

TAG



live it

TURN LESSONS INTO LIFE LESSONS



YOUR PATH

Fast track for a
better future



EXPERIENCE

Getting out to
get ahead

Version 2 Feb 2020





WELCOME TO

A 'NEW' LIFE

AT TAG

The Academy Grimsby (TAG) is an exciting alternative route to college or employment for young people aged 14–16 years. At TAG, we focus on providing high-quality GCSE education alongside specialised professional and technical areas of study.

We believe that the opportunity to combine traditional academic learning with real industry-based study gives students a head start in their future careers and aspirations. Current employment trends are reflected in the pathways on offer including Engineering, Health & Care, Creative, Digital & Games, Performing Arts, Hair & Beauty, Animal Care and Maritime & Logistics.

Our industry partners work closely with TAG to give young people the chance to make an early start in building the skills and experience to be successful later in life.

Choose TAG, **choose your life.**

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**As Principal of The Academy Grimsby,
I am delighted to offer you the
opportunity to consider making a
clear and positive choice about your
future, a future in which you will
have the chance to be the very best
person you can be.**



TAG offers each student a secure and innovative environment in which they can develop genuine, career-focused qualifications, skills and knowledge based on their individual goals and aspirations.

TAG is not a school in the traditional sense. This allows us to offer a curriculum that delivers not only the key GCSE subjects including Maths, English and Science but also (and uniquely), a technical and vocational pathway that prepares our students for their chosen employment sector.

Professional, technical and additional qualifications are taught and assessed by tutors with specific and recent industry experience, ensuring that these subjects are up-to-date and relevant.

Visits by employers, guest lectures and workshops, alongside work-related skills development, ensures that TAG graduates are very well-equipped to progress to a range of exciting destinations, whether that is further training, qualifications or an apprenticeship.

We offer access to the very best facilities and embrace digital and online learning to prepare young people to be fully equipped to work in a modern, technological environment. Enrichment, employability, tailored pathways and individualised support for all students make TAG a unique and pioneering place in which to study and learn.

I hope you find all the information within the prospectus that you need to make the decision to come to The Academy Grimsby and I look forward to welcoming you to one of our open events planned through the year.

Mr David Vickers

WHY CHOOSE LIFE AT

THE ACADEMY GRIMSBY?

THERE ARE MANY REASONS FOR CHOOSING TAG

- Small class sizes to support more individual learning
- High-quality GCSE curriculum, including triple science
- Professional and technical qualifications in a chosen area
- Work experience in a chosen area
- Personalised learning with a mature approach
- A high level of pastoral care and support
- The opportunity to take part in sporting fixtures, trips and visits
- Free breakfast, uniform and transport
- Fantastic enrichment opportunities for fun and wider learning.

You don't have to just take our word for it!

This is what the 2017 Outstanding Ofsted report said:

- A broad and inclusive curriculum
- Challenging and current lessons
- Polite and mature students
- Exceptional spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Students feel safe and valued
- Students know they have done well and how to improve.



A LIFE WITH PURPOSE
OUR MISSION,
VISION, BELIEFS
& VALUES

OUR MISSION

To enrich the lives of all by providing high-quality, responsive education and training.

OUR VISION

The Academy's vision is to deliver outstanding learning and educational achievement, enabling successful progression and enhanced life opportunities for young people of the local and adjacent communities.

- All of our students, and those who support them, will benefit from having their horizons and expectations extended
- All students need to have self-confidence, a strong sense of personal and social responsibility, and, eventually 'work' and life skills
- The best results often come from a 'culture' of collaboration and partnership

The values that underpin the actions should include respect for ourselves, respect for and tolerance of others and respect for the environment.

OUR BELIEFS AND VALUES

Supporting this vision is a set of core beliefs and values.

The Academy's beliefs include:

- All of our students will be successful in achieving their very best outcomes
- All of our students should have access to the highest quality opportunities and teaching available
- Success comes from active engagement with, and ownership of, their own learning
- Learning must be appreciated as a lifelong process that will constantly open up new opportunities

The Academy's values:

- Openness, honesty and respect
- Creativity and innovation
- A 'can do' attitude and approach
- Hard work, perseverance and striving for excellence
- Empathy and being prepared to listen to what others have to say
- Helpfulness and a thoughtful attitude and approach to others
- Being responsive to and learning from feedback.

