enrolment then it is acceptable to offer instalments. It is important to note that the student must comply exactly with their liability to the College when they opt to pay by instalments. Fees are still payable in FULL even if the student withdraws from a course. This liability is exactly the same as a student who opts to pay fees in FULL at enrolment time.

In opting to pay by instalments, should the student default on any payments, then the College may make interest charges and further administration charges, and the full amount may become payable immediately. It is important to advise students to contact the Credit Control section in the Finance Department if they have problems settling debts.

Students can pay by instalments where the combined fees are £150 or greater. Combined fees can mean that the course fees alone may be or exceed £150, or together with other fees payable, e.g. material, examination, registration. For payments less than £150 the payment must be made by one of the acceptable payment methods (see above) upon enrolment.

Instalments must be paid by direct debit. Direct debit collections can be set up to be made on either the 1st or 15th of the month.

For fees greater than or equal to £150, but less than £700, the student can pay over three equal instalments.

For fees greater than or equal to £700, but less than £895, the student can pay over seven equal instalments.

For fees greater than or equal to £895, the student can pay over nine equal instalments.

The maximum number of nine instalments will be reduced where necessary to ensure that the full amount is received prior to the end of the course.

For courses of 12 weeks or less in duration, where the fee is in excess of £150, payment is required in two equal instalments.

At the discretion of the Director of Finance the payment plan may be extended in exceptional circumstances.

7.3 PAYMENT BY EMPLOYERS

A student may have made an agreement for course and other fees to be paid by their employer or sponsor.

Where it has been confirmed, as part of the enrolment process that the fees for the student are to be paid by a sponsor or an employer, then official confirmation of this must be submitted to the College. This must be in the form of an official letter on the company's letter head.

7.4.1 Payment Terms

The College must receive the letter of authority of payment by a third party at enrolment otherwise the student will be asked to pay the fees. Payment is due from the sponsor within 30 days of invoicing, except for employer contributions under the new apprenticeship funding mechanism, which will be paid in accordance with section 5.1 above.

7.4.2 Withdrawals

Where a company or sponsor has made an agreement to pay the fees in the form of an official letter, then full fees are payable by them in the event of the student leaving before completion of the course. The company is entitled to send a replacement if agreed with the course tutor and it is feasible for another student to take up the course place.

Where another student takes the place, the Deputy Principal has the discretion to defer part of the fees remaining for later on in the year or for the following academic year. The outstanding fees will depend on the number of terms that the original student attended. If any exam entries have been made for the original student, then these must be paid as the College may have already incurred the cost.

If a student has left the employment of the company who had agreed to pay the fees, then the student may be liable for any outstanding fees, but this is a matter for the student and their former employer. It may be possible that the student has changed employment and the new employer is willing to pay the fees. In this event, it is acceptable for the liability to the College to be transferred provided the company confirms this in writing on official letter-headed paper.

7.4 DEBT COLLECTION

Details of debt collection processes and sanctions to be taken against students who do not pay fees when due, are contained in the Financial Regulations.

The College reserves the right to refuse enrolment for a course if the student has any outstanding fees.

8. EXAMINATION, MATERIAL, ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AND OTHER FEES

8.1 EXAMINATION FEES

NB: ALL EXAMINATION FEES SHOULD BE ON THE COURSE FILE.

Primary Learning Goal

Examination and Registration Fees, for categories of students where such fees are chargeable, will be collected at enrolment or as part of an instalment plan.

The curriculum area sets the registration fee in line with the charge from the awarding body.

Additional Subjects

Examination fees for supplementary (additional) subjects for categories of students where such fees are chargeable will be charged at FULL cost.

Resits

All examination resit fees are payable in full by the student, with the exception of Functional Skills, ESOL and Skills for Life ("SKFL") (see section 10).

The fee charged for employer responsive resits will be the Awarding Body resit fee, with the exception of Functional Skills.

For T level assessments the College will provide resit opportunities at no cost, where the student has achieved a grade E or below. The student will be required to pay resit fees where non attendance or malpractice is evident, or for grade improvement from grade D upwards.

