**Universities & Schools Council for the Education of Teachers (USCET)**

**Partnership Agreement**

***‘Working in Partnership to Promote & Influence Teacher Education in Wales’***

**OVERVIEW**

USCET takes a central and integral role in the transformational reform of education in Wales. This is underpinned by authentic, reciprocal and mutually beneficial partnerships to help to facilitate continuity and progression in the education reform agenda. We will work collaboratively with stakeholders towards common goals in order to realise the National Mission.

**GOVERNANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS**

Partnerships are led by representatives of all constituent parts, including HEIs, schools, colleges and professional bodies such as regional consortia, Welsh Government, EWC and Estyn. This group should have responsibility for taking all significant strategic, operational and financial decisions.  Decisions are taken collegiately and should reflect the needs and interests of the partnership as a whole, in line with the principles of partnership agreed by USCET Cymru. The chairs of partnership groups will be elected by the group as a whole.

Partnerships as referred to in this agreement refers to HE working with schools, FE, regional consortia and other professional bodies such as WG, Estyn, EWC. The governance of such partnership only relates to members of USCET.

**KEY PRINCIPLES**

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| **OVERARCHING PRINCIPLES** We aim to:* Share, communicate and adhere to the same co-constructed vision and goals;
* Advocate for partnership principles to be adopted by all;
* Have shared decision making;
* Have shared understanding of expectations and terms of engagement;
* Facilitate time and resource to build relationships and collaborative working.
 | **STRATEGIC PRINCIPLES**We aim to:* Represent USCET through transparent co-construction and collaboration with professional bodies and stakeholders across Wales;
* Inform & influence policy development and educational innovation in Wales;
* Work with professional bodies to underpin the recruitment, retention & sustainability of ITE in Wales;
* Promote ITE in Wales, celebrating success to inspire the next generation of teachers;
* Work towards a shared common vision for ITE across Wales;
* Promote and disseminate education research and enquiry in Wales;
* Be proactive in leading on projects and initiatives that would assist in supporting and sustaining the high quality of initial teacher education in Wales.
 | **PARTNER PRINCIPLES**Partners agree to:* Foster collaboration between all stakeholders through open and authentic dialogue;
* Share best practice with evidence of impact to enhance ITE provision across Wales;
* Promote the centrality of research and enquiry to all educators across Wales;
* Influence, inform & lobby as a united voice to achieve the aims of the partnership;
* Develop effective Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Enhancement (QE) processes to ensure consistent application of professional standards for teacher qualification.
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