

# ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017



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# Introduction

It gives me great pleasure to introduce the College's Annual report for 2016/17.

2016/17 was a particularly successful year starting with Grade 2 Ofsted inspection in November 2016 and later in the year being reported as 6th in the country for the progress our students make on their vocational course.

We were delighted with the feedback in the Ofsted report. One of the many positive comments was

"Your leadership team and governors set high expectations for your learners and staff, with clear priorities to improve the quality of provision, develop the skills of teaching staff, improve the college estate and maintain a strong financial position."

"Study programmes provide learners aged 16-19 with high quality work-related activities and purposeful work experience which link to their longer-term employment aspirations."

Hopwood Hall are committed to enabling our learners to be the best they can be and in addition to the high quality teaching and learning that Ofsted praised during their two day visit, we are able to offer a wide variety of purposeful work experience throughout your course.

These opportunities can be seen in some of the success stories featured later in this report and also in the feedback that our students provide to both the National Student Survey and HEFCE. The results from the HEFCE survey showed that 92% of our higher education students gave us an overall satisfaction rating, the highest in Greater Manchester.

In June we received praise again from the Teaching Excellence Framework who awarded us their Bronze Standard. This compares us to institutions across the UK and we came out on a par with the University of Liverpool and London Metropolitan University.

The college would not be able to achieve any of this success without its people. So thank you again to all our governors, staff and students for your contributions.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. J. O'Toole', written in a cursive style.

Derek O'Toole  
Principal

**Derek O'Toole**  
Principal

# Our Curriculum

Hopwood Hall College acknowledges that it is important to meet current employer demand for skills by planning an innovative curriculum in order to meet LEP priorities and plan for the future skills needs of the regional economy whilst making the college sustainable. Significant preparatory work has been undertaken to ensure that the college is well positioned financially.





As part of the annual review and modification of the curriculum offer, the College use LMI extensively along with the research and data analysis conducted by Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). Through this, the college has been able to re-engineer its curriculum plan to offer a more sustainable curriculum including more advanced level skills that meet both local and regional priorities, skills gaps and prepare learners of all ages for the world of work.

The College curriculum offer is now aligned to the GMCA priorities identified for Greater Manchester and has seen growth in learner numbers in Health & Social Care, Engineering & Manufacturing, Education & Training and Creative Digital sector areas. This alignment is set to continue as the College has a mature approach to business planning, involving staff from across the organisation and a planning cycle that encourages innovative development of new products, mapping of progression pathways and aims to meet both the skills priorities of the future and the ambition of the GMCA.

The College continues to drive its passion and commitment to improving the economic prospects for young people in the Borough of Rochdale, especially those facing the most disadvantages. Indeed 65% of 16-18 year old students studying at Hopwood Hall College are from a disadvantaged postcode according to latest IMD. The Key Stage 4 attainment amongst our Level 3 cohort recruitment has flat-lined, however the college leads the way in terms of progress at Key Stage 5.

National Key Stage 5 data shows that the College is outperforming all other general further education colleges nationally when it comes to Level 3 Vocational Value Added\* where a high proportion of disadvantage is reported in the cohort base. Evidence also shows that where students complete their vocational studies at the College they pass and pass with Distinction.

In 2016/17 the college worked with a number of key strategic delivery partners to sub-contract a small proportion of the adult education budget to help build capacity in specialist areas to meet skills gaps and also provide community learning to enable the college to broaden its offer in-line with our strategic objectives, mission and values. Notable adult education delivery partners were the Kashmir Youth Project, Mantra Learning Limited and Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council.

\*See DfE KS5 Performance tables



## Apprenticeships

Training@Hopwood manage all work-based learning provision on behalf of the College, including apprenticeships, traineeships and other workforce development programmes.

During 2016/17 the department developed its customer base by establishing new apprenticeship standards such as welding. The ESF Skills Support for the Unemployed (SSU) programme has continued to be a successful partnership delivering a selection of Level 1 qualifications including IT, Health and Social Care and Business Administration.

