



ABERDEENCOLLEGE®



Briefing Note

for STUDENTS

**Education Scotland Review
of Aberdeen College**

Education Scotland

Education Scotland is an organisation that carries out work for the Scottish Government.

Teams of reviewers who work for Education Scotland visit schools and colleges to find out how good they are and help them become even better.

Education Scotland publishes reports on the results of all school and college reviews so that members of the public can see how these public bodies are performing.

Aberdeen College Review

On Monday 14 November 2011 a team of 8 reviewers from Education Scotland will be visiting Aberdeen College for 3 days. During that time they will:

- visit classes to see how students are being taught
- meet the Principal and the other people who manage the College
- meet lecturers, guidance tutors and other staff to discuss how students are helped to achieve
- meet groups of students to find out what they think about the College
- speak to employers about how good they think College courses are for their employees or for people they may wish to employ
- look at learning and teaching materials, College reports, information about how well students are progressing and achieving and information about the College and its courses
- look round College buildings at Gallowgate, Altens and Clinterty centres as well as some of our community outreach centres.

Reviewers will want to find out about:

- the number and different types of courses that the College offers
- other services the College offers to help students like Guidance and Student Funding
- how lecturers make lessons interesting and how this helps students to learn
- how College courses help students get the kind of skills they will need to get a job
- what students think about their courses and what they are learning
- what happens when students need extra help and how this is provided
- how many students finish their courses and the reasons why some students leave
- how students are asked for their views about their courses and the services the College provides to help them
- what student representatives are doing to make sure students' views are heard
- the equipment such as computers and tools the College provides for students and how up to date this is
- what training is given to College staff so that their skills are up to date
- how buildings are looked after to make sure they are safe and pleasant places for people to come to study and work in.





Visits to Classes

If a reviewer visits a class he or she will sit quietly and watch and listen to what is going on. At the end of the lesson the reviewer will speak to the lecturer and have a discussion with them about the lesson and about their job as a lecturer.

If you are a student in a class that has been observed you may be asked to join a group discussion with other students and the reviewer so that he or she may find out how you are getting on at College.

Meetings

If you are invited to attend a meeting with a reviewer you will be asked for your views and opinions about the College, your course and the extent to which your lecturers, guidance tutors and other staff are helping you to succeed.

You may also be asked about what you plan to do when you leave College for example do you wish to look for a job or do you wish to go to University? Perhaps you are already in a job and you are attending College to get new and different skills to help you to get on in your career. The reviewers will be interested to hear about this as well.

They may also ask about the facilities at College. This may include questions about:

- how easy is it to find your way around the buildings
- how comfortable are your classrooms
- how well-equipped are workshops, salons, laboratories
- what equipment you use
- is the equipment up to date and in good working order
- are there enough computers
- what are the catering facilities like

Whatever your involvement in the review process may be remember it is the College that is being reviewed not the students.

Student Representative

If you are not invited to a meeting you may still be asked for your views because one of the reviewers is also a student from another college. Her name is Jill Chapman and she will be going round the College speaking to students in social areas in the Gallowgate, Altens and Clinterty including Dino's, the Mix, Mix 2, Engine Room, Skyline Restaurant and canteens.

She will also meet Lani Baird, the Students' Association President and other members of the Students' Association.

Student Questionnaire

As part of the review of Aberdeen College the Students' Association will be contacting a sample group of students to assist them in completing a questionnaire about the student experience at Aberdeen College. The results will be sent to Education Scotland by the College's Students Association.

After the Review

Once the review is finished the reviewer in charge will write a report which will be sent to the College and published on the Education Scotland website. You will be able to read this as it will also be available on StudentNet.

If you have any questions about the review of Aberdeen College please ask any of the following people:

- Your Lecturers or Guidance Tutors
- Student representatives
- Students' Association.



THE QUEEN'S
ANNIVERSARY PRIZES

2009