OUR TAG CURRICULUM

The Academy Grimsby focuses on the main GCSE subjects for 60% of teaching time. The rest of the curriculum is a combination of specialist pathway learning (some with BTEC qualifications), enrichment and work experience.

TAG curriculum is flexible to allow for a more personalised approach to meet each student's needs, but is also designed to stretch and challenge everyone.

The quality of our teaching is second-to-none, with expert teachers who are innovative in their subjects and excited to support learning with their real-life experience.

The Academy offers core GCSE subjects in:

- English Language
- English Literature
- Maths
- History
- Geography
- Core and Additional or BTEC Applied Science

In addition, students may also have the option of studying:

- Art
- ICT
- PE
- Performing Arts
- Business
- Sociology
- Psychology.

SO, WHAT IS A ‘BTEC’ OR OTHER ‘VOCATIONAL’ COURSE?

A BTEC is well-known by industry as a qualification based mostly on practical learning. There are also equivalents from highly-respected awarding bodies such as Rock School and UAL for example.

They are studied alongside GCSEs

- These are vocational qualifications, which means they are closely related to the careers in each specialist pathway.
- They support the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to prepare for further education or employment.
- A key difference is how they are studied – everyone learns differently and BTECs and equivalent courses provide a way to learn through practical work as well as theory.
- A vocational course can give a much faster route into employment because it develops the skills, experience and techniques that employers are looking for.
- BTECs and similar courses are usually assessed during the programme by building up a portfolio of work as well as a small number of formal tests. This can often suit students who don't always do as well in exams.



REAL LIFE LESSONS

OUR FACILITIES

The Academy Grimsby offers all of the facilities you would expect in an exceptional school but with the bonus of specialised facilities that offer the best in professional workshops and spaces.

For example, there is an amazing area for health and care industries which combines a classroom with the kind of real-life working environment that you would expect to see in a nursing home or other care setting. This exclusive suite has a variety of training areas including a bedroom, kitchen, bathroom and lounge area where students can learn and practise care and therapy-based skills.

The **Digital Pathway** has a purpose-built design workshop with high-spec computers that can handle graphics and coding, iPads, cameras and a 'green-screen' studio. Students will also have access to specialist TV studios.

Our **theatre and dance studio** encourages **Performing Arts** students to express themselves and explore their practical and performance skills.

Our **Engineering workshop** has practical equipment including drills and lathes that build the practical skills of students and give them a real insight into the industry.

Hair and Beauty, Maritime and Animal Care are also taught at specialist facilities at the Grimsby Institute campuses in industry-standard salons, workshops, animal enclosures and there's even a dog-grooming salon.

YOUR LIFE, YOUR PATH

THE ENGINEERING PATHWAY

Engineering training can lead to one of the best paid, challenging and interesting careers with a wide variety of jobs and opportunities for those who are technically-minded and love problem-solving.

BTEC FIRST CERTIFICATE IN ENGINEERING

This course is a practical, work-related programme for those interested in an engineering career. It covers a wide range of engineering topics and activities, including workshop skills using hand tools and manufacturing engineering products.

The core units provide the basic knowledge and understanding of the engineering sector. For example, in the 'Engineering World' unit there is the chance to investigate engineering processes used to manufacture products from a wide variety of businesses.

Other units are designed to develop further knowledge and understanding in engineering materials and maths for engineers, and also develop skills and

explore personal qualities needed in the engineering sector. The mandatory units will help build and develop employability skills and knowledge which are very transferable across other areas of work. A number of optional specialist units are also covered, enabling students to explore an area of interest in greater depth such as computer-aided design (CAD).

Some of these units will be taught by specialists at the Grimsby Institute's outstanding Engineering Centre.



YOUR LIFE, YOUR PATH

THE HEALTH & CARE PATHWAY

The demand for health and care professionals is rapidly increasing, especially in our region, and a qualification in this industry leads to a long and successful career working with the people who need help the most.