In 2016/17 over 250 apprenticeship jobs were created with around 120 apprentices successfully completing their frameworks during the academic year.

Training@Hopwood is currently working with around 200 local employers covering an extensive range of sectors. The Employer Engagement and Recruitment Team are working closely with all our partners and employers to expand our offer and provide support with the funding reforms.

The Employer Satisfaction Study carried out by the Skills Funding Agency for 2016/17 found that 90% of our employers would recommend our services to another employer seeking similar training because we understand their organisation's training needs.

They also praised our quality and the professionalism of our delivery. Additionally it was also found that we offer our training in a flexible way and we are efficient and effective in our communication.

## Arts & Performing Arts

During 2016/17, the department took part in a range of regional competitions with notable success. Performing Arts won the Greater Manchester Colleges Group (GMCG) acting and musical theatre categories and Creative Media also won their category, and as a result will be hosting the competition in May 2018.

Performing Arts students created and delivered a full season of performances to over 600 people in the Hopwood Theatre. Many shows were sold out with additional matinee shows arranged for the pantomime. Students also arranged regular performances for outside agencies such as the White Ribbon domestic violence campaign and the Who Cares young carers event.

In Art and Design, Blaine Bennett had his work chosen to be exhibited at Touchstones and was also featured in the Rochdale Observer for his achievements. This followed on the back of Cary-Lee Walker winning the National BTEC Award for Outstanding Media student of the year in 2015/16.





## Business, Travel & Accounts

In 2016/17 our department continued to add value to our courses through work experience, live project work and charity fund raising. All our accounting students now complete a two week rotation in the college's finance department to gain confidence and improve their skills before moving on to external work experience placements. In addition they undertake a range of masterclasses delivered by employers covering a range of topics including professional ethics, career planning and effective use of budgeting. The accounting course moved over to the new AAT 2016 standards last year which saw the introduction of grading. We were particularly pleased that four of our students scored over 90% on their exams and achieved a Distinction grade.

The theme of adding value continued with our Travel and Tourism course. To improve employability and employer engagement the level 3 year 2 travel and tourism learners completed a two week placement within hotels and visitor attractions around the North West. Level 3 travel and tourism learners planned and participated in the college's children's Christmas party. This event was a huge success and learners were able to work towards the distinction criteria and complete the practical aspects on their assignments for the unit 'Entertainment and Children's reps'. For the first time in a number of years an overseas residential to Spain was organised for all travel and tourism students. The trip took place in May and learners had the opportunity to visit Barcelona and the new Ferrari Land theme park.

Finally numerous business events were managed by our Level 3 year 1 and 2 business learners to raise money for a number of charities including Papyrus (teenage suicide charity) and the colleges chosen charity in support of Alzheimer's. A huge highlight for the team was one of the level 3 year 2 business students, Hasan Zaman, achieving a triple Distinction star and was awarded the student Star of the Year (silver) in June 2017.

## Early Years and Health & Social Care

Our level 1 learners took part in an outdoor nature activity that was linked to curriculum. By participating in engaging, motivating and achievable tasks and activities in a woodland environment each learner had an opportunity to develop intrinsic motivation, sound emotional and social skills. The group also ran an enterprise activity at both sites with a hamper as the main prize. All proceeds were donated to support Springhill Hospice.

Nursery World North took place in May 2017 in Liverpool and our level 3 learners attended. The event provided CPD certified professional seminars, expert-led masterclasses, a free live theatre, nutrition zone and a wide-ranging exhibition of early years suppliers, organisations and charities packing out the show floor. The 'Early Years Resources & Learning Zone' also provided additional information, inspiration and advice.

Second year level 3 learners were taken on an external visit to the University of Bradford. The learners received a tour of the campus and accommodation, they got the chance to speak to current students and meet the academics, as well as find out about fees, finance and scholarships.

