



Gender Pay Gap

Introduction

Introduction by:

Angela O'Donoghue CBE,
Principal and Chief Executive



South Essex College is the largest provider of technical and vocational education and training for 16-18 year olds, adults and Apprenticeship provision within Greater Essex.

We fully embrace the equality legislation and our commitment is articulated in our Strategic Plan, our Policies and Procedures and throughout College life. We work to promote and challenge diversity and encourage an inclusive environment.

Gender Equality is a significant part of our commitment to diversity and inclusion, which is why we welcome the implementation of mandatory gender pay gap reporting.

This is one-step in terms of progression and transparency across not only Colleges but also organisations nationally.

Our gender pay gap report suggests that while we are proud of progress made we have areas where we can do more to support gender equality. Over the past years when seeking to allocate pay awards we have focussed on the lower earners to increase their pay and this has resulted in a positive impact on our data.

Our 2018 data shows the mean gender pay gap of **6.9%** and a median gender pay gap of **11.3%**. The National median average is **18.1%** (ONS 2016 data sources), there is no current mean National average.

We would like to aim for a 0% gender pay gap; however, this is subject to a large number of variables, which are out of the College control. The data herein has been calculated in full compliance with the Gender Pay Gap Legislation and ACAS guidance and considered accurate.

When the overall data is summarised further by the quartiles, this reflects slightly different picture in relation to the pay ranges. It is important to consider these factors and support the whole of our workforce.

I am pleased to be able to commit to actions in response to this Gender Pay Gap Report. We look forward to completing further analysis moving forward. As we compare the data year on year we will be able to demonstrate the actions we have taken and address any issues of diversity and inclusion across the College.

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Difference between Gender Pay Gap and Equal Pay

Gender Pay Gap vs Equal Pay

The Equality and Human Rights Commission outlines the differences as follows:

'Whilst both equal pay and the gender pay gap deal with the disparity of pay women receive in the workplace, they are two different issues:

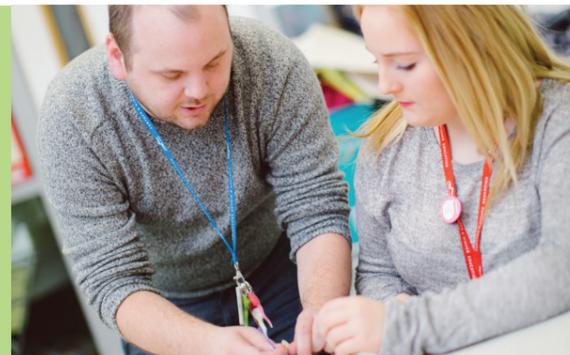
1. **Equal pay** means that men and women in the same employment performing equal work must receive equal pay, as set out in the Equality Act 2010.
2. The **gender pay gap** is a measure of the difference between men and women's average earnings across an organisations or the labour market. It is expressed as a percentage of men's earnings'.

Equal pay is unlawful whereas the gender pay gap is not. This is due to the causes of a gender pay gap not falling within the direct control of an employer. We take all appropriate action not to engage in practices that breach equal pay legislation.

The College has standardised terms and conditions of employment for the role and these are applied equitably to all staff employed. Whilst the Senior Leadership and Management Team are paid on 'spot' salaries, there are salary bands applied in principle in relation to the level of management across the College. Academic and Support staff have Salary Bands allocated to the roles they are employed in.

Salaries are allocated according to the role and level of responsibilities, rather than any other factor or protected characteristic detailed within the Equality Act 2010.

The College has standardised terms and conditions of employment for the role and these are applied equitably to all staff employed.



Statutory Gender Pay Gap Data

Organisations of 250 or more have a legal duty to publish their gender pay gap.

There are six basic calculations that the College will need to make: These are:

1. The mean gender pay gap
2. The median gender pay gap
3. The mean bonus gender pay gap
4. The median bonus gender pay gap
5. The proportion of males and females receiving a bonus payment
6. The proportion of males and females in each quartile band.

We take all appropriate action not to engage in practices that breach equal pay legislation.

The College will be reporting on three out of the six mandatory calculations, as we do not award bonuses to our employees.

For the purposes of gender pay gap reporting, the definition of who counts as an employee is set out in the regulations and follows the definition within the Equality Act 2010. This is known, as the 'extended' definition, which includes:

- Employees (those with a contract of employment)
- Workers and agency workers (those with a contract to do work)
- Some self-employed people (where they have to personally perform the work)
- Police officers and armed forces

Agency workers are not to be included in the gender pay data for this College, as they will be reported on by the agency they are employed by rather than the employer they are assigned to.

