



West
Lancashire
College

NCCG

ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT 2026-27

WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE



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NCG MISSION AND PURPOSE

NCG's strategic curriculum intent is set out in **Our Strategy Towards 2030**, which is defined at corporate level through our mission and vision:

MISSION

Enabling social mobility and economic prosperity through exceptional education.

VISION

To be the UK's leading college group recognised for our local impact, national influence and reach.

NCG's mission sets out the ambition we aim to realise, whilst our vision describes how we will know when we get there. To underpin both, we have six strategic themes that are based on fundamental pillars of the organisation (Quality, Curriculum, People, Facilities, Finance and Reach). Our focus in each theme is on continuous improvement towards excellence, and each theme intrinsically supports our curriculum strategy delivered through our national network of colleges.

We are a family of seven general Further Education colleges with a strong HE offer bound by the same mission, strategic aims and a number of business-critical policy frameworks. However, each of our colleges retains a very unique identity which is based on its heritage, its curriculum and its place

in the community. We work collaboratively through the theme 'One NCG' to ensure that wherever possible, we develop common approaches to the National and Regional Skills Priorities, whilst ensuring that each college has the flexibility to be able to respond to specific local skills needs supported by its local governance model.

That way we ensure that each NCG college remains embedded at the heart of its local civic infrastructure, whilst drawing on all the benefits of being part of a large national group.

Using the Indefinite Taught Degree Awarding Powers, NCG is also uniquely placed to address the current national and regional skills gap at Level 4, 5 and 6.

NCG STRATEGIC AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

As part of our development of the NCG Strategy to 2030 we reviewed and consulted on the strategy in 2024/25 to ensure its relevance for the next five years. The review confirmed that the vision mission and strategic themes are still valid and will carry NCG forward to 2030. The strategic objectives are underpinned by a set of strategic KPIs and plans that are overseen by the NCG board and its sub-committees.

THE KEY THEMES ARE:

- Exceptional Teaching, Learner Experience and Outcomes
- Innovative, Relevant Courses and Qualifications
- Ambitious and Responsible Educators and Leaders
- Outstanding Digital and Physical Learning Environments
- Financial Sustainability Powering Reinvestment
- Impactful External Engagement and Civic Commitment Where We Operate

The updated strategy and strategic aims were approved by the NCG Corporation in November 2024 and the KPIs are measured and refreshed on an annual basis.

Each NCG college has its own college strategy which aligns to local skills needs and the NCG Strategy. As with the NCG strategy the college strategies have reviewed their college strategy, and were in place for the start of the 2025/26 academic year.

There is also a statement of local curriculum intent. The curriculum intent is reviewed, to ensure it remains relevant in its efficacy (self-assessment). Our local curriculum intent is tested routinely with college boards and other local stakeholders and periodically through Ofsted Inspection.

OUR CURRICULUM STRATEGY IS SHAPED BY FOUR KEY DRIVERS:

- 1 Our Strategic Mission and Vision
- 2 National and regional economic context
- 3 Emerging government national and regional policy ambition
- 4 Local skills requirements and stakeholder needs

[NCG STRATEGY TO 2030](#)

THE COMMUNITY NCG SERVES

Our colleges are each located in their own distinctive geography and serve a specific local demographic:

Carlisle College – the single FE college in Cumbria's only city, works closely with the other 3 Cumbrian colleges to ensure a coherent FE offering for that area.

Kidderminster College – serves the Wyre Forest area of Worcestershire to the West of Birmingham, reaching into the fringes of the Black Country.

Lewisham College – sits at the heart of the vibrant SE London Borough with its campus on Lewisham Way. It is a community-focussed college with a large adult and ESOL provision.

Newcastle College – serves the city of Newcastle upon Tyne and the broader North East Mayoral Combined Authority. Covering the 7 local councils, due to its scale it offers sector-specialist vocational and technical education across the wider NE region and beyond.