The health and social care department offer outstanding facilities which include a health care room and a dental lab. This enriches the learner experience in preparation and confidence for work placement.

In 2016/17 health and social care learners participated in a range of activities over the academic year including Health Chats that were delivered to all groups to provide employability skills on early interventions in the community. All learners received a certificate for taking part in the training. They also had the opportunity to visit MIND to work on a new project called 'Take Control' which launched in January 2017 across Rochdale borough.

Learners attended a presentation to discuss general personal safety with the Police and discussed potential volunteering opportunities with victim support, and counselling roles within family liaison.

## ESOL

The ESOL department provides Rochdale Borough's diverse community with learning in English language, maths, ICT and employability, preparing young people and adults for further study and the jobs market. 2016/17 was a particularly successful year as the department delivered learning opportunities to its largest ever cohort, nearly 1000 qualifications, whilst maintaining its grade 1 status (HHC SAR report) for a fourth consecutive year.

Learners also took part in varied extra-curricular activities. These included "You're hired!", a job application and interview competition, the ESOL Entrepreneur's Fair developing profit making business ideas, and the celebration of culture. In the process over £450 was raised for the Alzheimer's Society UK.







## GCSE English and Maths

A major factor impacting the College since its introduction by the Government in 2013 is the Condition of Funding for GCSE Maths and English. The CoF for further education providers is to ensure that all 16-18 students that have not yet attained a grade C, or 4, at GCSE Maths and English do so, or are at least working towards achieving. If not, all funding for that student is withdrawn, regardless of main Vocational element. The College is complying with this Government policy. As such, there are now almost 2,000 16-18 students effectively re-taking these core subjects at Key stage 4 in college years 12, 13 and 14. This is due to previous under-achievement at school. Whilst the college greatly supports the needs for all young people to achieve GCSE Maths and English and recognise the importance of this in further education and career opportunities, the actual volumes, given the freeze in FE funding, are becoming increasingly problematic. Overall pass rates for Vocational courses are high and average 95%. However, high grade pass rates on GCSE Maths and English courses are 20% and is therefore disproportionately impacting on our headline achievement rates at Level 2. Key challenges include attendance at lessons where attendance rates are 12% higher in Vocational than GCSE. Various management strategies are still ongoing to improve pass rates for GCSEs for 2017/18 and the college is seeking new ways of working to develop ways to respond to this challenge in a more successful and joined up way.

## Hair and Beauty

In 2016/17 our department continued to provide the outstanding training and education essential to meet the aspirations of our learners. The hair, beauty and make-up students excel while gaining employability skills through our own commercial, Riverside Salon. This high quality environment enabled students to secure jobs with a range of employers including Courteney Morris and Phillipa Ellis, who joined Ella Danleme to travel the world on cruise ships with On Board Spas by Steiner.

Chloe Williams, who studied level 1, 2 and 3 hairdressing, spent a year working on cruise ships in the Caribbean and Mediterranean and is now employed at the Midland Hotel Spa in Manchester, recent winners of Urban Spa of the year.

Alice Lawley, who studied beauty therapy, is employed at the Woodland Spa in Burnley, winner of many prestigious awards including Luxury Spa of the Year 2017.

Level 2 media make-up Danielle Wrigley's career has gone from strength to strength, and includes national artist in London for Brow Gal (part of the Glorious Brands Group) and area manager and trainer for celebrity make-up brand Doll Beauty.

## Hospitality & Catering

In 2016, the Hospitality & Catering department were awarded a “Highly Commended” AA Hotel services college rosette star rating, plus Centre of Excellence for the high quality of food and service provided in the Riverside Restaurant. They said “An exceptional training facility that would be the envy of many professional operations. Physical quality here both back and front of house impressed. For a learning environment, this is the best equipped facility I have personally seen.”

### AA Hotel service inspection report 9/12/2016

In October 2016 we launched our first employment fair inviting a range of employers in to meet our learners. Local employers came into the college and interviewed all learners for work placements and possible sustained employment over the Christmas period. The event was a huge success and will take place each year.

