



NCG EDUCATION RECOVERY PLAN



「 NCG EDUCATION RECOVERY PLAN 」

The NCG Education Recovery Plan is simply a statement of intent to describe what we additionally intend to do to help ensure that our new and existing learners are fully supported and are able to quickly transition to their programme or course of study from September 2021.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

It follows the publication of a survey by the AoC in April 2021, that outlines some of the challenges likely to be faced by returning learners, due to the very different delivery of teaching and training that they will have experienced in the past two years, during the COVID pandemic. It additionally puts into motion the remaining recommendations made by NCG's Executive Board in a report to the Corporation Board in March 2021, which highlighted many of the challenges reported by the AoC, just with a focus on NCG's colleges.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

It is likely that any learner who has been in education during the past two years will have had to adapt to new and unfamiliar ways of learning. Likewise, many teachers have had to adapt how they deliver their teaching and training sessions. Whilst some learners and teachers will have found this experience relatively smooth, for others it will have been a challenge. It is therefore prudent to assume that many learners will not have covered the same ground that they would have experienced under normal circumstances; some learners in practical subjects probably have not had the same opportunity to practise their skills and be as regularly assessed.

The pandemic has brought many additional pressures to family life in the last 18 months that may have impacted on health, careers and jobs, and family finances – many individuals may have also felt physically and socially isolated and alone during the lockdowns, so we need to undertake additional steps to ensure our support in and out of the classroom can support our staff and learners.

WHAT WE INTEND TO DO

NCG's colleges already have policies and processes to support students and ensure that they are able to thrive and secure their ambitions. We regularly review and update our approaches and we have been doing this throughout the pandemic. However we aim to undertake several new actions in 2021/22 to ensure our learners are fully supported.



THIS IS OUR EDUCATION RECOVERY PLAN

Action	What is it?	How will it support learners?	Senior Leader Responsibility
Introduce the NCG Guarantee.	A wrap around support initiative to help develop learner employability, enterprise and entrepreneurship.	To better prepare learners for a challenging job market and develop the skills that will support their move to employment.	Cat Draper, Principal, Kidderminster College
Additional small group tuition to mitigate disrupted learning due to COVID-19.	Additional small group tutoring for learners who need support with additional maths, English and other courses where learning has been disrupted. For example, vocational/practical courses where assessment has been deferred because of lockdown.	To help fill any gaps and mitigate lost learning in knowledge, skills and behaviour and support learner progression to their next step and prepare learners to secure a good standard of maths and English. Colleges will also have due regard to the needs of students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), particularly where they have experienced additional disruption to learning as a result of their specific needs and disabilities.	Chris Payne, Deputy CEO, NCG
FIKA development programme for mental fitness.	A programme of units to build confidence, resilience and wellbeing.	To help prepare our learners for the challenges of their education, careers and life.	Cat Draper, Principal, Kidderminster College
Return to face-to-face delivery for all full-time learners.	The return to normal study patterns and the discontinuation of non-live delivery. Any remaining timetabled online delivery will be live (synchronous) wherever possible.	Learners will be back to the classroom, workshops, salons, kitchens, labs and gymnasiums.	College Principals
Flexible online delivery for adults wishing to reskill or upskill.	An enhanced number of courses that can be delivered flexibly for adults wishing to study around their work and family commitments.	Ensure that learners are able to train and study around existing work and family commitments.	College Principals

THIS IS OUR EDUCATION RECOVERY PLAN

Action	What is it?	How will it support learners?	Senior Leader Responsibility
Digital Challenge Fund	An annual fundraising initiative to fund IT kit and equipment for those in need.	To provide laptops and internet access for those in need.	Scott Mulholland, Chief Information and Data Officer, NCG
Launch of a new Equality Diversity and Inclusion Strategy.	A refreshed approach to actions associated with inclusion and fairness.	To ensure that all learners at NCG have the opportunity to access economic prosperity and social mobility.	Steven Wallis, Executive Director Quality, NCG
Introduce a new ePortfolio for all NCG Apprentices.	A new application to help apprentices throughout NCG.	To improve the communication and progress tracking between tutors, apprentices and employers.	Grant Glendinning, Executive Principal, North, NCG
Widen use and expertise of Microsoft Teams to be used as a virtual learning environment (VLE).	The decision to concentrate efforts on supporting MS Teams as our VLE.	Online support and learning materials and assessment for learners, anytime, online.	Scott Mulholland, Chief Information and Data Officer, NCG
Updates to our Safeguarding Policy and introduce a new reporting application, MyConcern.	Annual updates of the Safeguarding Policy to ensure we keep our students safe and a new application to monitor any significant concerns.	Improve the secure reporting of incidents and to help identify any trends so that we can respond to protect our students.	Steven Wallis, Executive Director Quality, NCG
Refreshed Staff Survey and Leadership Hub offer for staff training.	A staff survey of all NCG employees to determine how well they feel supported at NCG and where we need to focus more effort.	Supported staff are more likely to want to stay and work from NCG and a settled staff member is always beneficial to the student experience.	Liz Bromley, CEO, NCG Chris Payne, Deputy CEO, NCG Joe McGraw, Director of People and Development, NCG
Introduce new staff reporting dashboards.	A new set of dashboards to help tutors and course leaders monitor their course.	It will help ensure that learners are effectively monitored and that no one gets left behind.	Scott Mulholland, Chief Information and Data Officer, NCG
A new student engagement strategy.	An approach to ensure that all colleges regularly seek the views of learners to help improve the experience.	To help ensure that the college continues to improve.	Sarah McGrath, Principal, Carlisle College

NCG
Rye Hill House
Scotswood Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7SA

www.ncgrp.co.uk

VISIT OUR WEBSITES

www.carlisle.ac.uk

www.kidderminster.ac.uk

www.lewisham.ac.uk

www.newcastlecollege.co.uk

www.newcastlesixthformcollege.ac.uk

www.southwark.ac.uk

www.westlincs.ac.uk