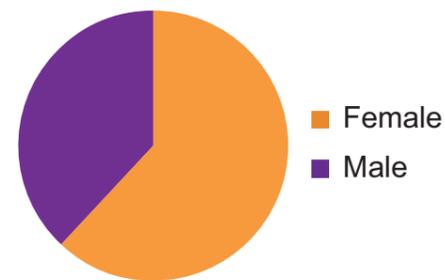


Gender Pay Gap Data

College relevant employees by Gender and Staff Group

As at 31 March 2017 had **941 relevant staff** employed across the College. The gender distribution of our workforce was:

- 62% female
- 38% male



Relevant employee by gender

This shows that female staff were in the majority.

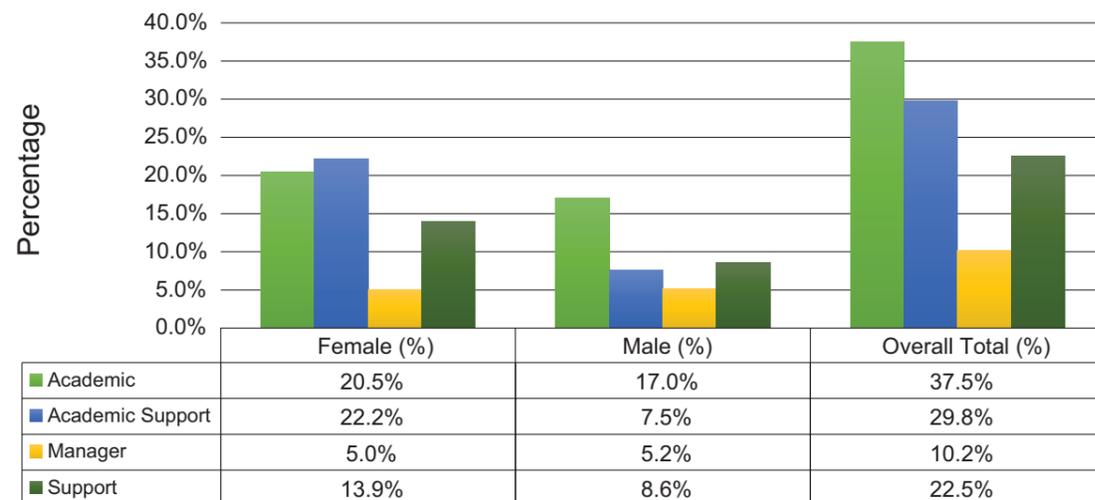
This figure is based on those in relevant employment on the 'snapshot' date of 31 March 2017 for gender pay gap reporting. This shows that female staff were in the majority, which is reflective of the education sector.

College Structure by Staff Group and Gender

The table below shows a summary of the College structure by staff group and gender using the data of 31 March 2017 that contributes to relevant employee.

The College staff structure shows that we have a higher proportion female staff more so in the Academic Support and Support Staff than but a proportionate gender split within the Academic and Management staff Groups. Shown in the table below:

College Structure by Staff Group and Gender



Gender Pay Gap

Our overall gender pay gap mean average is **6.9%**. This highlights the difference between the average pay of females and males in our total workforce. Our gender pay gap median rises to **11.3%**. The median figure is the difference between the midpoints in the ranges of men and women's pay.

Gender Pay Gap	Average %
Mean	6.9%
Median	11.3%

The College gender pay gap is lower than the national average. According to ONS figures, the national median pay gap for all employees is **18.1%**, in 2016. There is no national average for mean gender pay gap to use as a benchmark.