In 2016/17 our students have continued to take part in numerous cookery competitions. Three learners won the Country Chef North West regional final and went up to Scot Hot in Scotland for the national final where they achieved an overall bronze award. A team of chefs were runners up in the Greater Manchester Colleges Group skills competition cooking live theatre at Event City, next to the Trafford Centre. One level 2 chef came third in the ACF Pastry Chef of the Year competition.

And finally, we are on the second successful year of providing hot soup, rolls and sandwiches on a Friday evening to the homeless community to ensure they get a hot meal over the weekend.



## Information Communication Technology

In 2016/17 our department continues to focus on both the academic and practical skills required to progress to university, higher apprenticeship courses or employment. Students work on a range of live web projects submitted by employers to enhance their design and project management skills. In addition, our level 3 students all complete a one week full-time rotation in the departments Tech Shop diagnosing and repairing computer faults and retailing a range of computer equipment. Again the department saw all its students progress well, examples include;

Aaron Mullins obtained the top grade profile, D\*D\*D\*, on his level 3 IT course and gained a place on Manchester Metropolitan University's new Degree Apprenticeship for Software Engineering.

Scott Mcready completed his level 3 IT course (D\*D) and because of his experience in the Tech Shop has got a job at Zen Internet.

Lucas De Lima completed the level 3 IT in Web Design and also achieve the highest grade (D\*D\*D\*). He then returned to Brazil and has got a job as a Junior Graphics and Web Designer as a result of the live website project he completed as part of his studies at the college.

## Life Sciences

The Animal Care and Management provision continues to be a popular course with the 59% of all applicants for these courses in Greater Manchester coming to Hopwood Hall. Learners have improved their progression chances with increased employer engagement through masterclasses and guest speakers from the police dog handling unit, veterinary diagnostic imaging services and the Blue Cross. Students also had the opportunity to work with the keepers at Blackpool Zoo for a day. We continue to run the Manchester re-homing centre for the Blue Cross and find new homes for around 60 cats a year. The day boarding dog kennels continue to be popular and both these services enable students to work with members of the public and develop employability skills. The department has also started to produce its own rare breed pork which is on sale to staff.

This year, a former learner also completed her 7 year degree programme to qualify as a veterinary surgeon. One of the first in the country to do this following a BTEC route into Higher Education. Dr Kirsty Holt is currently working at Crown House Vets in Rochdale.

Our centre had 19 learners progress into higher education at the end of their level 3 programme, with Veterinary Nursing and Wildlife and Conservation being popular choices.

Horticulture has been re-branded as Gardening, Landscaping and Aquaponics. A two acre market garden has been set up and students have been producing food to sell in the college refectory and to staff, with the green tomato chutney selling out in record time! Students have also been working alongside Rochdale Rangers within the college grounds creating new pathways for the public, hedgerows for the wildlife and carrying out habitat management to give both the public and nature a healthier and safer environment.

In 2016/17 our science students had visits from a number of specialised external organisations to enhance their learning. These included Manchester University and the Royal Society of Chemistry who ran spectroscopy workshops, which is the study of the interaction between matter and electromagnetic radiation.





## Skills for Life

In 2016/17 the Skills for Life department continued to expand our range of excellent work placements for learners on Life Skills Plus, Work Skills, Progressions and Supported Internship courses.

We developed new partnerships with Quality Save, the Salt Cellar café and Horse Carrs café amongst others. We also further developed our links with Pure Innovations who delivered travel training to some of our groups as well as them helping to identify progression opportunities for our learners.

The department ran a series of events to develop learners' personal, social and employability skills including the Bake-Off, the Christmas Market and, for the first year, the Christmas Singalong/Talent Show. These events helped learners develop their confidence and encouraged interaction between different course groups. We also ran a project in conjunction with the Canal and River Trust during which learners helped to design and paint a graffiti mural under a bridge on the canal in Castleton.

