



OUR
STRATEGY
TOWARDS
2030

WELCOME





Newcastle Sixth Form College was established in 2013 as an academic FE college with a focus on A Levels. Over the last seven years, the college has undergone a transformation and the current performance puts the college in the top 25% nationally for A level progress.

Our college retains an ethos of inclusivity and our improvements are based upon a commitment to first class teaching and excellent student support.

Over the next few years, we plan to cement our position as one of the most successful places to study A Levels in the North East and this strategic plan outlines the key areas we will target during this period. It includes our commitment to a curriculum which is responsive to the needs of learners and our ambition to grow the college so that more young people in Newcastle and the surrounding areas can benefit from our amazing college.

Gerard Garvey, Principal,
Newcastle Sixth Form



The 2019/20 year was the third academic year since the board was established and, in that time, its understanding of sixth form education has developed effectively. The board has strong representation from both secondary and higher education as well as the wider business community which allows us to consider and recognise the broader context of A Levels and needs of our students.

Whilst the past year caused the unfortunate cancellation of GCSE and A Levels, we are pleased to report that the grades ultimately awarded to students reflect the continued positive developments at Newcastle Sixth Form College and our growing reputation as the best place to study A Levels in Newcastle upon Tyne. We are pleased that the COVID-19 pandemic has not held back the learners and the college achieved its highest progression to University, including the most selective institutions.

The board have worked closely with the senior team on the development of the NSFC strategic priorities for 2020/21 and have link governors who work alongside respective strategic senior leadership members to support delivery of key strategic activity. This, along with the varied experience of board members allows for effective challenge in relation to the college key KPIs.

Geoff Phillips – Chair of Newcastle Sixth
Form College Local Board

OUR CONTEXT

Newcastle Sixth Form College is the largest provider of A Levels in Newcastle and the only dedicated Sixth Form College in the city. It has a track record of success with student progress in the top 25% nationally and exceptional progression to higher education. In 2019 students at Newcastle Sixth Form College were 11% more likely to progress to university based on prior attainment and 7% more likely to progress to a Sutton Trust 30 institution.

Newcastle is in the 10% most deprived areas in England. Unemployment in the North East region is the highest in the UK at 5.2% (April 2020), above the national rate of 3.9%. The Progress 8 score of schools in the Local Authority was below the all England average of -0.03 at -0.27 (2019).

The number of young people aged 16-24 who are not in education, employment and training has fluctuated over the last three years but the latest figure of 16.8% for the North East remains above the 11.3% for England (NEET Statistics, December 2019). Progression to higher education in the region is also low (40% v 61% in London).

The North East LEP identifies four areas of strategic importance - Advanced Manufacturing, Health and Life Sciences, Energy and Digital, alongside four service sectors to support growth – Education, Financial, Professional and Business Services, Transport and Logistics, Construction. The NE LEP is also targeting 100000 more and better jobs by 2024.

Newcastle Sixth Form College offers a curriculum which is academic, inclusive, aspirational and adds value. In doing so it is preparing students for positive progression and to fill many of the professional and associate professional roles that the North East LEP is targeting.

From a strong position, the NSFC strategic plan sets out how the college will further increase its contribution to social mobility and economic prosperity in the region and beyond.

NEWCASTLE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE IS PART OF NCG

With a nationwide network of colleges and over 2,000 colleagues, NCG works with thousands of learners and businesses every year, regionally and nationally, to help them reach their full potential and build a talented workforce through high quality education and training. NCG are also one of the largest not for profit training groups in the UK.

We have a clear mission – Enabling social mobility and economic prosperity through exceptional education – and we do this through the work of our colleges and training providers.

NCG operates seven colleges:

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

Creating and developing partnerships that bridge education and business is a vital area of work for our colleges. We offer a wide range of training programmes, from workforce development to supporting job seekers, apprenticeships to work place learning. We work with government, employers and partners to help thousands of people every year start or develop a career.

These collaborations are key to our success in supporting employers who want to invest in their workforce, or industry sectors that have major skills gaps and need specific training and skills to ensure future growth. NCG colleges offer a wide range of vocational Further Education and Higher Education courses and training programmes, including apprenticeships, employability and work place learning. NCG is also the first Further Education institution in the UK ever to be awarded Taught Degree Awarding Powers (TDAP), enabling us to develop and award our own Honours and Masters degrees.



LEWISHAM
COLLEGE



SOUTHWARK
COLLEGE





OUR MISSION

Enabling social mobility and
economic prosperity through
exceptional education.

Newcastle Sixth Form College has a clear widening participation remit. We retain some of the most inclusive entry criteria to study A Levels in the North East and our proven track record of successful value-added means that we are enabling more young people to progress to higher level destinations. We deliver an exceptional access route for all students and at the core of our success is a clear commitment to delivering the highest quality education. We believe in the life-long transformative effect of this for our learners.