BTEC TECH AWARD IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

NCFE CACHE TECH AWARD IN CHILD DEVELOPMENT & CARE

The Academy Grimsby is delighted to offer qualifications in healthcare, with support from various Healthcare Providers. Students are given a strong set of core skills to support the journey to become a healthcare professional. This specialist work-related qualification is designed to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills needed for entering college or direct employment in the health and social care sector. To be successful on the course, it is important to be able to use good communication skills with a wide range of people to solve problems, meet deadlines and work effectively as part of a team. This qualification prepares students to understand the roles and responsibilities of a person working in the healthcare sector. This includes studying both the rights and the needs of people within health and social care settings and how a health and social care professional can improve the lives of others.

Students will have the chance to practise some of the basics of healthcare including the impact of diet and lifestyles on health.

Learners will also undertake the study of a childcare qualification which will develop their knowledge and understanding of child development and well-being necessary for working with children in a variety of settings. It is aimed to introduce learners to the knowledge, skills and understanding required for childcare and the development of children aged 0-5 years. The qualification will develop knowledge relating to roles and responsibilities in settings, stages of child development, observing children and their holistic development. This will give learners an ideal insight allowing them to determine whether a career in childcare and education and/or health and social care is right for them.



YOUR LIFE, YOUR PATH

THE ANIMAL CARE PATHWAY

Having a genuine love for animals can lead to a career working with them that is both enriching and rewarding with employment opportunities locally, nationally and even globally.

The animal care industry offers a wide range of career opportunities including veterinary nursing, rescue and rehabilitation and working within zoos and safari parks as well as areas such as dog grooming and animal behaviour.

BTEC LEVEL 1/2 FIRST AWARD/ CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA IN ANIMAL CARE

This qualification will provide a sound knowledge of the development of animals and their care requirements. There are many opportunities to develop practical skills, working with a range of companion, exotic and farm livestock species in the fantastic facilities at our specialist campus.

Students will learn about the life cycles of animals, how to care for the many different animals that we have on site from mice and meerkats, to tarantulas and turtles. Cleaning and feeding plans, basic animal first aid and grooming form part of the experience of working in a place where there are so many different species to encounter. Students can then see for themselves whether a job in animal management, veterinary nursing or veterinary science is right for them.



THE CREATIVE, DIGITAL & GAMES PATHWAY

The digital and creative industries are one of the most exciting and important to the UK economy. Careers in this area can range from fashion design to games development, software and app development to children's book illustration.

BTEC TECH AWARD LEVELS 1/2 / DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE, DIGITAL & GAMES

YEAR 1 – MEDIA PRODUCTION

YEAR 2 – GAMES DESIGN

This course is a practical, work-related programme for any young person interested in pursuing a career in one of the creative industries. The course is based on project-based learning to give a real insight into what it's like to work in a creative studio, whether that's in games design, photography, journalism, design or web development.

Throughout the course there will be the opportunity to use a wide range of media, with units including Video Production, Photography Techniques, Animation Techniques, Print Production, Writing for the Creative Media and Audio Production.

Games-based subjects are also studied, including Computer Games Testing, Designing Stories and Characters, 3D Modelling and understanding how to produce and market a game.

We try to give every student the opportunity to work with local creative specialists to gain first-hand experience of their chosen career field. Enrichment opportunities can include journalism and fashion activities.

A number of optional specialist units are offered which give a closer focus on an area that interests the individual student and is an opportunity to explore an area more deeply.



THE PERFORMING ARTS PATHWAY

The performing arts industry includes careers both onstage and backstage. Whether someone's passion is to perform as an actor, dancer or in musical theatre – on stage or in television – or if the production side of show business is more interesting – at TAG, our ethos is to allow our students to develop in their own way. The social skills that performing arts can improve are vital to long-term success in many aspects of life.

LEVEL 2 CERTIFICATE/DIPLOMA PERFORMING ARTS – ROCK SCHOOL

We are committed to offering a range of vocational qualifications and performing arts will appeal to a wide variety of students, who will not only see a potential career in the industry but also for those who would benefit from a boost to self-confidence and the development of personal skills and self-expression.

The course is made up of different strands of the performing arts including drama, dance, musical theatre and production skills. Students could eventually specialise in one of these areas or have a more general experience.

The core units include Individual Showcase and Community Arts, Performance in Context - which explores how performance links to history and the wider world - and

the performing arts industry. There are also a further 40 units to choose from, which means that personal interests and talents can shine.