During the year two residential enrichment trips took place at Waddow Hall in Clitheroe and the Calvert Trust in the Lake District. These gave our learners the opportunity to take part activities such as horse-riding, canoeing, zip-wire, raft-building and bush-craft to help develop their personal skills and independence.







## Sport

Our full-time sports curriculum in 2016 included Sports Coaching, Sports Therapy, Sports Science and Fitness Academy programmes with the option of playing an additional sport in one of our academy teams. The college also delivered sport in the community programmes with Rochdale Football Club and Manchester City.

This year our Rugby Academy had a very successful season, winning the Elite Division, the North West Colleges Cup and the National Cup in a thrilling final against Halifax Elite Academy at the Crown Oil Arena, Spotland. Three of our players, Lee Registe, Zac Hartley and Matty Ashton were also selected to represent England under 19 squad.

In addition, our Football Academy enjoyed another successful year with the first team losing just once during the entire season and winning their league. Our under 18 team also won the GM Under 18 cup.

The Fitness Academy in 2016/17 had its largest recruitment yet with a three cohorts at level 2 and level 3. The fitness industry is a growing industry and many of our students have benefited from the drive across Rochdale borough to encourage residents to live a healthier lifestyle.

Our academy makes learners highly employable with several students going straight into employment following the completion of their qualification. These include: Ben Rooney - Fitness Advisor, Personal trainer at Bannatyne Health and Spa Clubs, Robie Walker - British Military Fitness and Personal Trainer at New Mills Leisure Centre, Bethanie Jardine - Fitness Instructor at Y Club, Manchester, Marcus Hylton - Personal trainer at The Gym in Failsworth, Jack Smith - Personal Trainer at Elite Fitness, Sandra Savina - Fitness Instructor at Link4Life Rochdale, Jessica Edwards - Self-employed Personal Trainer, and Ellis Goldie - Personal Trainer at The Gym Group in Oldham.

## Sport in the Community

Our 2016/17 Sport in Community programme included Rochdale AFC and the last cohort of City in the Community learners.

Despite the City in the Community programme coming to an end, we still celebrated a successful year with two students, Thomas Bateman and Hollie Heil, securing full-time employment with Manchester City after impressing in volunteering roles. Additionally three other students, Leah Tibbott, Jordan Holland and Ellie Weaver went onto higher education at Liverpool John Moores University, Bury University Centre and University of Salford respectfully.

The Rochdale AFC partnership is now in its third year and applications have continued to rise. The programme has given young people from Rochdale the opportunity to train and play in a professional environment with first class coaching from staff of the Rochdale AFC. Three students from the course went onto to study coaching at the University of Salford and Josh Ramsden travelled to Portugal to undertake professional football trials.





## The Technology Centre

The centre has continued to grow and many of our learners have achieved great success. Two of our learners have secured apprenticeships working at the College and we are seeing previous students return to us to undertake apprenticeship programmes as they recognise the quality of teaching they received during their time here. We have also seen both our staff and students accepted onto degrees at universities.

The Technology Centre took part in the Greater Manchester skills competition and success across all areas resulted in us winning the overall best college award. We also hosted a successful Skills Build competition which involved colleges from across the region, right up to Cumbria. We had learners placed in the top three in many disciplines and Tania Riccio also went on to claim third prize at the National Plaisterers awards in London.

Several areas within the centre were involved in local community projects including a full kitchen refurbishment at Crimble Cross Community Centre and the renovation of facilities at Rochdale AFC.

## Uniformed Public Services

Over the course of the 2016/17 academic year our learners have experienced a variety of activities. All level 2 and level 3 learners participated in various adventurous residential trips to consolidate learning for both land based and water based units. All Level 1 learners successfully completed the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge, a mixed ability group of 20 learners attended an Army 'outreach' course at Halton Training Camp near Lancaster, and a further 12 learners attended a five day Royal Marine 'Look at Life' course at Lymington in Devon.