Newcastle Sixth Form College – is a specialist, high-quality and inclusive provider of A Levels to the city of Newcastle upon Tyne and surrounding areas.

Southwark College – located on The Cut close to Waterloo Station, serves the diverse borough of Southwark, with a growing focus on the working population that travels to the borough each day.

West Lancashire College – located in the town of Skelmersdale, serves a broad population spread from the fringes of Greater Manchester to the outskirts of Liverpool. The college is also the base for our national online learning offer.

Each college is positioned as an anchor institution within their community and also is actively engaged with local stakeholders. This includes the Employer Representative Bodies (ERBs) within the area to inform and then deliver the local LSIPs. The specific demographics and local geographies are set out in each college's local document.



PROCESS FOLLOWED BY NCG TO MEET STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

As a national group of colleges, NCG has a process to meet this statutory requirement which maximises the local knowledge and expertise of its local governance arrangements and the wider stakeholder groups to review their college's provision in relation to accountability statement aims / targets as well as its Local Needs Duty.

NCG has successfully introduced and operated a place-based model of governance for a number of years. This is achieved through the College Boards which are focused on local skills and fulfil an Advisory, Advocacy and Assurance role. Place-based governance is a collaborative, stakeholder model of governance in which the NCG Corporation Board, its committees and local college boards, work together within clearly defined parameters to ensure that decision-making is informed by the needs of all our key stakeholder communities. In developing the Accountability Statement for NCG, the following process was followed by all seven colleges:

- Each college produced a draft Accountability Statement based on its own research and consultation relevant to its local area. For 2026/27 this includes a review that the college is satisfying the Local Needs Duty, now and for the next three years.
- Key to developing the statement is direct engagement with larger employers, Employer Representative Bodies (ERBs) and those responsible for producing the LSIPs.
- The draft Accountability Statement is discussed locally under the governance arrangements and is also taken to a broad range of stakeholders for consultation and input including employers, other education providers and civic bodies and community groups.
- The stakeholders are also consulted with on the extent to which the college offer meets the local skills needs and national priorities.
- The college accountability statement is modified as a result of the feedback from the consultation process.
- A statement on the colleges success in meeting the local skills and national priorities is agreed and identifies how this could be further improved.
- A final version is agreed with NCG Executive and checked for alignment to the NCG strategic priorities and satisfying the Local Needs Duty.
- The final version of the College Accountability Statements is incorporated into the NCG Accountability Statement.
- This NCG Accountability Statement is reflective of the skills needs across NCG's scope of operation and has been developed and robustly challenged through a comprehensive consultation process including community representatives, employers, civic bodies and other education providers.
- The NCG Accountability Statement including the statement on how well NCG meets the local skills needs and national priorities, Local Needs Duty, is presented to the NCG Corporation for approval.

NATIONAL POLICY OVERVIEW

The key policy focus for 2026/27 and beyond for NCG will be to continue the implementation of the Further Education curriculum reforms for Post-16 Education, alongside responding to the national skills priorities. We will:

- Ensure the curriculum offer meets local and national skills needs as identified in LSIPs, now and Local Growth and Industrial Strategies in the future.
- Prioritise national strategic objectives of the SEND reform.
- Contribute to addressing the increasing number of NEETS.
- Contribute to and implement the curriculum reform.

The overarching NCG approach to national priorities is identified in the Strategic Aims of each of the colleges.



NCG CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

The key policy focus for 2026/27 and beyond for NCG will be to continue the implementation of the FE White Paper – ‘Skills for Jobs’, particularly the changes enacted through the Skills and Post-16 Education Act 2022, alongside responding to the qualification and Higher Education reform.

Across its 7 colleges, NCG will address all the National Skills Priorities shown below:

- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Digital and Technology
- Health and Social Care
- Haulage and Logistics
- Engineering
- Science and Mathematics

The focus on national skills priorities will include:

- Ensuring the local curriculum offer meets the local and national skills needs as identified in LSIPs, Local Growth or Industrial Strategies, now and in the future.
- Contributing to and responding to, curriculum and funding reforms.
- Develop Higher Technical Skills.



