

## **Charter of Incorporation**

**EDWARD VII**, *by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith*

WHEREAS Humble Petitions have been presented to Us by the University College of Sheffield and by the Lord Mayor Aldermen and Citizens of the City of Sheffield praying Us to constitute and found a University within the said City for the Advancement of Knowledge the Diffusion and Extension of Arts Sciences and Learning the Provision of Liberal and Professional and Technical Education and the furtherance of the objects for which the University College of Sheffield was incorporated by our Royal Predecessor Queen Victoria and to grant a Charter with such provisions therein in that behalf as shall seem to Us right and suitable.

And Whereas We have taken the said Petitions into Our Royal consideration and are minded to accede thereto.

Now therefore know ye that We by virtue of Our Royal Prerogative and of Our Special Grace certain knowledge and mere motion by these Presents for Us Our Heirs and Successors will and ordain as follows:

1. There shall be and there is hereby constituted and founded in Our said City of Sheffield a University by the name and style of "The University of Sheffield" with Faculties of Arts Science Medicine and Applied Science and such other Faculties either in addition to or in substitution for the aforesaid Faculties or any of them as may from time to time be prescribed by Statutes of the University.

2. Our right trusty and right entirely beloved Cousin and Councillor Henry, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and Our Hereditary Marshal of England, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order, the persons indicated in the Statutes to these Presents as members of the Court and of the Council and the members for the time being of the Court the Council the Senate and the Faculties of the University the Graduates and the Undergraduates of the University the Chancellor the Pro-Chancellors the Vice-Chancellor and the Treasurer of the University for the time being and all others who shall pursuant to this Our Charter and the Statutes of the University for the time being be Members of the University are hereby constituted and from henceforth for ever shall be one body politic and corporate with perpetual succession and a Common Seal by the name and style of "The University of Sheffield", with full power and capacity by and in such name to sue and be sued and to take and hold land to assume armorial bearings which shall be duly enrolled in Our College of Arms and to do all other lawful acts whatsoever and with full right authority power and capacity without any further or other license by virtue of this Our Charter to take purchase and hold such lands tenements and hereditaments as may be for the time being occupied by or on behalf of the said Corporation for the transaction of its business and the actual carrying out of its purposes and also in addition other lands tenements and hereditaments to the annual value of £50,000 according to the annual value thereof at the respective times when the same shall be respectively taken.

3. We Our Heirs and Successors Kings and Queens of the Kingdom and Dominions aforesaid shall be and remain the Visitor and Visitors of the University of Sheffield through the Lord President of Our Council for the time being and in exercise of the Visitorial Authority We Our Heirs and Successors shall have the right from time to time and in such manner as We or They shall think fit to direct an inspection of the University its buildings laboratories and general equipment and also an enquiry into the examinations teaching and other work done by the University.

4. There shall be a Chancellor of the said University who shall be the Chief Officer of the University and President of its Court and Convocation.

The first Chancellor shall be Our right trusty and right entirely beloved Cousin and Councillor Henry, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and Our Hereditary Marshal of England, Knight of Our Most Noble Order of the Garter, Knight Grand Cross of Our Royal Victorian Order.

5. There shall be not fewer than two Pro-Chancellors of the University. The Chairman of the Council shall be a Pro-Chancellor by virtue of holding that office. Subject to the Statutes of the University, any Pro-Chancellor may in the absence of the Chancellor or during a vacancy in the office of Chancellor exercise the functions of the Chancellor except the conferring of Degrees, and preside at any meetings of the Court and Council.

The first Pro-Chancellors shall be Our trusty and well-beloved Sir Frederick Thorpe Mappin, Baronet, and George Franklin, Vice-Presidents of the University College of Sheffield.

6. There shall be a Vice-Chancellor of the University who shall be the principal Academic and Administrative Officer of the University and ex officio Chairman of the Senate and who shall in the absence of the Chancellor confer Degrees and who shall have such disciplinary powers as may be prescribed by Regulation of the Senate.

*Charter of Incorporation*

The first Vice-Chancellor shall be Our trusty and well-beloved William Mitchinson Hicks, Doctor of Science, Fellow of the Royal Society, and Principal of the University College of Sheffield.

7. There shall be a Treasurer and other proper officers of the University.

The first Treasurer shall be Our trusty and well-beloved Henry Kenyon Stephenson, Treasurer of the University College of Sheffield.