Learners Connah Mather, Adam Ward, Jason Tattersall, Georgeana Mottershead and Lacey Stringer were all successful in joining the Army. Natasha Hopkins and Joshua Whitworth were also selected for employment with the Army but are yet to start basic training. Some former public service learners also found success this year; Mary Akram became a police officer with Greater Manchester Police, Ryan Hilton, Caine Roberts and Danielle Wild all went into the Army and Liam Poole became a firefighter with Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue.

## Higher Education (HE)

The College continues to offer courses in Games Design, Engineering, Electrical Installation, Sport and Early Years. A new HND in Animal Management was introduced for 2016/17 to offer progression opportunities for level 3 life science students who wish to progress on to higher education but stay local. Further pathways at Level 4 and 5 were explored and discussions are in the initial stages with the University of Derby in relation to a new Foundation Degree in Outdoor Leadership as part of our strategy to grow our higher education provision.

The College continued to build on the positive feedback received from the QAA and in 2016 we were awarded the TEF Bronze standard in June 2017.



## Future Curriculum Developments

Hopwood Hall College aims to provide the widest range of high quality education and training to learners in the Borough of Rochdale and beyond. We continually strive to ensure that all learners achieve their individual, educational and employment goals, whilst meeting the skills needs of the region.

The College acknowledges that it is important to meet current employer demand for skills by planning a curriculum that meets LEP priorities and the future skills needs of the regional economy whilst making the college sustainable. In 2016/17 significant preparatory work was undertaken to ensure that the college is well positioned financially to do this.

To ensure our learners are ready and equipped to meet the needs of the local and regional economy, the College use labour market intelligence extensively along with research and data analysis conducted by Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). The College continues to work closely with the Greater Manchester Colleges Group and is an active partner of the GMCA. Through this research and partnership working, the college has been able to re-engineer its curriculum plan to offer a more sustainable model including

more advanced level skills that leads to positive progression routes for our learners.

The college curriculum offer is now aligned to the skills priorities identified for Greater Manchester and has seen growth in learner numbers in Health & Social Care, Engineering & Manufacturing, Education & Training and Business sector areas. This alignment is set to continue as the college has a mature approach to business planning, involving staff from across the organisation and a planning cycle that encourages innovative development of new products, mapping of progression pathways and aims to meet both the Greater Manchester skills priorities of the future and the ambition of the Combined Authority.

To help sustain the continued development and improvement of the colleges' vocational provision, major capital investment has been made in the college estate.







Most notably investments continue in the Technology Centre at Middleton campus which has paved the way for innovative education and training in engineering and construction sectors along with newly refurbished teaching spaces to deliver the cutting edge skills required by employers.

Our learners benefit greatly from these investments as they provide high-quality work related activities and purposeful work experience which link to their longer term employment aspirations.

In response to the introduction of 16-19 study programmes, which include mandatory English and/or maths for learners who haven't previously attained a GCSE grade C or Grade 4, the profile of the college's curriculum offer has changed significantly over recent years, with a sharp increase in the number of English and maths qualifications being studied.

In readiness for 2017/18 we also launched a ladies football programme with Jill Scott who plays for Manchester City and the England National team.

A thorough review of the College's Higher Education provision was carried out by Higher Education regulatory body the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) throughout 2016 and the final report highlighted a number of areas of best practice.

The college is currently in the process of formalising our curriculum offer for 2018/19. We have a mature approach to curriculum planning using LMI data from various key sources including GMCA, RCU, EMSI and UK government statistical releases to determine demand, trends, demographics and new skills requirements for the region. As part of this project we are also factoring in future changes as defined in the Post-16 Skills Plan, the new 15 Vocational routes (both Applied and Technical) and the transition to T-Levels building on newly developed "Learning ladders" that demonstrate clear progression routes from Foundation level right through to Advanced and Higher Education, pathways into Apprenticeships and sustainable employment.