NCG ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT OVERARCHING AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

NCG Strategic Aims and Objectives	Impact and/or Contribution towards National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills
Aim/Objective 0.1: Prioritise national strategic objectives of the SEND reform and use of IMF.	Across NCG we will: • Improve outcomes and opportunities for learners with SEND through high-quality inclusive provision. • Develop a confident and capable workforce equipped to deliver SEND reform successfully. • Demonstrate effective stewardship of the IMF through measurable impact on learner outcomes. • Ensure a consistent and equitable learner experience across all NCG colleges and curriculum areas.
Aim/Objective 0.2: Support more young people to progress into education, employment and training.	Across NCG we will: • Implement the revised NCG Tutorial Framework in all colleges by July 2027. • Deliver an integrated tutorial, careers and enrichment offer aligned to Gatsby and the DfE Enrichment Framework, improving learner participation and progression.

NCG ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT OVERARCHING AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

NCG Strategic Aims and Objectives	Impact and/or Contribution towards National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills
Aim/Objective 0.3: Lead the implementation of curriculum reform and qualification change.	Across NCG we will: • Implement Strategic Transition Plans in all colleges to deliver qualification reform from 2027/28. • Introduce new T-Level, V Level and Level 2 qualifications in line with national reforms. • Strengthen English and maths provision through the implementation of new Level 1 qualifications and the refreshed NCG English and maths strategy. • Align curriculum reform with local, regional and national skills priorities.

Due to the geographically dispersed nature of NCG as a college group, each of our colleges has undertaken its own local review to identify how well it is meeting the local needs. This is a place-based review engaging with and responding to feedback from local stakeholders. This has enabled the specific challenges and needs of the local area to be identified and reported on to NCG Corporation and included in the NCG Accountability Statement.

The colleges response has been agreed by their College Board Chair and addressed the following headings:

- The College Purpose
- Context and Place
- Engagement with key stakeholders and providers
- Strategic aims and targets
- Links to supporting documentation
- Local needs duty statement

The College statements can be found below:

- Carlisle College
- Kidderminster College
- Lewisham College
- Newcastle College
- Newcastle Sixth Form College
- Southwark College
- West Lancashire College

INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM FUNDING

NCG has taken a strategic approach to the implementation of Inclusive Mainstream Fund (IMF). We are committed to ensuring that all learners can access an ambitious curriculum through high expectations, effective teaching and timely, proportionate adjustments within mainstream provision. We will use the IMF as a strategic lever to strengthen inclusive practice across curriculum areas, improving consistency, reducing barriers to learning, and increasing learner independence through earlier intervention and better curriculum and assessment design.

