




ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

MAY 2023





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OUR PURPOSE, VISION AND CURRICULUM INTENT

The College's published strategy, Drive to 25, provides a clear direction for the College:

OUR PURPOSE

Education transforms lives. HSDC is committed to realise the ambitions of our community - raising aspiration, enabling achievement, fulfilling dreams.

OUR VISION

By 2025, we will be the first-choice college for students, staff and employers in Hampshire - fully equipping our communities for work and life.

The College is fully committed to working proactively and meaningfully with partners to deliver its strategy – these partners include other educational & training providers, employers and community organisations.

The key objectives contained within this strategy are:

- We will be an employer of choice in Hampshire, offering an open and supportive culture, promoting an active and healthy lifestyle, and nurturing and harnessing the talents and ideas of both our staff and students.
- We will ensure our students progress to an ambitious life beyond college that fulfils their dreams – through outstanding teaching, learning, support, challenge and assessment.
- We will achieve financial sustainability through efficient and effective management of our business, enabling continued funding for investment and innovation.
- We will be recognised as the learning heart of our communities, meeting the needs of all of our students whilst ensuring ethical practices and responding to our environmental responsibility.
- We will be the preferred partner in Hampshire for employers and other organisations, renowned for innovation in our curriculum design and delivery.

The College's concurrent curriculum strategy, Curriculum 25, developed and approved by the College Corporation in 2019-20, provides the following specific purpose and vision for the College's curriculum:

CURRICULUM PURPOSE

Our curriculum is transformative, ambitious, and enables the fulfillment of dreams.

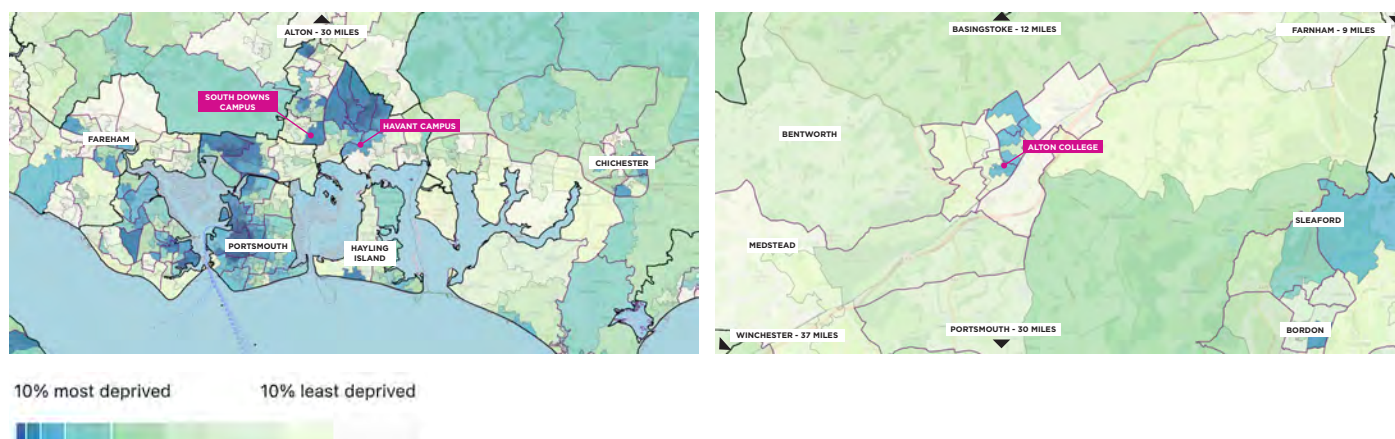
CURRICULUM VISION

Our curriculum is distinctive, exceptional, and prepare students for the future.