There will be fantastic opportunities to perform regularly and gain experience in all areas of the arts, with the support of professional companies and the potential opportunity to undertake industry-related experience.

We have a 200-seat theatre and our performing arts studios for dance and drama have sprung-floors for safer movement. The performance space has industry-standard lighting and sound kit and backstage production areas including a well-stocked wardrobe department.



YOUR LIFE, YOUR PATH

THE HAIR & BEAUTY PATHWAY

The hairdressing and beauty therapy industry has so many exciting career opportunities. There is a growth in demand for jobs locally and nationally within the hair and beauty industry, with many employment opportunities working within local salons, spas or even self-employment. By choosing this pathway, students can start working towards becoming a spa therapist, make-up artist, senior hair stylist or a salon owner.

For those with a real passion and flair for both hairdressing and beauty therapy, this is a fantastic opportunity to combine academic and practical study.

LEVEL 2 TECHNICAL AWARD IN HAIR & BEAUTY STUDIES

This Level 2 qualification develops a firm base of knowledge and skills of both hairdressing and beauty therapy services. Students train within our state-of-the-art salons and are taught by our industry-specialist tutors.

Over the duration of the course, students will develop both the technical and theoretical skills required to become an outstanding beauty therapist or hair stylist. Learning about the science of hair and skin, colour theory, hair style trends and fashions and techniques are all part of the programme.



YOUR LIFE, YOUR PATH

THE MARITIME & LOGISTICS PATHWAY

OPEN AWARDS LEVEL 2 AWARD IN MARITIME STUDIES**OPEN AWARDS LEVEL 2 AWARD IN UNDERSTANDING
EUROPEAN & INTERNATIONAL FREIGHT FORWARDING**

The maritime and logistics industry offers a range of well-paid and challenging career opportunities, giving you the chance to travel the world and experience an exciting and different lifestyle.

Jobs within the industry include deckhand, deck officer, marine deckhand, engineering officer, captain and chief engineers, with opportunities to work either onshore or at sea. There is a huge range of jobs onshore including; ships agents, marine law and insurance.

The Maritime and Logistics Pathway qualification is your first step towards one of these exciting careers, giving you a broad foundation of knowledge as well as offering significant opportunities to develop practical skills.

You will learn the components of the maritime sector and why they are important economically, find out about key maritime career pathways, be able to distinguish between different types of vessels in common use and understand the importance of protecting the marine environment.

You will also learn about the logistics industry, which is responsible for the majority of trade in the UK. It is especially relied upon for passenger transport, which includes bus, airlines and railways. You can work towards a rewarding career in areas such as freight forwarding, transport management and ecommerce, with exciting future jobs in automation and other digital innovations also on the horizon.

Upon successful completion of the course, you will have the opportunity to take another year of study to build on your skills before you can apply to our Humber Maritime College. This offers fully-funded training and a direct pathway into a career in the Merchant Navy as a deck officer or engineering officer.





A WORKING LIFE

WORK EXPERIENCE AT TAG

Work experience is an important part of the TAG experience building the skills, attitudes and behaviours that employers expect. As well as placements with suitable providers in subject-related settings - wherever possible - there will also be a variety of trips, visits and talks to give students a crucial insight into their chosen pathway.

In previous years, some students on work experience have even been offered apprenticeships based on their professional attitude and commitment to work hard on their placement.

A STRUCTURED LIFE

TERM TIMES, HOLIDAYS AND HOURS

Students attend The Academy Grimsby for two years, from 8.30am- 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

Holidays will operate in the following pattern:

- Academic year starts in early September
- October Half Term holiday (one week)
- Christmas holiday (two weeks)
- February Half Term holiday (one week)
- Easter holiday (two weeks)
- May Half Term holiday (one week)
- Academic year finishes mid-July.

Because of the longer hours, students will study for fewer days than elsewhere, giving families an opportunity to plan holidays earlier in the summer than other schools can accommodate.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS HAVE TO SAY...