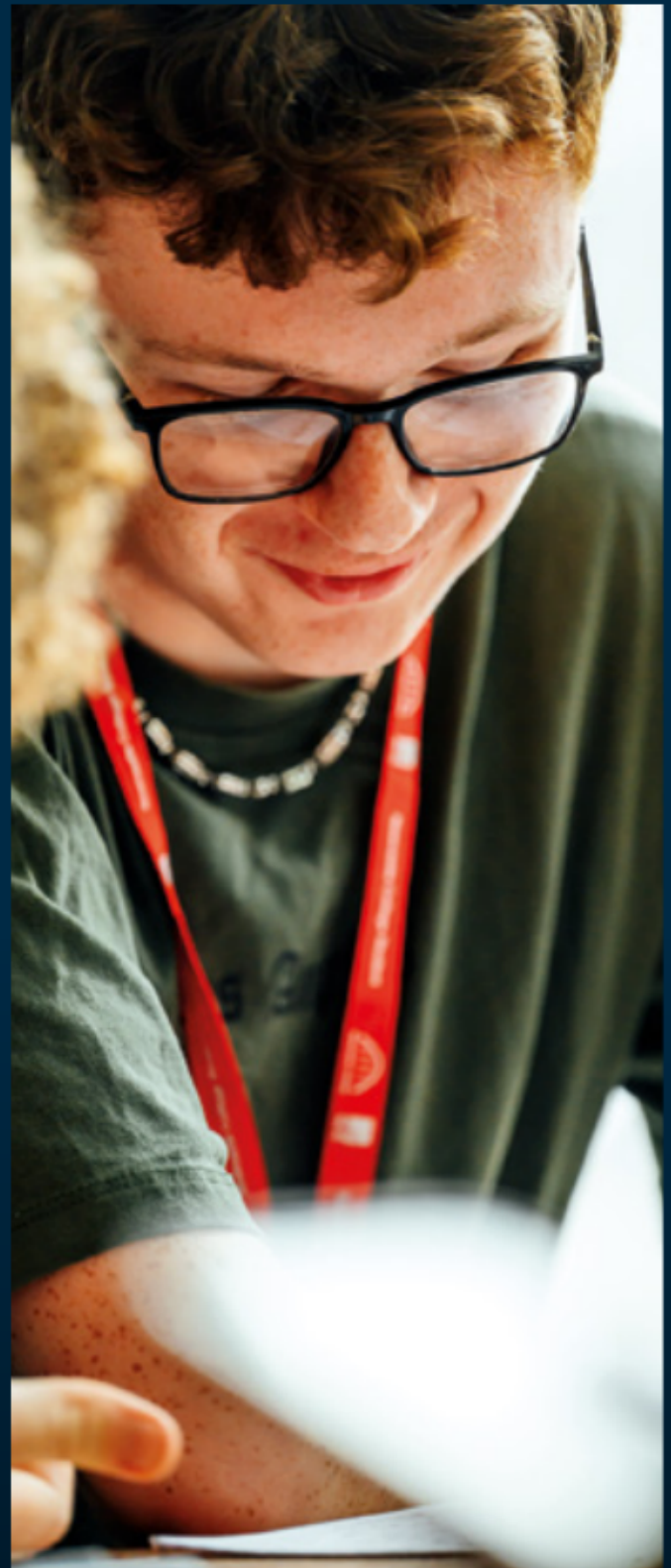
We are not using IMF as a substitute for strong teaching, nor as a reactive "top up" for individual need. Instead, we will target the fund to build sustainable capacity: developing staff capability, enhancing curriculum accessibility, strengthening early identification and the graduated response, and embedding shared accountability for inclusion within curriculum leadership. Our allocation decisions will be evidence-led, aligned to learner need and operational priorities, and reviewed termly to ensure impact and value for money.

We will evaluate the effectiveness of IMF investment against agreed measures, including: learner progress, attendance, retention and achievement; timeliness and appropriateness of support; quality of teaching and learning evidence; patterns in referrals and escalations (where appropriate); and learner and staff feedback on accessibility and confidence.

Our termly review will test whether investment is strengthening mainstream capacity and improving learner experience and outcomes, and we will use the evidence to inform continuous improvement and next steps.

We will monitor those delivering IMF supported improvements as part of our wider quality and performance cycle based on 5 key strategic objectives.

1. Strengthen curriculum embedded inclusive practice.
2. Build staff capability and confidence.
3. Improve learner experience, independence and engagement.
4. Ensure clear accountability and value for money.
5. Strengthen consistency across curriculum areas.



NCG LOCAL NEEDS DUTY

NCG is meeting its local needs duty in its area of operation across the country as well as supporting the national skills priorities. This has been assessed for up to three years from 2026/27.

NCG provides a framework through its executive and its governance arrangements that enable the Corporation to satisfy itself that it is meeting the local needs duty.

Each college has demonstrated that it is meeting the current and future local skills needs in its geographical area as well as contributing to the wider skills needs of the region as well as contributing towards the national priorities. This is confirmed by the College Boards who have specific knowledge of the local skills needs and opportunities.