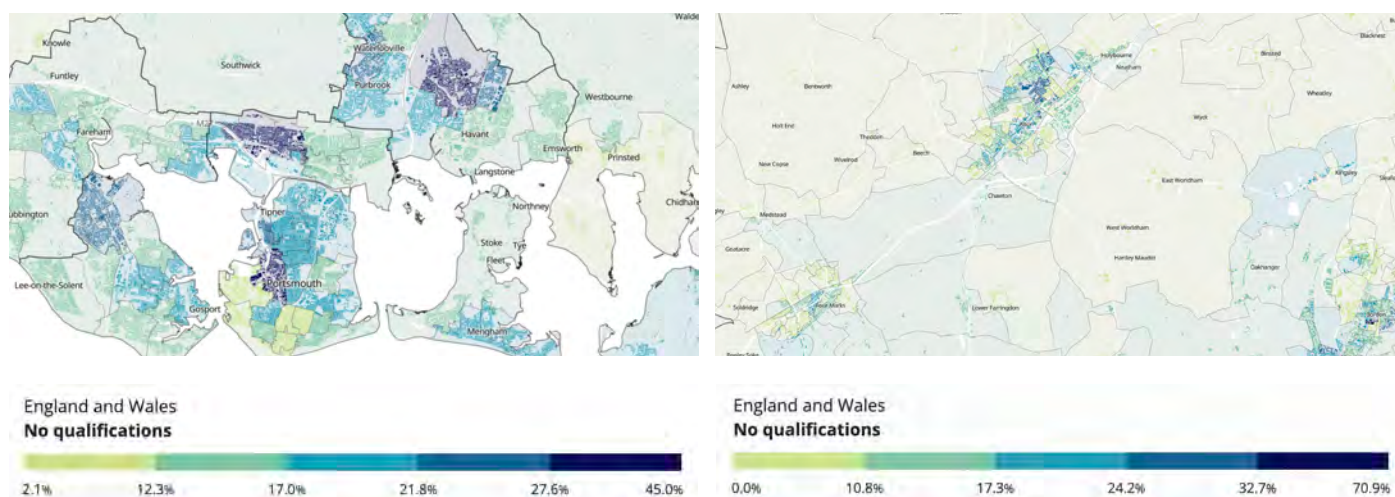


OUR CONTEXT AND PLACE - THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

The College serves a diverse range of communities across Hampshire and the surrounding areas. These communities vary from densely-populated urban areas (such as in Portsmouth and Havant) to more rural communities (such as the areas around Alton) and from relatively wealthy areas to particularly deprived communities.



Education and skills priorities also vary somewhat across the College's communities, with some areas (such as Portsmouth and Havant) having notable adult skills needs and a deficit of residents with higher level qualifications.



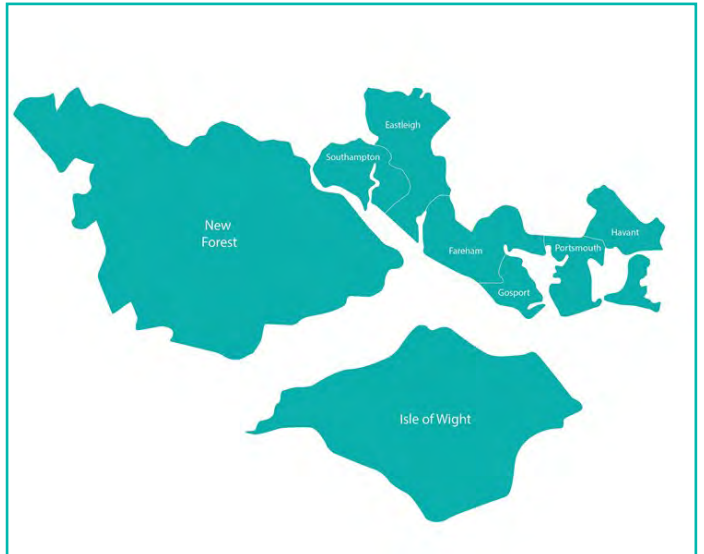
The College responds to a range of different local economic and skills priorities as identified by key regional organisations – these include two LEPs (Solent and Enterprise M3), four main local authorities (Portsmouth City Council, Hampshire County Council, Havant Borough Council, East Hampshire District Council) – and is a key partner in two Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIPs), for the Solent region and for the North Hampshire/Surrey region. In both LSIPs, the College is building upon the strong collaborative work with other local providers that it achieved in recent Skills Development Fund (SDF) projects across these regions – including successfully leading that work on the Digital Skills project in the Solent region.

WHERE OUR STUDENTS LIVE

The College has completed a comprehensive analysis of all relevant published documentation from these organisations mapped against its curriculum as part of the work to achieve this accountability statement – a full list of these publications is available in Appendix A.

