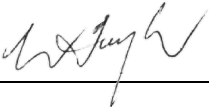


Policy Name	BENCHMARKING POLICY
Policy Number	G015_PO (Governance)
Purpose	<p>Whitehouse Institute of Design, Australia, (Whitehouse) has established a benchmarking policy to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure a common understanding of benchmarking • to clarify the benchmarking approach to be used and • to describe the requirements for benchmarking with nominated comparators.
Scope	<p>This policy applies to all Whitehouse courses and operations.</p> <p>Many elements of Whitehouse’s operations, academic and non academic, may be subjected to benchmarking, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • infrastructure and governance • teaching and learning outcomes • graduate outcomes • procedures and processes • organisational behaviour • compliance requirements.
Policy Statement	<p>Principles of Benchmarking</p> <p>The Whitehouse approach to benchmarking is underpinned by a set of principles.</p> <p>Benchmarking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is carried out in support of and alignment with the Whitehouse's mission and strategic priorities • is integrated into Whitehouse’s planning • is purposeful in identifying areas of good practice and areas for improvement which leads to meaningful and worthwhile change • involves a commitment to learning and sharing good practice • is informed by an evidenced-based approach • is respectful of any confidentiality requirements of benchmarking partners with respect to information shared. <p>Benchmarking characteristics</p> <p>Benchmarking can take a number of forms and may be characterised by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the organisational level at which it is undertaken and • the partnership arrangements involved. <p>Institutional Benchmarking</p> <p>Whitehouse is committed to establishing a benchmarking approach which involves:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • institutional level agreements

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> other benchmarking with organisations outside of the higher education sector if such organisations demonstrate evidence of good practice. <p>It is envisaged that specialisation streams will engage in benchmarking as determined by the identification of potential partners who demonstrate best practice.</p> <p>National and International Comparators</p> <p>In establishing national and international comparators Whitehouse will identify only a select and limited number of core activities for benchmarking and will establish independent Benchmarking Project Plans and Benchmarking Checklists for each partner.</p> <p>In determining useful institutional comparators for benchmarking: At the specialisation level, Whitehouse will select like institutions which teach comparable programs in the specific specialisations Whitehouse delivers.</p> <p>At the course level, institutions which offer comparable under and post-graduate degree programs.</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>The overall objective of this benchmarking policy is to ensure that Whitehouse, its various courses and academic offerings and its internal procedures and governance remain competitive, demonstrate evidence of good practice and provides insights into areas for improvement.</p> <p>Constraints</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is acknowledged that Whitehouse operates in a commercial environment where there are significant sensitivities towards the disclosure of potentially commercial-in-confidence data. That there is in no specific requirement by regulatory bodies for the publication and dissemination of data regarding teaching and learning outcomes.
Relevant Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 2016 Higher Education Support Act (2003) Australia Qualifications Framework (AQF)
Key Related Documents	<p>Benchmarking Procedure</p> <p>Benchmarking Framework</p> <p>Benchmarking Project Plan</p> <p>Benchmarking Guidelines</p> <p>Benchmarking Checklist</p>
Responsible Officer	Executive Directors
Approval Authority/ Authorities	Board of Governors
Date Approved	20/12/2023

Date of Commencement	21/12/2023		
Date for Review	21/12/2026		
Documents superseded by this Procedure	Benchmarking Policy and Procedure – November 2014		
Amendment History	<p>05/2018 Re-branding – Header & Footer only</p> <p>10/2016 Policy and Procedures separated and HE and VET documentations separated. Updated formatting and minor amendments</p> <p>12/2023 Re-branding – Header & Footer only</p>		
Signed and dated for Whitehouse Institute Pty Ltd		Les Taylor	20/12/2023
	Signature	Name	Date

INFORMATION FOR PUBLISHING ON POLICY REGISTER	
Category	Governance
Stakeholders	Board of Governors Academic Board Executive Management Academic Staff Administration Staff Students