NCG has reviewed and refreshed its governance arrangements to provide better advice and oversight in developing a skilled workforce. Local college board members are drawn from the four key Ofsted stakeholder groups (employers, educators, civic and community) and have knowledge of the local skills demands and challenges.

NCG has set its three high level aims that are aligned to the broader activity of NCG and cut across all our colleges to enable them to meet national priorities. These are supported by more specific, local objectives that are identified, developed and agreed at college level. Together the two sets of objectives provide comprehensive targets for NCG.

To complement the local arrangements, NCG has worked to develop regional and national partnerships to provide input into our curriculum offer and planning. Whereas the employer stakeholders have direct input to the local curriculum offer in the college, the national relationships tend to be with sector based ERB and other education providers to provide broader objectives. This includes implementing curriculum reform and planning with national partners as well as more locally with regional Universities. The employer relationships are with organisations such as Chamber of Commerce and CBI.

We recognise the need for continuous improvement, as addressing the skills needs will require a process of reflection and adjustment to meet the changing demands of the external environment. Significant progress has been made against the previous year's aims/objectives and new challenges are emerging.

Where NCG does not offer the full range of education and training required we work with and support other providers to meet the local needs.

Although NCG is involved in a great number of partnerships at local and national level, we recognise that we need to continue to build on this success to provide a comprehensive approach to meeting the skills needs.



NCG CORPORATION/ GOVERNING BODY STATEMENT

On behalf of the NCG corporation, it is hereby confirmed that the NCG plan as set out above and in the individual college accountability statements, reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the Corporation at their meeting on 8 July 2026.

The plan will be published on the college's website within three months of the start of the new academic year and can be accessed on the NCG website: www.ncgrp.co.uk

Chair of Governors

John Widdowson

John Widdowson

Chief Executive and Accounting Officer

Liz Bromley

Liz Bromley

WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT 2026-27



WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE

OUR PURPOSE

West Lancashire College plays a key role in delivering high-quality vocational and technical education across West Lancashire and surrounding areas. The College advances NCG's mission by responding directly to local economic, social and skills needs.

Our ambition is to be firmly embedded at the heart of place, recognised for driving social mobility, workforce development and inclusive economic growth. Through a careers- and skills-focused curriculum, we support learners to access opportunity, progress into sustainable employment and achieve their potential.

The College's strategic direction is aligned to NCG's Strategic Pillars and the Lancashire Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP). Priorities for 2026/27 are to:

- Deliver an outstanding learning experience that supports achievement and progression for all learners
- Strengthen financial sustainability to secure long-term resilience
- Recruit, develop and retain a high-performing workforce with strong industry expertise
- Deepen employer and stakeholder engagement to inform curriculum and progression pathways
- Grow and adapt the curriculum in line with current and emerging local skills



WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE CONTEXT AND PLACE

West Lancashire College is a small, community-focused FE college based in Skelmersdale, delivering vocational and technical provision. Its location, within reach of Liverpool, Manchester and the M6 corridor, enables it to serve a diverse learner and employer base across both local and wider labour markets.

Lancashire is a large, diverse and polycentric economy, with around 1.5 million residents, 55,000 businesses and 700,000 jobs, contributing approximately £35bn. It includes nationally significant sectors such as advanced manufacturing, aerospace, digital, health, low carbon technologies and the visitor economy.

Despite these strengths, the area faces ongoing challenges, including lower job density, fewer higher-level qualifications, a declining working-age population, and rising economic inactivity linked to ill health and caring responsibilities. Employers continue to report skills shortages, particularly in technical skills and workplace readiness.

Within West Lancashire, Skelmersdale and surrounding communities experience high levels of deprivation across employment, health and education. As an anchor institution, the College works with local partners to support inclusive growth, raise skills attainment and align provision closely to labour market need.