Charges for resit fees must be charged to the student/employer and not borne by the College. Any waivers of resit fees should follow the fee waiver process, as set out in section 9.

Non-attendance

A fee of £50 will be charged per subject for all GCSE exams no shows. This covers the cost of entry plus the associated administration and invigilation costs.

For all other examinations, where the students have not paid for their exam in any related course fees, an administration fee of £5 will be charged for non-attendance at an exam, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

8.2 MATERIAL, RESIDENTIAL, DBS AND OTHER FEES

The College will charge for materials and other fees such as residential courses, for categories of students where such fees are chargeable. These fees should be set and collected at the start of the year. Where Disclosure and Barring Service checks on students are necessary, the cost will be met by the College for 16-18 students. Adult students will be required to meet the cost of DBS checks.

8.3 CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS

There are certain exceptions to payment of some fees due to either the nature of courses or the method of funding. Certain courses and/or students may be funded by special grants and fees for materials, kits and other related fees may be payable from funds that the College has applied for and received.

In the event of uncertainty, clarification should be sought from the MIS Manager (ext. 2135) or the Deputy Principal regarding payment of fees.

8.4 ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Charges are not necessary for Additional Support provided to ESFA funded students as this work is separately funded.

In addition, charges cannot be made for Additional Support provided to individual students funded from other sources as to do so would be discriminatory under the Equality Act 2010. However, where it is anticipated that there will be a demand for Additional Support from students in a particular non-ESFA funding stream, this should be costed and included in the price for all students. Advice on such cases should be sought from the Head of Learning Support (ext. 4086).

The market may determine that additional charges are not possible and, in this case, advice should be sought from the Deputy Principal as for other fees charged which do not make an adequate contribution.

Where additional support needs are identified for non-ESFA funded students, (including LEA under 16's, school links, overseas, Employer Responsive, full cost) additional support should not be provided until:

- i. The student is enrolled
- ii. Authorisation is given by the Director of Student Services.

9. WITHDRAWALS, REFUNDS, FEE WAIVER POLICIES, LEARNER SUPPORT FUND AND LEARNER SUPPORT

9.1 WITHDRAWALS

Course fees are still chargeable for students who withdraw from a course for reasons not listed below.

9.2 REFUND POLICY

Due to risks of money laundering under the Proceeds of Crime Act refunds, when agreed, will only be made to the account holder and by the same payment method as the original payment was made, except where the original payment was made in cash or cheque, whereby the refund will be made by BACS.

Refunds will only be paid under the following basis:

9.2.1 College cancellation of the course:

A full refund is due.

Confirmation in writing to the relevant DMO is required from the Course Tutor, Program Lead or Curriculum Director on a SAC (student amendment by course form). The details of each learner also should be added to enrolAnywhere (withdrawal and transfers) for any courses closed or cancelled by the College before any refunds are payable. The DMO will then process the SAC on EBS and send a copy to Finance who will issue the refunds. The Information Centre also need to be informed of any course cancellations.

9.2.2 Student withdrawal from a course in non-exceptional circumstances:

- (a) Courses of 24 weeks or longer (full-time and part-time) - If withdrawal is within the first six weeks, a full refund is due, subject to a £25 administration charge. After this time no refunds will be made.
- (b) Courses of more than 2 weeks but less than 24 weeks - If withdrawal is within the first two weeks, a full refund is due subject to a £25 administration charge. After this time no refunds will be made.
- (c) Courses of less than 2 weeks, if no more than one attendance, a full refund is due subject to a £25 administration charge. After this time no refunds will be made.

9.2.3 The waiving of the £25 administration charge is at the discretion of the Information Centre Coordinator and Team Leaders.

