

Annex 7

Hereford Ludlow and North Shropshire College Overview





BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Established in 1949, Herefordshire, Ludlow and North Shropshire College (HLNSC) is a high performing further education college located across the Marches at six distinctive campuses in Hereford, Holme Lacy, Ludlow, Oswestry, Walford and Shrewsbury.

Originally Herefordshire College of Technology, operating from a single campus in the City of Hereford, the College has in recent years grown through a series of mergers. In each case, through effective and efficient management, the College has continued to support a broad range of local, high-quality education and skills training opportunities.

Herefordshire College

Herefordshire College is a large centre delivering vocational qualifications in the city of Hereford. It is the only general further education facility in the county and offers a broad range of programmes for young people and adults from a wide geographical area, including the neighbouring counties of Worcestershire, Gloucestershire, Shropshire and Powys. The campus also serves as the College's main administrative centre.

Holme Lacy College

Following the disaggregation of the Pershore group of colleges, Holme Lacy College was incorporated into the College structure in 2007. Holme Lacy College and its associated ca.300hectare farm, Pound Farm, is the country's only fully organic further education facility and continues to deliver a broad portfolio of land-based courses. It is one of only three centres in the UK approved to train apprentice farriers and is home to the National School of Blacksmithing.

Ludlow Sixth Form College

Ludlow Sixth Form College delivers a blend of A Levels and classroom-based vocational courses. It merged with Herefordshire College of Technology in 2013 to become Herefordshire and Ludlow College.

County Training

Formally Shropshire County Council's training division, the contract for County Training's provision was novated to Herefordshire and Ludlow College in 2015. County Training delivers a range of apprenticeships and adult and community learning programmes. Based at the Gateway Centre in Shrewsbury, County Training plays an important role in the local community.

North Shropshire College

North Shropshire College, itself a result of a previous merger, was incorporated into the College in 2018. It comprises of two distinct campuses:

Walford College is a predominately dairy-based ca.300hectare farm and agricultural campus offering a range of land-based courses alongside provision in motor vehicles and SEND. It also plays host to a small campus run by the Derwen College, a Shropshire-based specialist provider for adults with learning difficulties.

Oswestry Campus – A town-based facility which is home to a range of vocational general further education courses.

VISION AND MISSION

The College's vision is:

To support students, communities and businesses to fully realise their potential by delivering high quality academic, technical, professional and community learning. We take pride in our legacy: successful students who are skilled, knowledgeable, enterprising, professional and resilient.

The College's mission is:

To realise potential and support success.

KEY FACTS

In 2021-2022, the College:

Trained ca. 2,400 full-time and 6000 part-time students. The majority of full-time students are aged between 16 and 18.

Trained ca.700 apprentices.

Worked with more than 600 individual businesses across the Marches.

Delivered university-level programmes through the Hereford University Centre, a joint initiative with the University of Worcester, the College's principal university partner.

Supported the majority of students to progress into further/higher education or employment on completion of their studies.

Is one of the largest employers in the region, employing a talented and well-qualified staff base of ca.600, some 400 FTE.

Was inspected in October 2022 as a newly merged organisation (without grade). Inspectors judged the provision to be 'Good' overall.