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WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE

ENGAGEMENT WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND PROVIDERS

The College's priorities for 2026/27 are directly informed by the Lancashire LSIP (August 2023, updated June 2024 and June 2025) and the Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework 2024-2029. Developed through extensive employer engagement led by the North and Western Lancashire and East Lancashire Chambers of Commerce, these provide the key framework for curriculum planning and development.

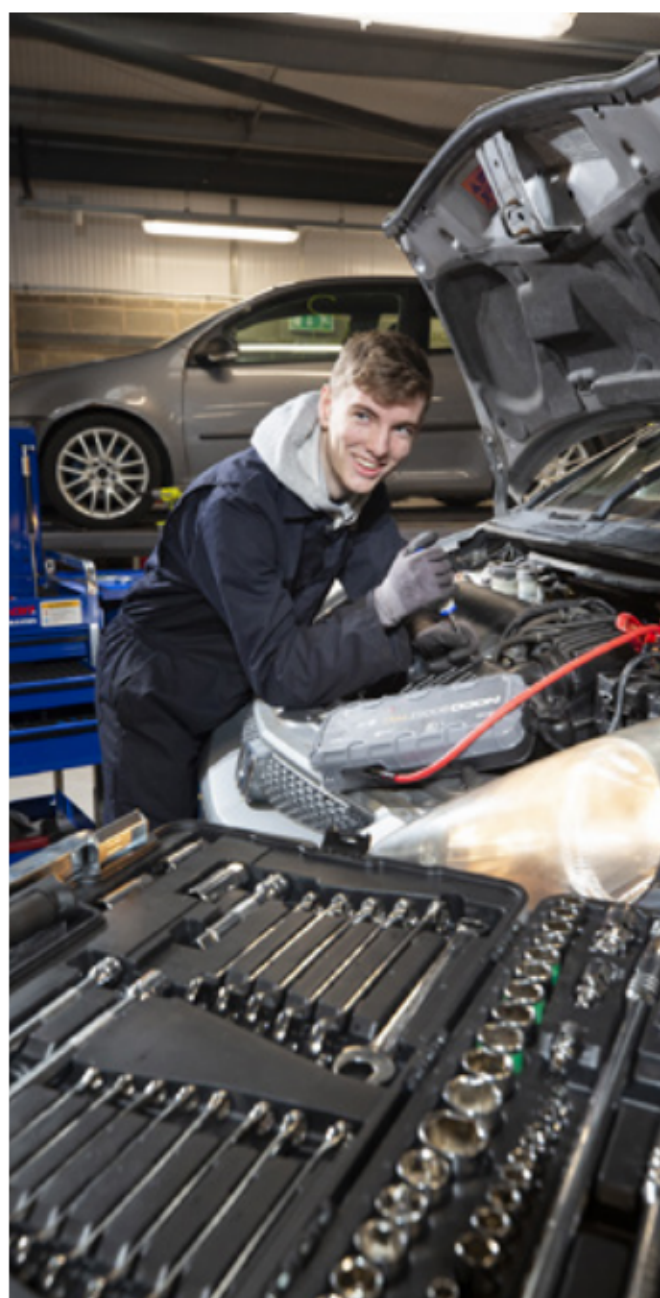
West Lancashire College is an active member of The Lancashire Colleges (TLC), a well-established partnership of FE and sixth-form colleges. Through TLC, the College collaborates on quality improvement, curriculum planning, workforce development and capital investment to ensure a coherent and complementary offer across the county.

In 2024, the College established a place-based Skills Advisory Board of local employers and stakeholders. This forum informs curriculum design; reviews emerging skills needs and supports responsiveness to local economic change.

In developing this Accountability Statement, the College has engaged widely with:

- Civic partners, including Lancashire Skills Hub, West Lancashire Borough Council, Skelmersdale Ambassadors and employer representative bodies.
- Employers across priority sectors such as health (NHS), construction (Wates, Liberty Group, Tawd Valley Developments), manufacturing (ASCO Engineering) and business (Barclays).
- Community partners, including local authority initiatives and community organisations.
- Education and training providers across FE, HE and schools (Edge Hill University, West Lancashire Head Teachers Group).

