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# Document 013\_22

# **IDEA Academy Ethos**



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#### Instructions for Document Users

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#### Continuous Improvement

Procedures are meant to be 'living' documents that need to be applied, executed, and maintained. If the procedure does not reflect the current, correct work practice, it needs to be updated. Please contact us on: +356 2145 6310



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#### 1. Aim

The purpose of this document is to provide information on IDEA Academy Ethos.

Our core values and underlying ethos define the way we carry out our work and study, inform the decisions we make, underpin the policies we develop, and guide how we interact with each other and with our stakeholders.

# 2. Scope

This document applies to all IDEA Academy staff and students.

# 3. IDEA Academy Ethos

IDEA Academy is fully licensed by the Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) as a Further and Higher Institution Provider (License Number: 2014-FHI-015).

Our ethos is focused on academic excellence and student-centeredness and as such is based on the following core values:

- 1. Inclusivity
- 2. Integrity and Ethical Behaviour
- 3. Industry Collaboration
- 4. Continuous Improvement Approach
- 5. Participatory Approach
- 6. Relevance through Research



## 4. Inclusivity

We are committed to developing and nurturing a diverse learning community of practice, that supports not only students and faculty members' inclusion in the Academy, but also engages diverse workforce and local partners.

IDEA Academy nurtures inclusivity, diversity and equality, recognizing the value it has to the future of our students, staff, partners and community.

We respect people from all nations, cultures and backgrounds and treat them with courtesy.

# 5. Integrity and Ethical Behaviour

IDEA Academy's core values include integrity and ethical behaviour. A community of students, faculty members as well as management staff share responsibility for academic honesty and integrity.

Our students are here to learn, and learning depends upon hard work and academic honesty, therefore IDEA Academy expects students to do their own academic work. In addition, it expects faculty and administration members to uphold ethical standards built on student-focused approach committed to providing value to its community of students.

# 6. Industry Collaboration

As part of our student centricity IDEA Academy constantly collaborates with industry, entities, agencies, and other stakeholders to ensure that all programmes are relevant, practical, and student oriented.

Study programmes need to address not only the current demands, but also future industry needs while providing opportunities to the lifelong learning of the student.



# 7. Continuous Improvement Approach

A Continuous improvement mind-set is our main driver for change. Our objective is to continuously improve the academic experience and foster a high-quality learning environment. We consider students, lecturers and other stakeholders' voices and views conscious of the fact that feedback serves as a decision-making tool in addressing students' needs and enhancement of programme design.

## 8. Participatory Approach

Our collective success depends upon the achievements of our students. Our success relies on dynamic staff, ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities presented in a rapidly changing environment. It requires a culture of trust, collaboration, and teamwork, built on a shared sense of purpose. The achievements of our students are celebrated in and communicated to the wider community.

## 9. Relevance Through Research

One of the objectives of IDEA Academy is to maintain high quality teaching and learning that is relevant and applicable to current and emerging realities. It also recognises that knowledge, skills, and competences are neither static nor a one-dimensional concept. It evolves over time with experience stemming from: (i) trial and error in applied, real world scenarios, and (ii) findings from new research.

In this regard, the design of the curriculum, the teaching approach and learning activities are designed to promote research through research-based assignments and dissertations.

Research is one of IDEA Academy's core values, a strong fundamental principle reflecting its ethos of academic excellence and student centredness. Hence, committed to research and keen to explore and support emerging areas of research to contribute in the creation of new knowledge, IDEA Academy sets its strategy on two levels. On the first level as a higher education entity, IDEA Academy promotes research-based assessment and dissertations as one of its two main areas of provision.



On a second broader level, the Academy's Research Strategy sets out its aspirations and aims to address tomorrow's challenges, built on three main core trajectories:

- 1. Innovation through Scientific Research.
- 2. Frontier Technologies for a Sustainable Future.
- 3. Inspiration and Transformation for High Performance.

To this end, three main thematic areas were identified namely: Education, Health and Economy

Three Key Areas were identified and directly linked to the Quality Framework:

- 1. Research Management
- 2. Intellectual Property Management
- 3. Research Collaboration and Partnerships.



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