

Annex 8

Shrewsbury Colleges Group Overview





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College Provider Overview 2023

SHREWSBURY COLLEGES GROUP

Provider overview Shrewsbury Colleges Group

Shrewsbury Colleges Group was formed in 2016 from the merger of the sixth form and general colleges in Shrewsbury. SCG is the largest sixth form college in the country with a turnover of £31mn, having grown from £22mn at merger. The college employs 700 staff. The college works with c.9,000 students. The college has a broad tertiary offer, offering courses from Level 1 to Level 7.

The college is the only post-16 provider in the state sector within Shrewsbury, as well as serving 11-16 schools across Shropshire. It also attracts significant numbers of students from 11-18 schools and from schools outside Shropshire. 16-18 student numbers have grown from 3200 at merger to 3800 and 16-18 funding is responsible for £24mn of the college income. 75% of the college 16-18 provision is Level 3 and the college is the largest A Level provider in Shropshire, with 1,750 A Level students, more than the rest of the providers combined. The college offers 38 A Level courses and 78 vocational/technical full time courses. The college sends around 800 students to university every year. Students from the college perform exceptionally well at university, consistently out-performing other sixth form colleges, school sixth forms and independent schools in terms of % of students achieving 1st and 2:1 class degrees. The college offers provision in all sectors apart from land-based.

Adult provision consists of part-time and full-time further education qualifications, higher education and a small amount of community learning. In addition the college is the main provider of Trade Union Studies training for the GMB union and the only college in the country which delivers TU apprenticeships. The college works with more than 600 employers. Apprenticeship numbers have grown from 770 to 920 in the last two years, focused mainly on construction and engineering. Teams of college apprentices have won the gold medals in the last two Skills UK Manufacturing Team Challenge. In the last two years the college has developed high quality full-cost bespoke engineering training designed with the employer.

To better meet skills needs the college has: opened a new Automotive Centre, in partnership with regional and national employers, facilitating training in hybrid and electrical technology; opened two new brick workshops; expanded electrical and plumbing facilities; opened a new renewable energy workshop; opening an additional engineering workshop; and creating an E-Sports suite.

The college has developed curriculum to meet local and regional skills needs through partnership working. The Health team have developed the Shrewsbury Nurse pathway for Health in partnership with the University of Chester and the NHS Trust. The Construction team have developed qualifications in Renewable Technologies and upskilled staff to deliver the programmes.



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The college is rated as 'Good' with 'Outstanding' features by Ofsted in the report of January 2022. A strength of the college in the last two inspections is how the college meets skills needs. The college is Matrix accredited for Information, Advice and Guidance and is certified as meeting all eight of the Gatsby Benchmarks for effective careers guidance.

The college has a highly engaged staff with 97% proud to work at the college. The college won the Chamber of Commerce Business Award for Well-being in the Workplace in June 2022.

James Staniforth

Principal and Chief Executive

Website: <https://www.scg.ac.uk>