Rationale for Subcontracting 2026/27

Inspire Education Group is a successful provider of further and higher education with two main campuses in Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire. The Group also delivers specialist commercial training for employers locally, regionally and nationally.

We seek to transform the lives of our students and trainees ensuring they have an exceptional learning experience and are well prepared for the next steps in their career journey. We support employers to develop their people and their organisations. We strive to make a positive contribution to our local communities, employers and stakeholders.

We will continue to create and nurture long-term, strategic partnerships that support us in responding to the skills needs of our different communities, contributing to the social and economic prosperity of our locales.

A measure of success of our 'Empower Communities' Strategic Objective is to maintain highly effective and successful collaborative partnerships which meet specialist and niche employer needs. Our partnerships inspire and deliver transformative change.

Inspire Education Group subcontracts delivery of training and education to four delivery partners who deliver programmes to support our Further Education, Adult Skills, and Apprenticeship offer. Training is delivered to meet the needs of our local communities in the East of England and East Midlands and reaching out to other regions in response to employer need.

Reasons for the subcontracting include:

- To enhance the opportunities available for learners
- To fill gaps in niche or expert provision and/or provide better access to training facilities
- To support better geographical access for learners
- To offer an entry point for disadvantaged groups
- To give consideration to the impact on individuals with shared protected characteristics, where there might otherwise be gaps

The Inspire Education Group curriculum is enhanced by the provision delivered by sub-contractors:

- Expert delivery of a range of specialised school sport related apprenticeship programmes delivered by Inspire Plus to enhance opportunities for learners and meet employer skills needs
- Performing Arts niche training including Dance, Acting and Musical Theatre pathways is supported through partnership with Eastern School of Performing Arts
- We are providing additional entry points for disadvantaged groups through our work with the Gladstone Community Association and Aspire Education

A dedicated team of staff led by the Chief Learning Officer support our partners to deliver a quality provision. Partnership delivery is robustly monitored and managed to ensure all of our learners have an exceptional learning experience. Further information on the management of partners can be found in the IEG Partnership Policy and Appendix 1 – Principles and Procedures.

In line with DfE, CPCA and GLCCA guidance, we will subcontract within 25% of each funding stream. Our current management fees range between 15% and 20% depending on the level of support and risk. Our subcontract fees and charges are published annually in line with DfE subcontracting rules and regulations and can be found on the Group website www.ieg.ac.uk.