# Our Students

In 2016/17, 16-18 year olds made up the majority of our full-time learners. Significantly, many of our full-time adult learners are 19 year olds now in their third or fourth year at College. Often these are learners who have left school with few GCSEs but have progressed up the learning ladder level at Hopwood Hall College.

A large part of our provision is in the 'Centre for Lifelong Learning' which is categorised nationally as the sector of Preparation for Life and Work. This sector area includes qualifications in work and employability skills, literacy, numeracy and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages).

## 2016/17 Student Numbers

(funded from all sources)

### Full-time

<b>16-18 Year Olds</b>	2625
<b>19+ FE</b>	1119
<b>19+ HE</b>	78

### Part-time

<b>14-16 Year Olds</b>	44
<b>16-18 Year Olds</b>	32
<b>19+ FE</b>	4095
<b>19+ HE</b>	43

### Apprenticeships

<b>16-18</b>	167
<b>19+</b>	357

### Students by Gender

	FT	PT	Total
<b>Male</b>	58%	44%	49%
<b>Female</b>	42%	56%	51%

### Students from ethnic minority groups

The proportion of students from ethnic minority groups was 27% compared to the latest published average of 16.5%<sup>1</sup> for the population of Rochdale

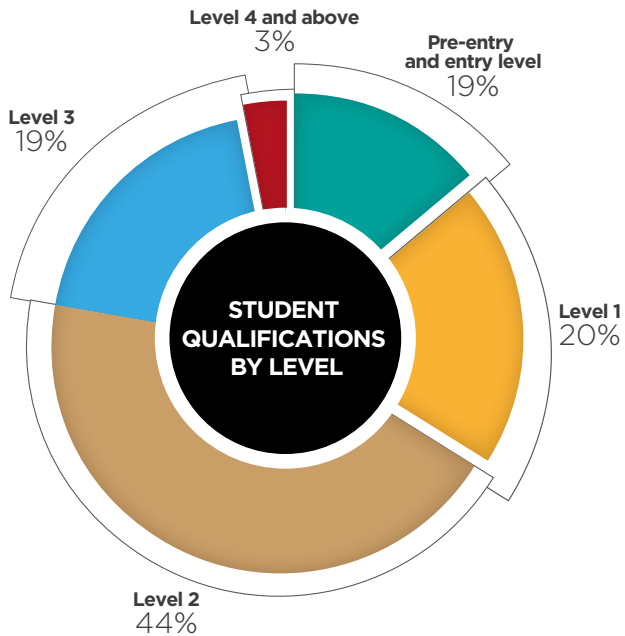
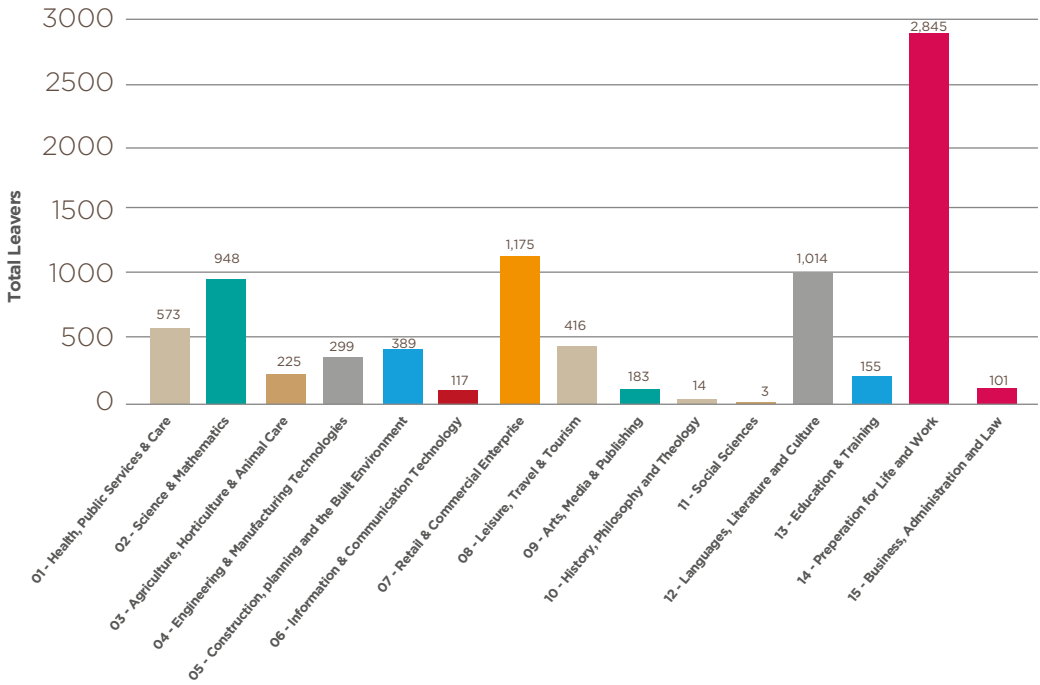
#### 1. Data from Borough profile for 2011

