

NESCOT Pound Plus and Community Learning Fee Remission Policy



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What is Community Learning?

The purpose of Community Learning is to develop the skills, confidence, motivation and resilience of adults of different ages and backgrounds in order to:

- progress towards formal learning or employment and/or
- improve their health and well-being, including mental health and/or
- develop stronger communities

Community Learning Courses fall under the following four strands:

- **Personal and Community Development Learning** - learning for personal and community development, cultural enrichment, intellectual or creative stimulation and for enjoyment (in most cases not leading to a formal qualification)
- **Family English, Maths and Language** - learning to improve the English, language and maths skills of parents, carers or guardians and their ability to help their children
- **Wider Family Learning** - learning to help different generations of family members to learn together how to support their children's learning
- **Neighbourhood Learning In Deprived Communities** - supports local Voluntary and other third sector organisations to develop their capacity to deliver learning opportunities for the residents of disadvantaged neighbourhoods

Partnership working underpins the community learning objectives and is critical to developing and delivering an effective community learning offer in our locality. The College will engage and work closely with a wide range of relevant partners and stakeholders in our local area to help shape our community learning offer. The College will work strategically to reduce duplication of the community learning offer in our locality

What is Pound Plus?

The 'Pound' represents the public pound, that is the government funding received to support the delivery of community learning provision. The 'Plus' is everything else the College can generate to be used, in addition to the public funding, to deliver the provision, such as fee income, funding from other sources, resources in kind, volunteering and other sources of revenue/ sponsorship. The College must invest Pound Plus fee income/ savings for the people who most need, and can least afford, community learning provision.

and will signposting learners to other partners as and when appropriate.

Learner Fees

There will be no charges made to our learners where the provision falls under one of the following strands:

- Family English, Maths and Language
- Wider Family Learning
- Neighbourhood Learning In Deprived Communities

For provision, falling under the 'Personal and Community Development Learning' strand we will ask our learners to provide a contribution towards the cost of their course. The College uses an hourly rate, which is lower than that charged to adult learners for other accredited provision delivered at the College. The hourly rate for the 2019-20 academic year is £5.00 per hour.

For some courses, there may be additional charges to cover materials. These may either be charged at the point of enrolment or require learners to provide their own resources each week, e.g. cookery, floristry, arts and crafts, etc.

If a course leads to an accredited qualification then we will also be charge the learner the awarding body registration and examination fees.

Learner Subsidies

As part of our 'Pound Plus' commitment the College will fully waive fees for evidenced unemployed people.

Grants

The College will seek opportunities to bid for any arising community grants that can support the widening of our community-learning programme.

Venue costs

Where delivery is off-site and partner-directed the College will request that any room hire costs are waived. The college will also waive any room hire costs on the Nescot site for any partners subcontracted to deliver community learning provision and wishing to deliver on-site.

College running costs

Courses are permitted to run on a lower cost base to other courses as they are providing a lower contribution to general college overheads.

Volunteering

When developing community learning provision then College will seek to make use of volunteers for delivery whenever possible to enable wider use of our community learning funding by freeing up cost.

Partner reduced cost delivery

The College will work in partnership with local community organisations to provide funding and venues for delivery of discrete programmes to meet the needs of targeted groups of learners from hard-to-reach and vulnerable groups. The College will expect our partners, in turn, to add value by contributing through cost savings (e.g. reduced staffing costs, savings in recruitment costs, etc.) or in kind (e.g. free venue use).