

# Awarding Body for Awarding Vocational Achievement (AVA)

We, the undersigned, commit to honour the Armed
Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces
Community. We recognise the value Serving Personnel,
both Regular and Reservists, Veterans and military
families contribute to our business and our country.
Signed on behalf of:

Awarding Body for Awarding Vocational Achievement (AVA)

Signed:

Name:

Shaharyar Khan Mohmand

Position: Director of Operations

Date: 12/10/2016

# The Armed Forces Covenant

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom Her Majesty's Government

and -

All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of the Crown

## And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty.

Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

This obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.

### Section 1: Principles of the Armed Forces Covenant

- 1.1 We **AVA** will endeavour in our business dealings to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, which are:
  - no member of the Armed Forces Community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen
  - in some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.

### Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment

- 2.1 **AVA** recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:
  - promoting the fact that we are an armed forces-friendly organisation;
  - **AVA** would honour the war veterans from all three services (Royal Air Force, Royal Army and Royal Navy) in the form of Awards that would be given on various special occasions such as Armed Forces Remembrance Day, International Peace Day etc.,.
  - Seeking to support the employment of veterans young and old and working with the Career Transition Partnership (CTP), in order to establish a tailored employment pathway for Service Leavers. We would also offer employment to the spouse of serving personnel and veterans on teaching positions within our College;
  - striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners specially in the field of teaching and administration;
  - endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment;
  - seeking to support our employees who choose to be members of the Reserve forces, including by accommodating their training and deployment where possible;

- Offering support to our local cadet units, either in our local community or in local schools,
  where possible. We would also offer our premises and other facilities to local cadet units for
  their events and other purposes absolutely free of cost. We would also encourage our
  employees and teachers to become cadet helpers and mentors;
- Aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day. This would be done through hosting events on Campus, promoting themes through website, social media, e learning system and student involvement;
- offering free CPD short courses to members of the Armed Forces Community;
- 2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and/or on our website, setting out how we will seek to honour them and inviting feedback from the Service community and our customers on how we are doing.
  - We will publicise our Armed Forces Covenant and our commitment to Armed Forces and their families on our Website, Marketing Material, Newsletters, Moodle and Brochures.
  - We will use Corporate Covenant Logo on all our publicity material in order to demonstrate our commitment for Armed Forces community;
  - We would celebrate Armed Forces Day as a business;
  - We would work closely with Defence Relationship Management (DRM) to find out how employing a reservist could be mutually beneficial;