Alex Greenwood joined TAG from a local secondary school. She received an outstanding set of results, which included a 9 in English Language and three 8 grades. She said:

"I decided to come to TAG because I wanted a sense of individuality and a little bit more freedom. They do performing arts here and more of the vocational aspect and I wanted to explore that kind of pathway. All throughout my secondary school life I've been bullied, so coming here was quite a big risk. I'm happy to say this has been the best secondary school experience of my life; the teachers are so supportive and for anyone that doesn't feel they fit in, this is the perfect place to prepare you for the future."

Jack Johnston gained 12 GCSEs including an 8 in Maths. He moved to Hull College to study Level 3 Applied Science and hopes to become a doctor. He commented:

"I'm feeling really happy, I put everything I can into my exams though and can't ask for anything else. I came to TAG because I wanted a change in setting and I needed a fresh start. That's really why I've got some of the results I have; some are a lot better than they would have been if I hadn't moved. All the teachers have been very supportive and it's been quite a journey. I'm really happy with how I've done and how I've progressed from when I moved here to now."



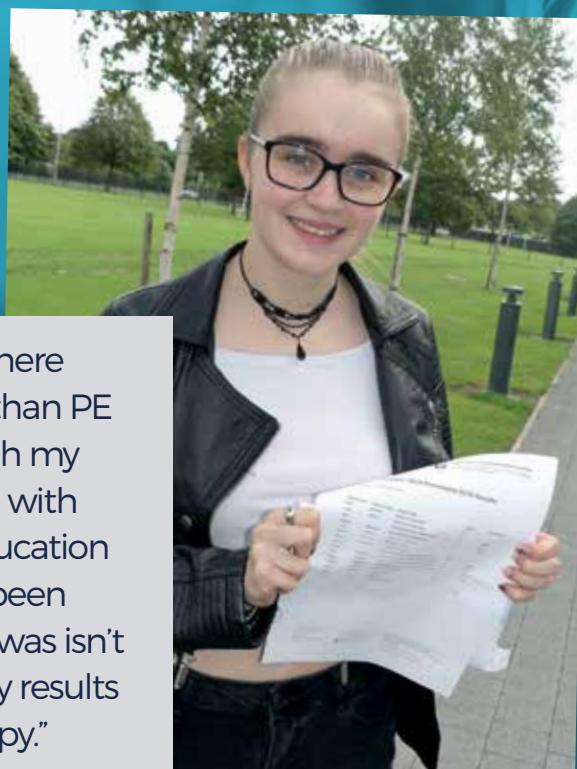


Sophy Aldridge gained 11 GCSEs after joining TAG from a local grammar school. She said:

"I passed all my sciences even though I thought I would fail physics, because at my previous school I was failing both physics and chemistry," she said. "The support I've received at TAG has been so much better. I don't think it's properly hit me yet because I was feeling quite panicky before but I'm really happy." She added: "One of the reasons I chose TAG was because of the career pathways; I really like drama and performing arts. Also, it was just a nicer environment. Because of the small class sizes, you get more one-to-one with the teacher and they appreciate the work you do and that you try hard, whereas at my previous school it was more results driven. It's just a nice, positive environment to be in and the people are really nice as well."

Abigail Wells achieved 12 GCSEs including a 7 in Maths. She said:

"I came to TAG because they were more accepting and there was more focus on the creative side of education rather than PE and athletics. I've also got some medical conditions which my old school were less aware of, but TAG have really helped with that. This has probably been the best two years of my education – all the way since I was five years old. The teachers have been really good; they actually care about the students which was isn't always something I've experienced. I wasn't expecting my results to be this good but I put a lot of work in, so I'm really happy."







A PREPARED LIFE UNIFORM AT TAG

Our uniform policy will be communicated to parents during the admissions process. Uniform is provided for every student by the Academy and this also includes protective equipment required on pathway days. Students are expected to keep their uniform clean and in a condition that reflects the professional and technical work environments in which we operate.

A SAFE LIFE SAFEGUARDING

The Academy Grimsby recognises and abides by its statutory and moral duty towards safeguarding the welfare of its students – they should feel safe throughout their time with us and will be supported if any concerns are raised.

The TAG campus is specifically for our 14-16 year-old students and has robust arrangements to ensure that the site is safe. For specialist pathway and enrichment lessons that are taken at the Grimsby Institute, students are either accompanied or transported from, and returned to, the Academy.

Pastoral Managers are on site at the Institute campus to assist with any safeguarding and welfare concerns.

