Section 12 – Self Evaluation, Monitoring & Review

Subject:	Policy on Provider owned internal monitoring.		
Applicable QQI Core Standard	Self-Evaluation, Monitoring and Review		
Date Approved by Academic Council:			August 2021
Policy Version	1/2021	Date due for Revision	February 2024

CONTEXT

ICHAS has primary responsibility for the quality of its programme provision; the implementation and evaluation of its QA procedures; and on-going enhancement. This principle is laid down in Irish law and in the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
Monitoring and Review in this context includes:

- Self-monitoring and Self Evaluation activities
- Periodic evaluation of programmes by way of Programmatic Review.

To maintain alignment with QQI's Core Standards, this policy and its associated procedures express a synthesis of the of the various strands of internal and external review which are expressed singularly in other policies and procedures.

Internal self-evaluation, monitoring and review efforts are supported by routine monitoring by QQI, defined as an external QA process that involves both routine and once-off evaluations, analysis, observations and recording of provider activities. Routine monitoring by QQI is designed to assist ICHAS in demonstrating the effective implementation of QA procedures, supporting public confidence, and providing a source of public information through the publication of the conclusions of monitoring engagements.

Collectively, the internal and external review processes are designed to ensure that the programmes and the QA processes of the College are fit for purpose. The review and subsequent reflection of an external team provides valuable peer support and assurance on the effectiveness of the procedures and their external advice on quality processes and enhancement where necessary enhances the overall quality of programmes, student experience and functioning of the College. It equally offers assurance to learners that their experience is being monitored for good practice, and assurances to the public that the College is offering a valuable service.

Ongoing internal review and self- evaluation of quality supported by such External Review is central to ICHAS Quality Assurance and Enhancement ethos. ICHAS supports an ongoing process of reflective self-evaluation which feeds into a Quality Implementation Plan supporting quality enhancement.

POLICY STATEMENT
ICHAS is committed to a process of ongoing self-evaluation, monitoring and review to ensure that both the quality of its programmes and services to students and stakeholders with a view to both assuring quality and ongoing enhancement. Besides being a requirement of QQI that providers of educational programmes engage in ongoing monitoring of programmes, such activities are vital to ensure that programmes of education are fit for purpose and remain so throughout their life cycle. Equally such activity promotes the success of programmes, and ensures the ongoing quality of the learner experience, and offers assurance to the Academic Awarding body of the capacity and competence of the College.

SCOPE

Applies To	Staff	Students	Both	
	✓			
Responsible for Implementation	Registrar			
Responsible for Monitoring & Review	Vice President (Corporate Affairs)	Vice President (Academic Affairs)	Registrar	Quality Assurance & Enhancement Officer
				✓

RELEVANT GUIDELINES/ POLICIES INFORMING THIS POLICY

- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines Developed by QQI for use by all Providers.
- National Forum (2017b) Using learning analytics to support the enhancement of teaching and learning in higher education. Dublin. Available at: www.teachingandlearning.ie.
- European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) et al (2015) Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG).
- ENQA (2018) Considerations for Quality Assurance of e-learning provision - available at https://www.enqa.eu/wp-content/uploads/Considerations-for-QA-of-e-learning-provision.pdf Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Sector Specific Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines Developed by QQI For Independent/Private Providers Coming To QQI On A Voluntary Basis
- Government of Ireland (2012) Qualifications & Quality Assurance (Education

and Training Act.
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Policies & Criteria for the Validation of programmes of Education.
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2015) QQI Policy Restatement Policy and Criteria for Access, Transfer and Progression in Relation to Learners for Providers of Further and Higher Education and Training.
- National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (2005) – re-published by QQI, 2015) Principles and Operational Guidelines for the Recognition of Prior Learning in Further and Higher Education and Training June 2005
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2018) Statutory Quality Assurance Guidelines for Providers of Blended Learning Programmes
- Protection of Enrolled Learners: Protocols for Implementation of Part 6 of the 2012 Act.
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2013) Assessment and Standards, Revised 2013
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (revised 2018) Quality Assuring Assessment: Guidelines for Providers
- Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation)
- Government of Ireland (2018) Data Protection Act 1988 Revised 2018.
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2018) Quality Within Higher Education 2018 A Summary Report.
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2016) Policy on Quality Assurance Guidelines
- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (2015) Effective Practice Guidelines for External Examining; Revised February 2015

Linked Policies and Procedures

Linked Policies	Policy on Programme Review and Revalidation Policy on Provider owned QA engagement with External QA
Linked Procedures	Procedures associated with Provider owned internal monitoring. Procedures associated with Programme Review and Revalidation Procedures associated with Provider owned QA engagement with External QA