9.2.4 Student withdrawal from a course in exceptional circumstances:

If a refund is deemed to be due for one of the reasons detailed in this section, the following rules are to be applied in calculating the amount:

- (a) Courses of 24 weeks or longer (full-time and part-time)
 - i. If withdrawal is within the first six weeks, a full refund is due.
 - ii. If withdrawal is after six weeks, a part refund is due based on the proportion of the course completed.
- (b) Courses of more than 2 weeks but less than 24 weeks
 - i. If withdrawal is within the first two weeks, a full refund is due.
 - ii. If withdrawal is after two weeks, a part refund is due based on the proportion of the course completed.
- (c) Courses of less than 2 weeks
 - i. If withdrawal is after one attendance, a full refund is due.
 - ii. If withdrawal is after more than one attendance, a part refund is due based on the proportion of the course completed.

9.2.5 Exceptional circumstances where refunds can be considered are:

- (a) The student transferring to another course where the difference in fee can be refunded or becomes due under the authority of the Information Centre Co-ordinator.
- (b) Serious illness or hospitalisation evidenced by a medical certificate under the authority of the Information Centre Co-ordinator.
- (c) Serious illness or hospitalisation of a partner, parent or child necessitating full-time care by the student evidenced by a medical certificate under the authority of the Information Centre Co-ordinator.
- (d) Misinformation about course fees and costs if the student can demonstrate this clearly to the Deputy Principal.
- (e) Poor quality of service if a complaint has been upheld through the College's complaints procedure. Under the authority of the Information Centre Co-ordinator who will take the advice of the Deputy Principal who may agree an ex-gratia payment if appropriate.
- (f) Other exceptional circumstances can be considered at the discretion of the Deputy Principal who will be consulted by the Information Centre Co-ordinator.

9.2.6 Apprenticeships

The apprenticeship standards funding rules have to be followed with regards to refunds to students covered by the new apprenticeship funding mechanism.

9.2.7 HE Students

For HE students refunds are calculated in line with the Student Loans Company liability dates.

- (a) A full refund is given if the student withdraws in the first two weeks from their individual start date for the first year of their distinct learning aim.
- (b) After two weeks (see above), if a student withdraws before the first day of the second term, 75% of the fee is refunded.
- (c) If the student withdraws before the first day of the third term, 50% of the fee is refunded.
- (d) If the student withdraws after the first day of the third term, no refund is due.
- (e) This refund policy applies for students in receipt of a student loan, self funding students and students whose fees are being paid by a sponsor.
- (f) Monies paid to the College by the Student Loans Company cannot be refunded to a student.
- (g) The Leicester College HE Student Protection Plan outlines the action the college will take in the unlikely event of significant material change to a course or programme. The college does not offer compensation in the form of payment for additional travel costs, tuition, maintenance costs or lost time.

9.3 PROCEDURE

9.3.1 All requests for a refund or waiver must be made in writing within 3 months after the end of the course.

9.3.2 Students requesting a refund or waiver must complete the form "Application for Refund of Course Fees" and pass it to the Information Centre Department for consideration. Copies of the form are available in Information Centre and campus curriculum offices.

- 9.3.3 Refunds due to College cancellation of the course and withdrawal in non-exceptional circumstances can be paid on the authority of Information Centre Team Leaders or the Information Centre Co-ordinator. The Information Centre Co-ordinator is responsible for consulting the Deputy Principal where appropriate.
- 9.3.4 The Principal and Deputy Principal can authorise refunds or waivers in the absence of the Information Centre Co-ordinator.
- 9.3.5 The Information Centre Co-ordinator will keep a log of all requests and endeavour to process them within three weeks of receipt. Applicants will receive a written notification of the outcome of their application. College staff can contact the Information Centre Co-ordinator to check on the progress of individual applications.
- 9.3.6 Appeals against the decision of the Information Centre Co-ordinator will be considered by the Principal and must be made within 15 working days of the decision being made.

9.4 LEARNER SUPPORT AND COLLEGE SUPPORT FUND

Students unable to pay any of the fees should be referred to the Welfare Team in Student Services who will assess whether they are eligible for assistance through the various financial funds administered by the team. The team are available at enrolment to offer advice and assistance to students who may be facing financial hardship with respect to the payment of fees.