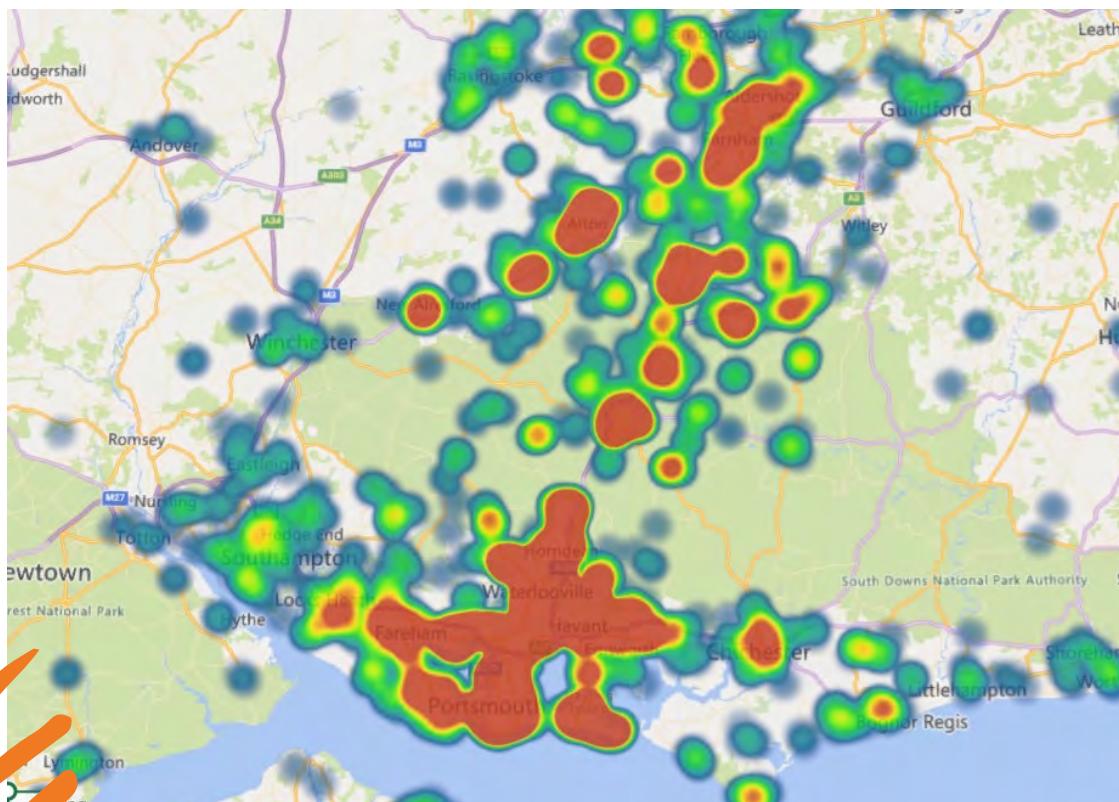


Enterprise M3 LEP Boundary - [image source enterprisem3.org.uk](https://www.enterprisem3.org.uk)



Solent LEP Boundary - [image source solentlep.org.uk](https://www.solentlep.org.uk)