ABIGAIL CHAPLIN
ATTENDED

KING EDWARD VI
SCHOOL, MORPETH

SHE STUDIED
A LEVELS
AT NSFC

SHE RECEIVED A*, A, A IN
CHEMISTRY, BIOLOGY
AND PSYCHOLOGY

NOW SHE IS STUDYING
CHEMISTRY WITH
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
AT MANCHESTER
UNIVERSITY

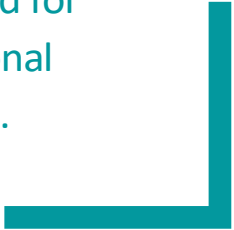
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OUR VISION



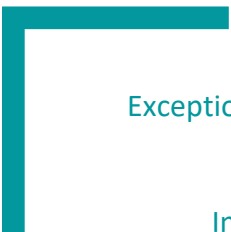
To be the UK's leading
college group recognised for
our local impact, national
influence and reach.

Outcomes at Newcastle Sixth Form College have enabled us to maintain our position in the top 25% nationally for student progress, and our reputation is growing. The college leadership works with other sixth form colleges and the Sixth Form College Association to ensure we remain at the forefront of academic post-16 education. Our number of students is growing year on year as we explore opportunities to expand the NCG SFC portfolio and lead on the academic provision at level 2/3 across NCG.

OUR VALUES



OUR STRATEGIC GOALS



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



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2020 – 2030

EXCEPTIONAL TEACHING, LEARNER EXPERIENCE AND OUTCOMES

No course less than good with a significant majority generating;

- Outstanding teaching, learning and assessment
- Outstanding learner experience
- Outstanding outcomes for learners

This will be achieved through a culture of high expectations and a curriculum which is aspirational, academic, inclusive and adds value.

Our students progress to and thrive at the UK's top Universities with exceptional progression for those from widening participation backgrounds.

INNOVATIVE, RELEVANT COURSES AND QUALIFICATIONS

Deliver a programme of study which focusses on the whole learner and builds the cultural capital of our learners and encapsulates the NCG Guarantee.

- Comprehensive A Level offer with clear pathways that enable successful learner progression.
- A successful access programme which is inclusive and provides those with the potential to progress to A Level the opportunities not presented to them at Key Stage 4
- Progression focussed curriculum which targets post-graduate careers and equips students with the qualifications they need to access the most prestigious programmes at the most competitive universities
- Reset the relationship with local schools to create genuine feeder partnerships that are mutually beneficial, working collaboratively to improve education for the whole of the city

3

AMBITIOUS AND RESPONSIBLE EDUCATORS AND LEADERS

Achieve 'Teaching School' Status by 2023 and the ability to grow the next generation of excellent A Level teacher.

An internal staff development programme which is second to none in the sixth form sector.

4

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY POWERING REINVESTMENT

Become the leading educator of A Level students in the North East by extending our footprint to 1500 learners with the majority of applications received by January.

5

IMPACTFUL EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT AND CIVIC COMMITMENT

NSFC to become the hub and lead on all academic provision across the group to ensure consistency of experience and outcomes.

Build strong external partnerships with key NE employers and provide staff and students with a clear understanding of the needs of the local economy.

Recognised experts in academic post-16 education, with representation on national committees connected to sixth form and academic qualifications



KATIE STAFFORD
ATTENDED

NORTHUMBERLAND
ACADEMY

SHE STUDIED
A LEVELS
AT NSFC

SHE RECEIVED A*, A, B IN
MATHS, BIOLOGY AND
FURTHER MATHS

NOW SHE IS STUDYING
SPORTS AND EXERCISE
SCIENCE AT NEWCASTLE
UNIVERSITY

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OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND KPIs

KPI	Current Value	2022	2025	2030
Number of Outstanding Curriculum Areas	30%	75%	100%	100%
Value Added	Top 25% of all providers (ALPS 3)	Top 25% of all providers (ALPS 3)	Top 10% of all providers (ALPS 2)	Top 10% of all providers (ALPS 2)
Overall Progression to HE	85%	90%	95%	95%
Overall Progression to Sutton 30	36%	40%	45%	50%
Number of Partner/Feeder Schools	0	3	5	10
Learner Numbers	1200	1450	1550	1750

STANLEY BETTS
ATTENDED

**BERWICK
ACADEMY**

HE STUDIED
A LEVELS

AT NSFC

HE RECEIVED A*, A*, A IN
FILM STUDIES, MEDIA
STUDIES AND ENGLISH
LITERATURE

**NOW HE IS STUDYING
FILM AND TELEVISION
PRODUCTION AT
YORK UNIVERSITY**

#GOFURTHER

www.nsfcc.co.uk



Newcastle Sixth Form College
Westmorland Rd, Newcastle upon
Tyne NE4 7SA

Tel: +44 (0) 0191 272 1001

www.newcastlesixthformcollege.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