10. SKILLS FOR LIFE LITERACY AND NUMERACY (SKFL), ESOL AND COMMUNITY LEARNING (CL) COURSES

10.1 SKFL

There are specific courses the College runs that are not subject to any College fees. This also includes exemption from examination fees and examination re-sits. These courses are generally Skills for Life (SKFL) courses.

There are various reasons where exemption from course fees might apply. These are:

- Where a course or students aim is exempt as a Skills for Life, literacy or numeracy qualification.
- Where students are exempt because of their personal circumstances
- Where courses are subsidised from specific grants or funds e.g. local authority grants such as Single Regeneration Bids (SRB)

10.2 ESOL

Courses in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) became subject to fees due to a change in government policy from 2007/08. Students on these courses may still not be subject to fees if any of the active benefits can be applied. There are no exam or resit fees for ESOL students eligible for ESFA funding.

10.3 Community Learning

Community Learning courses are only exempt from the schedule of fees in 1.1 for the above reasons.

Staff members who have completed fee status assessment training are the only people who are authorised to advise on the home/overseas fee status of students. They can be contacted on ext. 4048, 4160 or 2615.

11. INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM (IELTS)

Fees charged for IELTS, and the refund policy adopted, are in accordance with the guidelines set out by the British Council. Details can be obtained from the IELTS office on ext. 4333.

12. ASYLUM SEEKERS

- 12.1** Asylum seekers are eligible for agency funding as long as they meet the following conditions:
- they have legally been in the UK while their claim is being considered by the Home Office for six months or longer and no decision has been made: or
 - they are receiving local authority support under s23C or s23CA Children Act 1989 or the Care Act 2014.
- 12.2** An individual refused asylum will be also be eligible if:
- they appeal against a decision made by the UK Government against granting refugee status and no decision has been made within six months of lodging the appeal; or
 - they are granted support under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; or
 - they are receiving local authority support for themselves under section 23C or section 23CA of the Children Act 1989.
- 12.3** If eligible for agency funding, then fees should be charged in accordance with Section 1.1. Limited support may be available towards the fees charged. This is at the discretion of the Deputy Principal.
- 12.4** For level 3 asylum seeker students, they may not be eligible for Advanced Learner Loans, and therefore should be charged as full cost. It is the SLC who confirm whether the student is eligible for the loan.
- 12.5** Asylum seekers are required to have a fee status assessment every year, or whenever they commence a new course of programme of study.

13. FULL COST FUNDED COURSES AND OTHER SERVICES

- 13.1** The College will react to market needs in running courses and training programmes for commercial and industrial customers as well as public organisations and individuals.
- 13.2** The need to be competitive is recognised. However, the College must also ensure that it is able to recoup its direct costs and overheads. It must also ensure that it is able to make a contribution to the ongoing running costs and future investment needs.
- 13.3** Therefore, when courses do not attract ESFA funding (usually for bespoke consultancy, short courses or similar) the College operates a separate policy for the calculation of charges to students/commissioning organisation.
- These charges will be agreed by the Deputy Principal in advance of quoting to the client on the basis of:
- agreed margin of surplus (target minimum 50% of income);
 - market pricing; and
 - client relationship.
- 13.4** A spreadsheet which enables a target price to be calculated is available from the Accounting Team (exts 2011, 2641 and 2509). There is a minimum rate of £10.00 per hour for Full Cost funded courses. The provisions of paragraph 6.1 apply to this rate. Accordingly, if the spreadsheet gives a lower hourly rate or percentage margin, the authority of the Deputy Principal must be sought before charging it.
- 13.5** The ESFA requires that a student must be made aware if a qualification is being offered by the College only as a commercial full cost course, but that qualification could attract government funding via a grant or loan with another provider.

APPENDIX 1

14. DEFINITIONS

14.1 AGE

For the purposes of tables in Section 1.1 (full and part-time students), a 16–18 year old student is aged 16, 17 or 18 on 31 August at the beginning of the academic year when the student begins a programme of study.