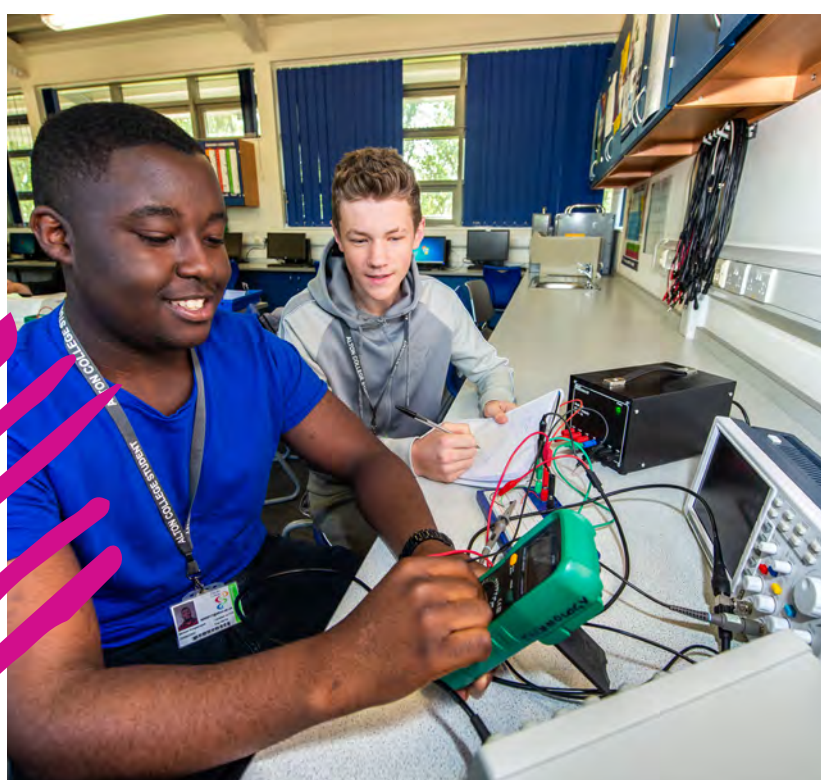
OUR STUDENTS



OUR APPROACH

The College is continuously engaged in work to ensure it is well-informed regarding, and responsive to, key local and regional priorities. At the time of writing, this includes contributing towards the two LSIPs which cover the College's communities (North Hampshire/Surrey and the Solent region), the Portsmouth Civic Partnership, the Havant Civic Partnership Board and the Havant Skills & Innovation Hub. The College's Principal chairs the Hampshire Colleges Group and is the College representative of the Solent LEP's Skills Advisory Panel. The College's Deputy Principal (Curriculum) represents the College at the Portsmouth Post-16 Group, and at meetings with local school leaders in the Havant and Portsmouth areas. The College sponsors the Portsmouth News Business Awards, the Teach Portsmouth Awards, the Central South Business Awards, and is a patron of Shaping Portsmouth. The College's Assistant Principal (Business & Skills) is a non-executive Director of Hampshire Chambers of Commerce and the Chair of the Portsmouth Business Strategy Group which leads the annual Portsmouth & South Coast Business Week. In addition, the College's Partner Boards (curriculum-focussed boards of external partners, including employers and local universities) continue to provide invaluable input to ensure the College flexes and adapts its curriculum to meet the needs of particular industries/employment sectors around Alton, Havant, Portsmouth and the wider area.

As part of its periodic comprehensive review of its curriculum, during 2022 and 2023 the College's curriculum leadership team undertook a thorough review of the extent to which its curriculum responded to local, regional and national skills priorities. This included a full review of published skills and employment reports from its Local Enterprise Partnerships and local authorities, and a deep analysis of labour market intelligence (both current and projected) from a recognised industry-leading source of information. Feedback from employers and other stakeholders via the Partner Boards, key local network groups (including those in the above paragraph) and meetings with key local stakeholders were also considered. A comprehensive mapping exercise produced a RAG-rating of all areas of the College's curriculum to determine the degree to which any particular aspect responds to local, regional and national priorities. Interim conclusions from this process were presented and discussed at a governance committee in March 2023 and then in detail at a corporation meeting in May 2023. The results of that work include this Accountability Statement and Action Plan.



OUR CONTRIBUTION

TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PRIORITIES AND NEEDS

The College is the largest General Further Education College in Hampshire, with around 5000 16-18 year olds, 3000 Adult and Higher Education enrolments and 400 Apprentices studying with it each year. Its footprint in the locality and region is therefore clearly significant and the impact of its work a notable contributor to the local and regional skills economy.

The College has constantly developed and adapted its curriculum to seek responsiveness to national, regional and local needs and priorities. Some examples include:

- Establishing a leading role in T Levels, being a 2020 provider which has been nationally recognised for its work in developing, promoting, launching and successfully delivering these vital technical qualifications.
- Introduction of further new curriculum including: two STEM A Levels (Environmental Science and Product Design); Games Design and Esports study programmes; electric/hybrid vehicle maintenance & repair; HE courses in early years education and health & social care.
- Refocussed and redesigned adult learning provision subsequently rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted as a result of its excellence in providing skills and employment opportunities for adult students, including via the strong use of specialist subcontracting.
- Led the way in the locality and region regarding SEND provision via supported internships, an Employability Hub and an Independence Hub (both funded by Hampshire County Council) for these students.
- Successful bids and projects under the Turing Scheme, providing life-changing overseas experiences for young people from the College's most deprived communities.
- Being a key FE partner in the South Coast Institute of Technology and the key local skills partner for the Dunsbury Park development associated with the Solent Freeport.
- Playing a leading role in the Link Up Leigh Park project, part of Economies for Healthier Lives, to help local young people into work and improve their long-term health and wellbeing.
- In recent years in particular, the College has delivered significant investment in capital works to support the development of its curriculum's responsiveness and relevance, in addition to significant professional development of teaching staff in priority sectors.