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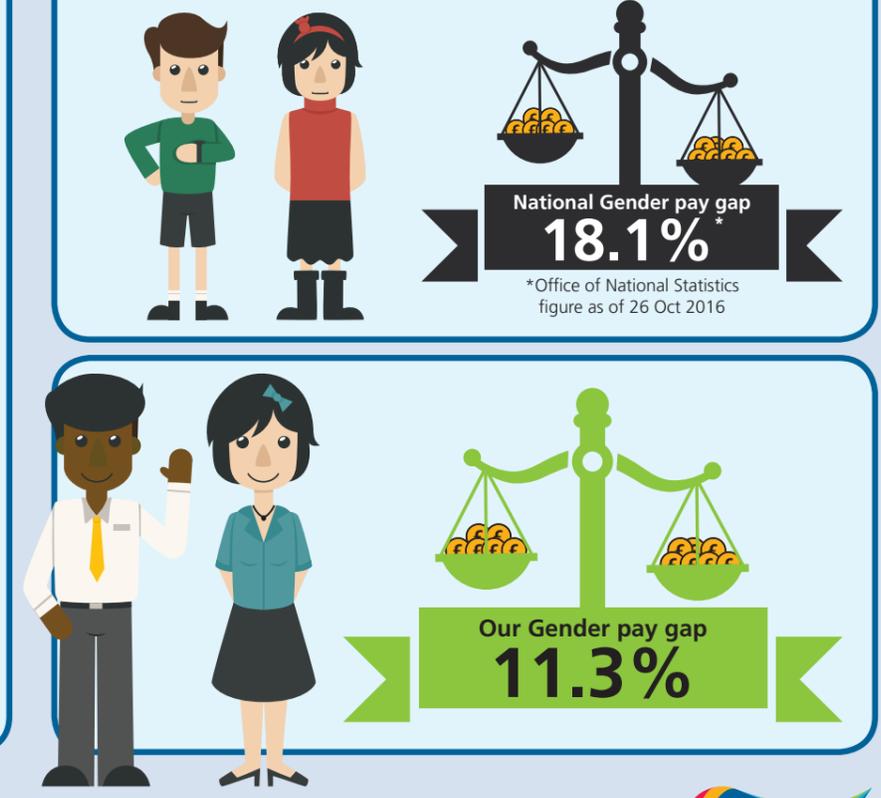
Equal pay...

is men and women being paid the same for the same work



The Gender pay gap...

is the difference between the gross hourly earnings for all men and the gross hourly earnings for all women



Understanding the College Gender Pay Gap

It is important to complete further analysis on the Gender Pay Gap data in order to understand some of the drivers that result in the data and what can be done about any concerns identified.

This allows us to understand whether women are over-represented in lower earning roles in contrast to men within higher earning roles.

In line with the Government Equalities Office, the data is separated into quartiles. The data will show, all male and female full-pay relevant employees across the whole College, and divided into four equal pay bands.

The data is sorted from smallest to highest by hourly pay rate and then separated into four equal sections. This enables analysis on the average salaries female earn compared to men within those quartiles. This will also show where female staff are more predominately employed within the College structure.

College Quartiles

When we analysed our gender pay gap by quartile, the gender pay gap shows that in the mean lower quartile females earn 0.13% less than male staff and similar in the mean lower middle quartile its 1.15% difference. (See table below)

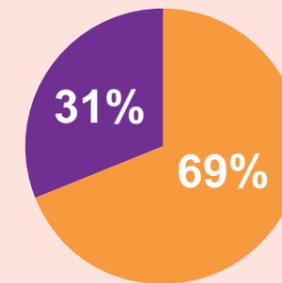
In the mean lower quartile females earn 0.13% less.

Gender Pay Gap	Quartile			
	Lower	Lower Middle	Upper Middle	Upper
Mean Gap %	0.13%	1.15%	0.25%	-2.11%
Median Gap %	0.00%	2.88%	-3.00%	0.00%

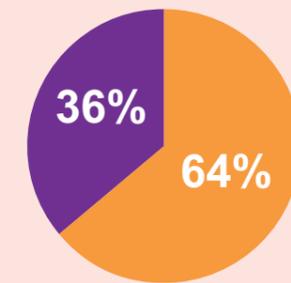
The mean upper quartile shows that female staff earn on average more than males and this is represented as -2.11%. The upper quartile only shows a 0.25% average difference in pay between female and male staff. Within the lower quartile where there is more female staff the gender pay gap is 0.13% and in the lower middle quartile 1.15%.

The median shows there is no difference in the gender pay gap in the lower and upper quartiles. The median gender pay gap in the lower middle quartile shows that males earn on average more than females by 2.88%, however this is reversed in the upper middle quartile where females earn on average more than males which is shown as -3.00%.

