

Overview

Where are we?

Chesterfield is a historic market town and local government district in Derbyshire located on the edge of the Peak District. Lying north of Derby, the town has a population of approximately 70,000. In recent years, the economy in and around Chesterfield has experienced major change, moving the employment base away from the primary and secondary sectors and towards the service sector.

Current developments within the town include the new Junction 29A that will provide increased access to the town from the M1 motorway, and the relocation and rebuild of the Chesterfield Football Club stadium.

The main companies currently operating in Chesterfield include:

- The Health Authority
- Stagecoach East Midlands
- Gordon Lamb Holdings Ltd
- Royal Mail International
- The Post Office
- Chesterfield Borough Council
- GK Group Ltd
- North East Derbyshire District Council
- Retail parks featuring the major national chains

Our Mission

Chesterfield College aims to provide outstanding education and training for all learners, employers, partners and staff.

Our Vision

Our vision is that by 2015 we will become recognised nationally as an outstanding college by learners, employers, partners, regulators and people who work for us.

We aim to achieve this vision through striving to be outstanding in all we do and by:

1. Meeting the needs and developing the potential of learners, apprentices, employers, partners and our staff
2. Developing, delivering and constantly reviewing the training and education we provide to ensure it remains responsive and relevant to the needs of learners and employers
3. Delivering our services efficiently
4. Raising the college profile and its reputation locally, regionally and nationally
5. Developing close strategic relations and partnerships
6. Providing first class facilities and 21st century technology which support the high technology/low carbon agenda
7. Creating a framework of systems and business processes that are responsive to local and national priorities

Our Values

Underpinning our vision and mission are our core values.

We aim at all times to:

- Put the learner first
- Have a genuine culture of inclusivity where all people and communities are valued
- Operate with openness and honesty
- Act with integrity and recognise our responsibilities
- Work as a team respecting, supporting and valuing each other
- Seek continuous improvement

About the College

Chesterfield College is a large general Further Education college that serves a large catchment area in Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire and beyond – west into the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak, east into Bolsover and south into Amber Valley and the outskirts of Derby.

In 2008/09 Chesterfield College enrolled 11,630 learners of whom 420 were pre-16, 4,190 were 16 to 18 and 7,020 were adult learners (including Train to Gain). 92% of learners are on programmes funded by the Learning and Skills Council, with a further 544 learners on Higher Education programmes funded by the Higher Education Funding Council.

The College currently has 557 full-time equivalent permanent staff of whom 271 are teaching staff.

The Principalship within College is made up of the Principal, Deputy Principal of Learning and Standards, Deputy Principal of Planning Funding and Innovation, and the Clerk to the Corporation. The College is currently undergoing a curriculum restructure with the curriculum divided into seven Vocational Areas of Learning:

- Art, Design and Creative Industries
- Hair, Beauty, Hospitality and Catering
- Construction and the Built Environment
- Engineering
- Business Services, Computing and Travel and Tourism
- Sport and Public Services
- Care Industries and Provision for Learners with Learning Difficulties or Disabilities

The curriculum also includes a 6th Form Centre and an Adult and Continuing Education Learning Centre.

Course options

Chesterfield College offers the widest range of courses in the area for school leavers and adult learners. Levels of study range from Entry Level through to Higher Education including Skills for Life, GCSEs, A Levels, National Diplomas, NVQs, Access to Adult Education and a range work based apprenticeships and employment-based training options. Higher Education courses include Higher National Diplomas (HNDs) and a range of Foundation Degrees that are validated by one of the College's university partners – Sheffield Hallam University and Leeds Metropolitan University.

Facilities available

Provision is delivered over three campuses: Infirmery Road, Chesterfield and Clowne campus are the main bases for 14 – 19 delivery and Tapton House focuses on Higher Education. Facilities provided by the College include state-of-the-art hair, beauty and construction workshops at Clowne, a fully licensed training restaurant at Infirmery Road which is open to the general public, and nursery provision. Chesterfield College provides excellent sports facilities with two gymnasia equipped with the latest in aerobic exercise equipment, a private football field, flood-lit astro turf pitches and two sports halls. All the sporting facilities are open to staff, students and the general public.

College success

The College is one of a small group of general Further Education colleges nationally that hold Beacon status in recognition of its excellent provision. It has also been awarded the full Training Quality Standard (TQS) and is now recognised as one of the best UK organisations in the country to deliver employer training and development solutions. The College was also the first organisations in the country to receive the Standard for Excellence in Creative Media, an award that replaces the Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) award for Design Practice.

We also hold Investors in People, and the Matrix award for Information, Advice and Guidance, and are committed to employing, keeping and developing the abilities of disabled staff, as recognised by Jobcentre Plus through the award of the Two Ticks Positive about Disabled People symbol.

Chesterfield College

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A Further Education Corporation

The College is committed to equal opportunities for all

“Chesterfield College provides good teaching and opportunities for learning to its students. Provision is outstanding in visual and performing arts. Pass rates have been good for the last three years and retention rates improved significantly to around or above the national average”

Excerpt taken from the Ofsted Inspectors Report, 2008

