



Public Value Statement

Kendal College has positioned itself at the very heart of its South Lakeland and Eden Communities and is proud to be judged as a good provider of education and training (Ofsted June 2017). The College attracts students from an ever-widening catchment area, enabling access to a greater number through innovative and affordable transport schemes and through working with an increasing number of voluntary and specialist organisations to ensure accessibility. The College's Strategic Plan 2017-2020 (http://kendal.ac.uk/uploads/Strategic_Plan_-_Final_Approved_Version.pdf) outlines the Colleges vision for working in and for the benefit of its community to ensure the provision of high quality further education and training.

The College community is diverse and counts its students, their parents/carers, the staff and visitors to the College as an integral part of that community. The wider community is forged from our relationships with organisations such as Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership, South Lakeland District Council, South Lakes Federation of Secondary Schools, Job Centre Plus and numerous other South Lakes-based organisations, enabling us to provide a responsive and practical solution to the needs of the area.

Employer relations are extremely important to us both in developing a curriculum that enables our students to access jobs and careers as well as in providing bespoke training to meet their diverse needs. The College delivers apprenticeship training to in excess of 400 500 employers.

Having secured European Social Funding, the College is able to work very closely with employers who want our support in up-skilling their current workforce. Our relationship with Job Centre Plus means that we can provide a high level of support to those who find themselves out of work and who need to retrain to be able to access job vacancies locally. Our brand, JobWorks, provides a responsive solution to all those involved in pre-employment training and support.

The greatest resource is College staff who are able to provide such a vast range of skills and experience from entry level support with literacy and numeracy right to way up to postgraduate training. The highly qualified workforce is a reason for the success of the college in being positioned in the top 10% of colleges nationally in respect of the achievement rates of 16-18 year old students and to the 86% positive destinations achieved by adult learners.

Innovative teaching, with (89%) graded as good or outstanding, coupled with a commitment to excellence, provides students with a guarantee that they will receive the very best experience during their time at college, preparing them very well for the future ahead, whether it be into work or on to higher education (19.6% of all leavers).

The College is led by an experienced and committed Board of Governors whose interest lies in the development of a local resource through innovative strategic planning and vision. Approval of funding and the application for grant capital funding for new building projects over the last few years have ensured that the College is in a very good position for the future and for its community. New engineering facilities opened in September 2014, meeting the needs of local employers and job opportunities. The Northern Arts Campus was completed in 2017 and comprises both new and restored buildings including The Box performing arts studio, Wildman Street Studios with a link to the adjacent Castle Dairy Restaurant & Apprenticeship Academy. Completing the site is Kendal Museum that now opens into the original Allen Building. Much of the development has been supported through links with South Lakeland District Council and The Kendal Town Council.