Example: If a student is age 18 on 31 August 2024 and starts a course in January 2025 having attained the age of 19, the fee policy applies as for 16–18 year old students.

For the purposes of section 5, Employer Responsive, age is determined as that at the start of the programme.

If any further clarification of age eligibility is needed, please contact the MIS Manager (ext 2135).

14.2 TUITION FEE REMISSION

Students may qualify for a fee reduction if they are in receipt of active benefits (JSA/ESA/Universal Credit) and studying a course which is level 2 or below. Students in receipt of other benefits may also qualify for a fee reduction if they meet the following criteria:

- The student is in receipt of benefits other than JSA/ESA, and Universal Credit, and
- The student's take home pay (disregarding benefits) is less than £617 a month (student is sole adult in their benefit claim) or £998 a month (student has a joint benefit claim with their partner), and
- The student wants to be employed, or progress into more sustainable employment, and the identified learning is directly relevant to their employment prospects and the local labour market needs

Evidence of benefits is required. Other fees may also apply.

14.3 RESIDENCY ELIGIBILITY

The following are eligible for ESFA funded AEB:

- UK nationals and other persons with a right to abode in the UK, who have been ordinarily resident in the UK, Republic of Ireland or British Overseas Territories or Crown Dependencies (Channel Islands and Isle of Man) for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning.
- UK Nationals living in the EEA or Switzerland, EU overseas territories or Gibraltar on or before 31 December 2020 (or have moved back to

the UK after 31 December 2017, immediately after living in the EEA), and have lived in the EEA, Gibraltar or the UK for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning, and continuously between 31 December 2020 and the start of the course.

- EEA nationals (other than Irish nationals) in the UK, who have obtained either pre-settled or settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme and have lived continuously in the EEA, Switzerland, Gibraltar or UK for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning.
- Non-UK nationals who have been ordinarily resident in the UK for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning, and have permission granted by the UK government to live in the UK, where the permission is not just for educational purposes only or have obtained pre-settled or settled status under EUSS.
- Non-UK nationals who are also non-EEA nationals, who have obtained either pre-settled or settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme and have been ordinarily resident in the UK for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning.
- Irish nationals, who are not UK nationals, who have been ordinarily resident in the UK and/or Ireland for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning.
- Family members (husband, wife, civil partner, child, grandchild, dependent parent or grandparent) of UK or EEA nationals, where the family member has obtained pre-settled or settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme and have been ordinarily resident in the UK and/or EEA for at least the previous three years on the first day of learning.

Definition of Ordinarily Resident: if you are 'ordinarily resident' in the relevant area you have habitually, normally and lawfully resided in that area from choice. Temporary absences from the residence area should be ignored.

Students that have not been resident in the UK for the last three years will need to contact the Welfare Team in Student Services to be fees assessed.

Staff members who have completed fee status assessment training are the only people who are authorised to advise on the home/overseas fee status of students. Please contact the Welfare Team (ext. 4048/4160/2615) for any queries regarding fee status.

UK = England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland

British Overseas Territories = Anguilla, Bermuda, British Antarctic Territory, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Henderson Island, Ducie and Oeno Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Isles, St Helena and its dependencies (Ascension and Tristan da Cunha) and Turks and Caicos Islands.

EU = Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands (Holland), Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden.

EEA = As EU with Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein

Switzerland is not part of EU/EEA, but its nationals are eligible under various international treaties signed by the UK and Swiss governments.

Note: The ESFA does not allow the College to fund provision outside of England. Provision supplied in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is therefore not fundable. Students from these countries are, however, fundable if they are domicile in England.

15. FEE STATUS ASSESSORS

Level 1 Initial Approach	Information Centre	APC	4203, 4204, 4207, 4208, 4244
		FPC	2625, 2643, 2522, 2530, 2608, 2611
Level 2	Welfare	APC	4048
	Advisors	FPC	2615

FEES POLICY 2024-2025

DATE OF REVISION:	JULY 2024
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