AN ENRICHED LIFE ENRICHMENT

The Academy Grimsby prides itself on preparing our students for whatever the future may hold.

During the journey with us, students will have the chance to take part in a host of exciting, fun and interesting enrichment activities that will prove invaluable at home, in the workplace or as they continue in education.

Last year, activities included animal care, hair and beauty, boxing, horticulture, dog grooming, forensic facial reconstruction, media make-up and much more.

A TYPICAL YEAR IN TAG LIFE...



Sports Day



Food bank collection for the homeless



Annual Christmas dinner



Easter collection for local charity



Trip to Gravity



An amazing prom



An amazing prom



Sherlock Bones
CSI activity

OFSTED

In May 2017

TAG received an

Outstanding Ofsted grade.

Inspectors noted the following:

Since the opening of TAG, leaders have pursued excellence and have made rapid progress in establishing high-quality provision with outstanding outcomes for 14- to 16-year-old learners.

TAG offers a broad and inclusive curriculum that meets the statutory key stage 4 requirements. Learners follow a highly individualised programme that prepares them exceptionally well for progression to further education or training.

Learners' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is exceptional. Teachers' effective reinforcement of the benefits of a safe and stable society enables learners to make seamless links to the principles of British values.

Learners benefit from excellent support and guidance including taster days and visits that enable them to make informed choices about their programme of study. Parents are very well-involved and informed, and perceive TAG as a community.

Safeguarding is highly effective. Learners feel very safe and valued, and confident in approaching all staff including the Principal if they have any issues. Learners describe their experience at TAG in glowing terms, and they grow in confidence.

Learners know how well they are doing, what their personal targets are and what they need to work on to improve. Marking and feedback are thorough and constructive, meaning learners know what they have done well and how to improve.

The Principal and staff have 'expectations not rules'. Parents describe their children becoming more mature, noting that they now 'have a group around them that want to achieve' and that each learner is 'seen as a person with aspirations'.

CHANGING LIVES APPLYING AND MOVING SCHOOLS

Changing school to The Academy Grimsby couldn't be easier.

Once you've applied you will be invited for a visit and a discussion about the options available. If TAG is the right place for your child and we can meet their needs you will then be offered a place. If you accept your place, we will do the rest of the work. It really is as easy as that!

APPLYING TO THE ACADEMY

Joining the Academy could not be simpler. Here's how to apply:

- The parent/carer must fill out an application form as early as possible. This can be easily done online at academy.grimsby.ac.uk
- The student and their parents/carers will be invited in for an informal discussion with the Academy Principal or a member of the senior team.
- A decision will then be made on whether TAG is the right place for the student or not and further induction details will be given

For more information or further guidance, please call: **01472 311231.**

GETTING TO THE ACADEMY GRIMSBY



The Academy Grimsby,
Westward Ho, Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire, DN34 5AQ

WHAT'S NEXT?



After students have completed their studies, there are lots of 'next steps' options such as:

- Apprenticeships
- College
- Sixth Form
- Employment

The Grimsby Institute offers a guaranteed interview for all TAG students wishing to progress to apprenticeships, A Levels or vocational education.

100% of TAG students have had positive next step destinations such as these for the last five years in a row.

A LEVELS DONE DIFFERENTLY



Career 6 is a post-16 environment where the courses you choose are all linked to a pathway in a particular career.

In 2020 you will be able to choose from a wide range of technical routes alongside A Level study:

CRIME + SOCIETY ACADEMY

SCIENCE ACADEMY

TEACHING ACADEMY

HEALTH + MEDICAL ACADEMY

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ACADEMY

FUTURE ENGINEERING ACADEMY

HUMANITIES + LAW ACADEMY

DIGITAL MEDIA ACADEMY

As a TAG student, you will get priority application status for Career 6 when the time comes to choose your future pathways.

As with TAC, classes in Career 6 are small and personalised.

**Find out more at
career6.grimsby.ac.uk**



The Academy Grimsby
YOUR FUTURE, FOCUSED

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Disclaimer: All details printed in this guide and accompanying documents are correct at the time of printing. The TEC Partnership reserves the right to make changes to any cost quoted, structure and content of courses, including the amalgamation or cancellation of classes, as deemed necessary.