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Digital Strategy

**Policy Statement**

* 1. It is the policy of the University of Chichester (“University”) to promote, enable and provide digital technologies relevant to learning, to onwards careers, maximising social inclusivity, as well as those that best enable environmental sustainability, security and corporate efficiency.
  2. The purpose of this Digital Strategy is:
     1. To compliment the University’s Strategic Plan, and the University’s Learning and Teaching and Student Experience Strategy.
     2. To provide a succinct, outwards facing policy document, describing the University’s commitments to acquiring and enabling effective digital systems and opportunities.

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Digital technologies support our commitment to teaching, research and organisational excellence. Although, for us, ‘education is not an app’, we believe that new technologies/digital literacy can enhance staff and student learning relationships. Specifically, we believe that technology has great potential for learning if utilised in careful and caring ways. We also recognise and affirm the need to demonstrate and enable the development of the digital skills to support our graduates to engage with, and thrive in the midst of, life opportunities. Our commitments to enabling and benefitting from digital technologies are set out below.

Digital Strategy



**Digital in Learning and Research**

To provide students with an outstanding learning experience from your first contact with us, to your graduation and beyond, we will;

* Provide access to technology that is personalised, intuitive and familiar, for face to face, simulated and distance learning.
* Support our students in engaging in all the best opportunities in education, extra-curricular activities and work experiences.
* Enable virtual classrooms, virtual reality and remote access to specialised equipment, and access to a comprehensive library of e-resources.
* Enable the recording of lectures (where considered appropriate) that you can view when and where that is convenient to you.
* Enable access to teaching and support staff when you need it.
* Pioneer new approaches to digital inclusion, accessible digital content and helping in developing the digital skills all students need to thrive in their context, in an increasingly digital world.
* Use and enable digital technologies to benefit students and to extend Chichester’s academic reputation.

**Digital For Graduate Outcomes**

To research, consult and adopt the effective and emerging use of digital technologies across, learning, working and living, we will;

* Embed learning for complimentary technologies and the skills to use them into our curricular and open access resources.
* Enable the technologies and techniques people use in everyday business, home and social life into University processes and services.
* Maximise social inclusivity, including through recognising that you may be studying alongside a busy work and home life.
* Provide and promote technology for widening participation, reducing inequality and expanding the modes of study.
* Ensure our devices and services integrate well with what you use at home and that are used in business.
* Support the need for openness, convenience and research, whilst maintaining privacy and integrity.
* Ensure our services are resistant to cyber threats, and that we support the development of skills to maintain on-line safety.

**Digital in Teaching and Research**

To adopt established and new methods to extend and enrich learning on and off campus, using digital technology to;

* Enable widespread availability of technologies across learning and teaching, campus and accommodation spaces.
* Promote environmental sustainability, through enabling on-line sessions, and file sharing – and avoiding undue printing.
* Use IT and analytics to support quality and innovation and to maximise accessible, personalised modes and times of study.
* Support our teaching staff in using immersive simulation, data visualisation and analytics in their course design and delivery.
* Ensure our teaching incorporates the digital technologies needed to advantage our students in employment and employability.
* Promote the use of media rich teaching through simulation, virtual reality, haptics, lecture recording and audio and video feedback.
* Enable industry standard communication and collaboration tools for on-line access for sharing teaching and research information.



**Digital in Managing the University**

Maximise accessible information available anytime, anywhere, using digital technologies to;

* Enable all systems and communications facilities to be available for on and off campus smart working.
* Promote environmental sustainability through enabling on-line meetings and file sharing - to avoid undue copies and printing.
* Extend collaboration and IT laboratories for innovation amongst colleagues, partners and international communities.
* Develop secure data-lakes for analytics that enable and inform learning, student engagement, teaching and use of space.
* Use technology to simulate and visualise the University’s data
* Increase digital skills and confidence whilst ensuring privacy and minimising the risks of grooming, bullying and radicalisation.
* Use technologies to maximise the flexible uses of space.
* Use social media and digital connectivity to maximise growing the University.

**Digital for Extending Communities**

To develop and improve engagement with all our stakeholders, from prospective students through to business partners, we will;

* Ensure our teaching and support staff are accessible when you need them, both on-line and face to face.
* Add to media rich simulation and streaming to enable immersive and ‘not-in-the-room’ learning and to extend multi-model learning.
* Use assistive technologies to increase inclusivity and to reduce other barriers such as language, time zones and location.
* Provide and encourage the use of safe on-line environments that minimise bullying, cybercrime and exposure to radicalism.
* Invest in ICT training to enable digital accessibility, and to increase social inclusivity.
* Use technologies and work collaboratively with industry to maximise opportunities for employment and employability.
* Work with commercial and academic partners to share in the development of academic excellence, and international research.



**Digital for Sustainability**

To exploit the digital technologies that contribute to achieving the University’s core aims, we will;

* Use technologies to minimise unnecessary travel.
* Use low energy consumption technologies.
* Avoid excessive use of technology, maximising sleep and energy saving functions.
* Minimise excessive data storage, and promote the concept of a Secure Single Version or the Truth (SSVOT).
* Use data analytics to fully understand the consumption of energy and water across our estates, operations and learning activities.
* Use data analytics to build staff and student’s commuting carbon / energy consumption into our sustainable travel plan.
* IT to continue to support the objectives of the Sustainability, Environmental and Energy Management Advisory Group.
* Ensure our redundant technologies do not become land-fill, and are recycled in appropriate non damaging schemes.

University IT Ecosystem