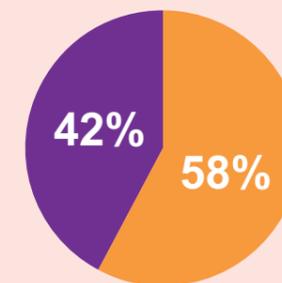
The charts below show the gender of staff within the quartiles by the percentage of female and male staff. Females are shown in Orange and males shown in Purple:



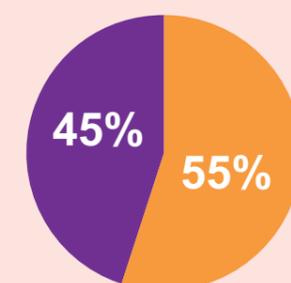
Lower



Lower Middle



Upper Middle



Upper

This charts show that in the lower quartiles of the College the staff groups are majority of female staff. There are 69% of females in the lower quartile compared to 31% of male relevant employees and in the lower middle quartile there is 64% of female relevant employees compared to 36% of male employees.

These are more females within the lower and lower middle quartiles of the College and this is reflective of the data where female staff are occupying these roles. Higher paid roles are more likely to be full time however, the College does offer flexible working options.

In the upper middle and upper quartiles, the data is comparative with a 6% difference in the upper middle and 10% difference in upper quartiles between female and males.

There are more part time and fractional paid roles, which are more likely to be held by females.

Fractional Staff (Part-Time, Term Time)

One key driver for the gender pay gap is that there are more part time and fractional paid roles, which are more likely to be held by females.

Taking Action

The College is aware of the gender disparity within the UK and we are committed to taking appropriate action and tackling gender pay inequality.

The following action will be taken or is in place to encourage equality and diversity across the College:

1. Regular Gender Pay Analysis and Reporting

- We will analyse the gender pay gap annually, report and publish the data to demonstrate compliance and transparency.
- We will complete further analysis and provide information to our staff at a practical level to help them understand the gender pay gap and context.
- Before we next report, we will investigate what we can do to address the pay gap, particularly in the lower and lower middle quartiles.
- Seek advice from the Government Equalities Office as appropriate.
- Ensure pay determination for roles across the College structure continues to demonstrate fairness and equity whilst embedding best practice.
- Take appropriate action to reduce the Gender Pay Gap where possible.



We will complete further analysis and provide information to our staff at a practical level to help them understand the gender pay gap and context.



2. Initiatives Supporting Equality and Inclusion

- **Equality and Diversity Group:** The College has an Equality and Diversity Group chaired by our Principal and Chief Executive. The group consists of staff from across the College and are proactive in our efforts to improve equality and diversity. The group meets regularly and has a link Governor appointed to monitor actions.
- **Equality and Diversity Policy:** We are committed to the advancement and promotion of equality and diversity for all students, staff, and all other users of the College and our Policy reflects this.
- **Living Wage:** The College has applied the Living Wage in principle along with the values of the Living Wage Foundation. As we have a higher proportion of female relative employees within the lower and lower middle quartiles this action contributes to staff receiving a minimum wage.
- **Salary Reviews:** When we have completed pay negotiations with our Staff Consultation Group, we have been mindful that an amount per hour increase would provide a higher percentage increase on lower paid roles compared with higher paid roles. We are currently in the process of pay negotiations and this is a contributory factor in our discussions.
- **Flexible Working Policy:** The College has implemented a Flexible Working Policy in line with legislation. This is reviewed annual, promoted on the College Intranet, and available to all staff to apply for Flexible Working.
- **Recruitment and Retention Policy and Procedure:** The College has a recruitment and retention policy and procedure. This is reviewed annually. This is promoted on the College intranet and available to all applicants.
- **Vacancy Advertising:** The Head of Human Resources has commenced a project to improve the advertising of vacancies and process of applying for roles in the College. This will ideally contribute to the removal of any identified or perceived barriers to the recruitment process
- **Child Care Vouchers:** The College offers childcare vouchers, which are a tax-efficient way to pay for childcare, thus helping to reduce child-care costs and encourage staff returning from maternity or adoption leave to return to work and other staff with child-care responsibilities to remain in work.
- **Family Leave:** The College has an Adoption, Maternity, Paternity and Parental Leave Policy, which is currently under review. We also advocate shared parental leave and flexible arrangements to support with parental responsibilities.
- **Trade Unions:** We work in partnership with recognised trade unions, AMiE, UCU and UNISON to support the process of collective bargaining along with implementation of College policies and our employee relations matters.

We are committed to the advancement and promotion of equality and diversity for all.

0845 52 12345

www.southessex.ac.uk

If you require this booklet in an alternative format e.g. Braille, large print or audio, please call us on 0845 52 12345.



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