OUR CONTRIBUTION

TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PRIORITIES AND NEEDS

In addition, the College has led two Solent SDF projects as part of its commitment to leading collaborative work to meet the skills needs of local communities.

The first project, focussing upon Regional Curriculum and Estates Planning, brought together all local providers (in a traditionally highly competitive geographical area) to discuss the opportunities for collaboration in order to meet local skills needs even more effectively. Good engagement with the significant majority of further education, sixth form and tertiary colleges across the Solent Region, all of whom have contributed to the thinking behind an approach to regional curriculum planning has led to each area of college business (its curriculum and cohorts) to be analysed (using both recruitment and financial data) with the following agreed outputs:

T LEVELS: agreement to a consistent approach in recruiting T Level students by setting consistent entry criteria. This will ensure that colleges do not compete for students based on the lowest GCSE offer and provides the best possible position for T Levels students to best achieve their qualification.

ADULT STUDENTS: agreement to working in partnership regarding funding opportunities and a common approach to the prospect of devolution for Hampshire and the cities. Recognising that colleges work, in the main, with funded qualifications, they are committed to widening their offer in both basic skills and general education and high-level technical education, in order that they continue to meet the needs and interests of their communities and the economy.

APPRENTICESHIP: agreement to explore a more strategic approach to regional curriculum planning for Apprenticeships which could result in a commitment to explore further how a strategic approach to regional curriculum planning for Apprenticeships could result in a clear offer to employers and a streamlined approach to which colleges agree (with its specialist staff and facilities) what standards will be offered.

The second project, focussing on the Digital curriculum, has encompassed significant professional development for staff, capital investment in digital equipment and software licences, outreach work with local schools and engagement with a range of key employers.



OUR ACTION PLAN



Theme	Aims & Objectives	Contribution to National, Regional and Local Skills Priorities
Employers at the heart of our curriculum	Increase the opportunities for staff to spend time in relevant industries and strengthen the impact of this on curriculum design & delivery	Our students will develop the knowledge and skills identified as priorities by employers from their local communities – both technical or sector-specific, and those prized skills which significantly enhance employability to all sectors
	Build on existing strengths to broaden and deepen the extent to which employers co-design and co-deliver our curriculum	
	Continue to lead T Levels via the successful launch of new T Level programmes and continuing to increase student recruitment	
Responsiveness through collaboration	Lead the delivery of the agreed outputs of the Solent SDF Regional Curriculum & Estates Planning project in collaboration with other providers	Local economic and skills priorities will be responded to more effectively and more quickly by providers working together to share their strengths/areas of expertise and working together on solutions that benefit their localities and region
	Play a key role in responding to skills priorities identified in both the Solent and North Hampshire/Surrey LSIPs	

OUR ACTION PLAN CONTINUED

Higher level technical skills for prosperity and productivity	Expand our L4/5 Engineering provision as part of the South Coast Institute of Technology	Both regional productivity and local prosperity will be significantly enhanced by increasing the numbers of residents in possession of higher level technical skills
	Successfully launch new L4/5 Digital provision as part of the South Coast Institute of Technology	
Green Skills for the next generation	Increase delivery of green skills to students via a targeted curriculum & resourcing approach across both the vocational/technical and academic curriculum provision	The generation which will lead the battle against climate change will benefit from significantly enhanced skills and knowledge to respond to the climate emergency
Skills responsiveness via Apprenticeships	Expand our existing Apprenticeship provision to increase its impact on local skills needs	Local and regional employers will have their most immediate skills needs met via successful recruitment and development of their Apprentices
	Launch at least two new Apprenticeships in response to local skills needs	
Ambitious for all students	Further enhance the achievement of Preparing for Adulthood outcomes by our SEND students via curriculum design	Our SEND students will see tangible impact on their lives across the four PfA themes (progression, independence, participation & relationships, health) and make a valuable contribution to the skills needs of their communities as a result

CORPORATION STATEMENT AND SIGNATURE

On behalf of the HSDC Corporation, it is hereby confirmed that the plan as set out above reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the corporation at their meeting of 12th May 2023. The plan can be accessed from the following link - www.hsdac.ac.uk/policies

C B Dobbin

Chair of Corporation:

Dated: 22nd May 2023

Michael Gorn

Principal and Chief Executive:

Dated: 22nd May 2023



HSDC

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