8. There shall be a Court of the University representative of all constituent parts of the University and of the communities within which it is set. The Court shall have such powers as may be provided by the Ordinances of the University and shall through the exercise of those powers advise upon and further the work of the University.

9. There shall be a Council of the University which subject to the Statutes of the University shall be the governing body of the University and shall have the custody and use of the Common Seal the management and administration of the whole revenue and property of the University and the conduct of all the affairs of the University.

10. There shall be a Senate of the University which shall subject to the Ordinances of the University and the control and approval of the Council regulate and superintend the education and discipline of the University.

11. There shall be a Convocation of the University which shall have such representatives in the Court and the Council as may be provided by the Statutes and Ordinances of the University.

12. There shall be a Union of Students of the University with a Constitution prescribed by Regulations of the Council.

13. The University shall be both a teaching and an examining body and shall subject to the Charter and the Statutes so far as and to the full extent which its resources from time to time permit provide for:

- (a) Instruction and teaching in every Faculty.
- (b) Such instruction in all branches of education as may enable students to become proficient in and qualify for Degrees Diplomas Associateships and Certificates in Arts Pure Science Applied Science Commerce Medicine Surgery Law and all other branches of knowledge.
- (c) Such instruction whether theoretical technical artistic or otherwise as may be of service to persons engaged in or about to engage in Education Commerce Engineering Metallurgy Mining or in other industries or artistic pursuits of the City of Sheffield and the adjacent counties and districts.
- (d) Facilities for the prosecution of original research in Arts Pure Science Applied Science Medicine Surgery Law and especially the applications of Science.
- (e) Such fellowships scholarships exhibitions prizes and rewards and pecuniary and other aids as shall facilitate or encourage proficiency in the subjects taught in the University and also original research in all such subjects.
- (f) Such extra University instruction and teaching as may be sanctioned by Ordinances.
- (g) Examination and inspection of Schools and other Educational Institutions.

14. Degrees representing proficiency in technical subjects shall not be conferred without proper security for testing the scientific or general knowledge underlying technical attainments.

15. All examinations held by the University shall be conducted in accordance with Statutes and Ordinances of the University provided that there shall be at least one external and independent Examiner for each subject or group of subjects.

16. The University may confer on persons Degrees Diplomas Associateships Certificates or other distinctions whether honorary substantive or other and the same shall be conferred and held subject to any such provisions as may be made by the Statutes of the University with reference thereto.

17. The University may upon such terms and conditions and subject to such regulations as may from time to time be prescribed by Ordinances of the University:

- (a) Admit to affiliation with it or to any of its privileges or recognise for any purpose and either in whole or in part any College or Institution or the members or students thereof but may not incorporate with itself any College or Institution outside the City of Sheffield.
- (b) Co-operate by means of Joint Boards or otherwise with other Universities and Authorities for the examination and inspection of schools and other academic institutions and for the extension of University teaching and influence in academic matters and for such other purposes as the University may from time to time determine.
- (c) Recognise any members of the staff of any College or Institution whether affiliated with the University or not as teachers of the University.

*Charter of Incorporation*

- (d) Recognise the examinations and periods of study passed by students of the University at other Universities or places of learning as equivalent to such examinations and periods of study in the University as the University may determine.
- (e) Recognise attendance upon courses of study in an affiliated College or Institution in place of such part of the attendance at courses of study in the University and upon such terms and conditions and subject to such regulations as may from time to time be determined by the University.
- (f) Recognise courses of study in any other institution which in the opinion of the University possesses the means of affording the proper instruction for such courses. Provided that in no case shall the University confer a degree in Medicine or Surgery upon any person who has not attended in the University during two years at least courses of study recognised for such Degree or for one of the other Degrees of the University.
- (g) Terminate or modify the terms and conditions of any such affiliation or recognition as is referred to in subsections (a) (c) (d) (e) and (f).

The University may enter into any agreement with “The University College of Sheffield” or any other Institution for the incorporation of that College or Institution in the University and for taking over its property and liabilities and for any other purpose not repugnant to this Our Charter and if necessary may promote a Bill in Parliament to confirm or carry out any such Agreement.

The University may do all such other acts and things whether incidental to the powers aforesaid or not as may be requisite in order to further the objects of the University as a Teaching and Examining Body and to cultivate and promote Arts Science and Learning.