Key partners include West Lancashire Merseyside and NHS Trust, West Lancashire Borough Council, Lancashire County Council, Wates, Liberty Group, HCRG, The Lancashire Colleges (TLC), Lancashire Skills Hub and Edge Hill University, West Lancashire Head Teachers Group.



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WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE

STRATEGIC AIMS AND TARGETS

College Accountability Aims and Objective	Contribution towards addressing National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills
Aim 1: By September 2027, the College will further refine its curriculum offer, learning pathways and progression routes to ensure alignment with national policy priorities and the priority growth sectors identified in LSIPs. National Skills Priorities supported: - Construction - Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing - Digital Technologies - Health Care and Adult Social Care Rationale The curriculum is being developed to provide a broader offer to support progress into employment or higher-level skills and professional roles.	Targets Sustained progression pipelines delivering at least: • 90+ work-ready Level 3 learners annually in Engineering, Digital, Health and Social Care and Business • 70+ Level 2 qualified learners in Construction trade (Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry and Joinery, and Bricklaying) • A minimum of 100 learners enrolled on T-Level routes across Health, Early Years, Digital, Business and Engineering.
Aim 2: By September 2027, the College will strengthen its careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) activity to promote vocational pathways, progression routes through to employment or higher-level skills in addressing skills shortages. National Skills Priorities supported: - Equity and inclusion - Identifying and addressing skills gaps Rationale Currently, the drop-out and withdrawal rate at WLC is too high across 16-19 provision. Improved early exposure to opportunities at WLC, progression routes and CEIAG will strengthen a more robust enrolment process with integrity, to improve progression, student experience, retention and achievement for learners.	Targets • Develop an initiatives course that supports opportunities for NEETs to engage in taster activities for re-engagement in education and access in-year enrolment opportunities. • Delivery of at least 20 targeted school engagement activities across business, digital, construction, engineering and hospitality. • Hosting a large-scale Careers Fair and STEM Festival involving 60+ employers and engaging over 1000 Year 9 and Year 10 learners from a minimum of 10 local schools • Active engagement with at least 30 employers and higher education institutions to promote progression routes into priority sectors • Improve retention rates to above 90% for vocational courses and achievement rates to above 85% at WLC through more rigorous and targeted CEIAG to get the right learner on the right course.

WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE – STRATEGIC AIMS AND TARGETS

College Accountability Aims and Objectives	Contribution towards addressing National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills
Aim 3: By September 2027, the College will consolidate and evaluate Level 1 and NEET targeted programmes and assess future curriculum development opportunities to support the reduction of NEETs in West Lancashire. National Skills Priorities supported: - Construction - Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing - Digital Technologies - Health Care and Adult Social Care - Equity and inclusion - Identifying and addressing skills gaps Rationale NEET numbers in West Lancashire are rising, with an increased number of 16-19 NEETs being seen in Skelmersdale than in previous years. So, an increase in new entry level qualifications will support re-engagement in education for many of these potential learners.	Targets • Expand and align the curriculum to create multiple entry points targeted at entry and Level 1 courses across priority sectors (engineering, construction, business, digital, health and early years), with the explicit aim of reducing local NEET figures and increasing entry and Level 1 enrolments to above 160. • Assess the viability of new Level 1 provision in Travel and Tourism, the Arts and Performance Arts. • Provide short taster courses targeted at NEETs to engage a minimum of 20 NEETs in 2026/27.
Aim 4: By September 2027, the College will enhance its workforce development and recruitment strategy to support a skilled, motivated and high-performing staff body. National Skills Priorities supported: - Construction - Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing - Digital Technologies - Health Care and Adult Social Care Rationale This aim strengthens staff capability, ensuring teaching remains current, leadership is effective, and talent is developed. A skilled, supported workforce improves student outcomes, drives innovation (including AI use), and enhances overall College performance.	Targets • All teaching staff participating in industry insight activity to maintain occupational competence and sector currency • Targeted leadership development for Heads of Curriculum to strengthen middle leadership capability in order to improve student experience, attendance, retention and achievement • Clear progression and talent development pathways delivered through coaching and the NCG Leadership Hub • All staff to have completed the basic AI training and development through the NCG CPD plan

WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE - STRATEGIC AIMS AND TARGETS

College Accountability Aims and Objectives	Contribution towards addressing National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills
Aim 5: By September 2027, the College will expand opportunities for adults to retrain and upskill in line with LSIP priorities and local labour market intelligence. National Skills Priorities supported: • Construction • Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing • Digital Technologies • Health Care and Adult Social Care Rationale This aim ensures the College responds directly to local skills shortages by aligning adult provision with employer needs. By strengthening partnerships and co-designing programmes with industry, it increases employability, supports economic growth, and provides flexible retraining opportunities for adults in priority sectors.	Targets • Develop employer advisory boards in engineering, construction, digital technologies and Health, with at least four relevant employers on each advisory board. • Development of strategic partnerships with employers, community organisations and public sector bodies to co-design and deliver responsive adult education solutions in engineering, construction, digital technologies and Health. • Delivery of employer-informed adult programmes addressing identified skills gaps, supporting at least 60 new adult enrolments on part-time provision across engineering, construction, digital technologies and health.



WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE

LINKS TO SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

[Get Lancashire Working – The Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategy](#)

[Lancashire Local Skills Improvement Plan – Progress Report 2025](#)

[Work Ready Lancashire](#)

[Lancashire Connect to Work: Lancashire Skills and Employment Strategic Framework 2024 -2029](#)



WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE

LOCAL NEEDS DUTY

STATEMENT

In line with its statutory duty, NCG Corporation, as the accountable body, will undertake a rolling, evidence-led review of how effectively provision across the group meets local, regional and national skills needs over the 2026–2029 period.

Within this framework, West Lancashire College will contribute proportionately through place-based analysis, curriculum planning and partnership engagement aligned to the priorities of Lancashire County Council, West Lancashire Council and wider functional labour markets.

The review will operate on a three-year cycle with annual refresh points to ensure responsiveness to labour market change, employer demand and government reform. Progress and planned actions will be reported through the annual Accountability Statement.

Evidence and intelligence

The College will inform the review through a robust evidence base, including:

- Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIPs) and engagement with the Lancashire Chamber of Commerce and Lancashire Skills Hub
- Labour market intelligence, including Get Lancashire Working
- Employer feedback from advisory groups, sector partnerships and engagement activity
- Learner participation, achievement and destination data
- Intelligence from local authorities, DWP and employability partners

This evidence will be reviewed annually to identify emerging needs, provision gaps and collaboration opportunities.

Collaboration and system working

The College will discharge its role through collaborative working, including:

- Engagement with neighbouring FE providers, including The Lancashire Colleges group (TLC)
- Partnership with local authorities, including Lancashire, West Lancashire, Liverpool City Region and Greater Manchester
- Collaboration with employers, sector bodies and employability partners

Where appropriate, the College will support collective actions to reduce duplication, strengthen progression pathways and improve system coherence.

Actions and Outcomes

The review will inform:

- Curriculum development, growth or rationalisation
- Capital and infrastructure priorities
- Funding bids and programme design
- SMART objectives within each Accountability Statement

Progress will be reviewed annually and reported transparently.

Governance and Assurance

NCG Corporation retains overall accountability for the Local Needs Duty. The West Lancashire College Advisory Board will provide local assurance, ensuring that contributions are evidence-led, place-responsive and deliverable, and that provision reflects the College's role as an anchor institution.

Through this approach, West Lancashire College will support NCG in meeting its Local Needs Duty, ensuring provision remains responsive to skills needs, supports inclusive economic growth and aligns with national and regional priorities.