18. Statutes of the University shall prescribe or regulate as the case may be the constitution powers and duties of the Council the election and continuance in office of the Members of the Council (including the continuance in office of the first Members) the filling of vacancies among the Members and all other matters relative to the Council which it may be thought are proper to be so prescribed and regulated.

The first Statutes shall be those scheduled to these Presents. The Council may from time to time by a Special Resolution make any new or additional Statutes for the University which shall carry into effect this Charter and its provisions and which may govern and regulate the affairs business work and interests of the University and the members thereof as such and the status appointment and continuance in office of the Members the Chancellor Pro-Chancellors Vice-Chancellor Treasurer and other Offices of the University and may contain all such provisions as the Council may deem it fit and meet should be made with respect to or for the governing of the University its constituent parts and members or to promote the objects of this Charter. The Statutes may add to amend alter or repeal the Statutes from time to time in force (including the first) and the power of the Council to make Statutes shall not be limited by or with reference to the first or any subsequent Statutes or the several matters therein dealt with.

19. The Statutes of the University may direct that any of the matters by these Presents authorised or directed to be prescribed governed or regulated by Statutes of the University shall be prescribed governed or regulated by Ordinances of the University.

Ordinances shall be made by the Council by a Resolution passed by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of those present and voting, provided that in matters referring to courses of study degrees or diplomas the duties or powers of Faculties and affiliation of Colleges Ordinances shall be made by the Council only on the recommendation of the Senate.

20. Ordinances of the University shall prescribe or regulate as the case may be:

- (a) The constitution powers and business of the Court the election and continuance in office of the Members of the Court (including the continuance in office of the first Members) the filling of vacancies among the Members and all other matters relative to the Court which it may be thought are proper to be so prescribed and regulated.
- (b) The constitution powers and duties of the Senate and all other matters relative to the Senate which it may be thought are proper to be so prescribed and regulated.
- (c) The powers and duties of the Faculties and all other matters relating to the Faculties which it may be thought are proper to be so prescribed and regulated.
- (d) The constitution functions privileges and all other matters relating to Convocation which it may be thought are proper to be so prescribed and regulated.

21. The Council and the Senate respectively may from time to time make Regulations for governing subject to these Presents and the Statutes of the University the proceedings of those bodies and for any other purposes for which Regulations are authorised to be made. The power to make Regulations shall include the power to add to amend alter or repeal any Regulations theretofore made.

*Charter of Incorporation*

22. It shall be the duty of the Council from time to time to bring before the Court the Senate and the Faculties any matters which in its opinion should be dealt with by these bodies respectively.

23. It is a fundamental condition of the constitution of the University that no religious test shall be imposed upon any person in order to entitle him or her to be admitted as a Member Professor Teacher or Student of the University or to hold office therein or to graduate thereat or to hold any advantage or privilege thereof.

24. There shall be no discrimination on the basis of gender in respect of eligibility for any office in the University or for membership of any of its constituent bodies or of admission to any degree or course of study in the University.

25. The University shall not make any dividend gift division or bonus in money unto or between any of its members except by way of prize reward or special grant.

26. The Council may at any time alter amend or add to these Presents and their provisions by a Special Resolution in that behalf and such alteration amendment or addition shall when allowed by Us Our Heirs and Successors by and with the advice of Our Privy Council become effectual so that these Presents shall thenceforward continue and operate as though they had been originally granted and made as so altered amended or added to in manner aforesaid.

This Article of these Presents shall apply to this Charter as altered amended or added to in manner aforesaid.

27. In this Our Charter "Statutes" means the Statutes set forth in the Schedule hereto and any Statutes altering amending adding to or repealing the same or any of them which may hereafter be made and may be allowed by Us in Council or by a Committee of Our Council. "Ordinances" means Ordinances made under the powers conferred by this Our Charter to which Our further sanction is not hereby or by Statute required. "Regulations" except when otherwise required by the context means Regulations made pursuant to this Our Charter or to the Statutes. "Special Resolution" means a Resolution passed by the affirmative vote of not less than three quarters of those present and voting.

28. Our Royal Will and Pleasure is that these Presents shall ever be construed benevolently and in every case most favourably to the University of Sheffield and the promotion of the objects of this Our Charter.