### Students with learning difficulties and disabilities

The total number of students with learning difficulties or disabilities was 1879 (678 full-time and 1201 part-time).



## Total Leavers by Sector Area



# OUR FINANCES

The College's financial health remains strong and has again been confirmed as 'Outstanding' by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

The College has achieved a strong operating surplus of £941,000 for the year and has invested over £1m on capital projects during the year to support curriculum delivery and ensure an outstanding learner environment is maintained. The college continues to drive forward efficiency and productivity improvements, reducing costs and establishing new staffing structures in response to changing funding priorities. Consequently, the College remains profitable and is generating sufficient cash to invest in our staff, students and estate.

## Income and Expenditure Account

For Year Ended 31 July 2017

	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
<b>Income</b>		
Funding body income	19,811	19,830
Tuition fees and education contracts	1,409	1,772
Other grants and contracts	47	15
Other income	1,490	1,040
Investment income	612	799
<b>Total income</b>	<b>23,369</b>	<b>23,456</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Staff costs	13,147	13,151
Restructuring costs	145	116
Other operating expenses	5,179	4,975
Depreciation	2,749	3,160
Interest and other finance costs	1,215	1,458
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>22,435</b>	<b>22,860</b>
Surplus on disposal	7	-
Surplus on continuing operations prior to property strategy costs	941	596
	4.1%	2.5%
<b>Surplus for the year retained within general reserves</b>	<b>941</b>	<b>596</b>



## Balance Sheet

With over £8.4m in the bank, the College has sufficient resources to continue to invest in the accommodation, equipment and IT infrastructure to enhance the learning experience for all our students to ensure state of the art equipment and facilities are maintained and developed. During the year a modest investment at both campuses has enabled the introduction of a Destination Lounge, a 'one stop shop' for learners to receive information, advice and guidance to support their time at the College and on to their next steps whether in employment or higher education.

### Balance sheets

as At 31 July 2017

	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>	<b>30,840</b>	<b>32,416</b>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Stocks	34	42
Debtors	516	643
Cash at bank and in hand	8,408	5,409
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>8,958</b>	<b>6,094</b>
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	(3,116)	(3,291)
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>5,842</b>	<b>2,803</b>
<b>Current ratio</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>	<b>36,682</b>	<b>35,219</b>
Creditors - amounts falling due after more than one year	(6,601)	(6,933)
Net pension liability	(8,335)	(10,922)
Other	(247)	-
<b>Net assets including pension liability</b>	<b>21,499</b>	<b>17,364</b>
<b>Reserves</b>		
Income and expenditure account	15,594	12,014
Revaluation reserve	5,205	5,350
Flood damage & sinking fund	700	
<b>Total reserves</b>	<b>21,499</b>	<b>17,364</b>

# OUR ACHIEVEMENT RATES

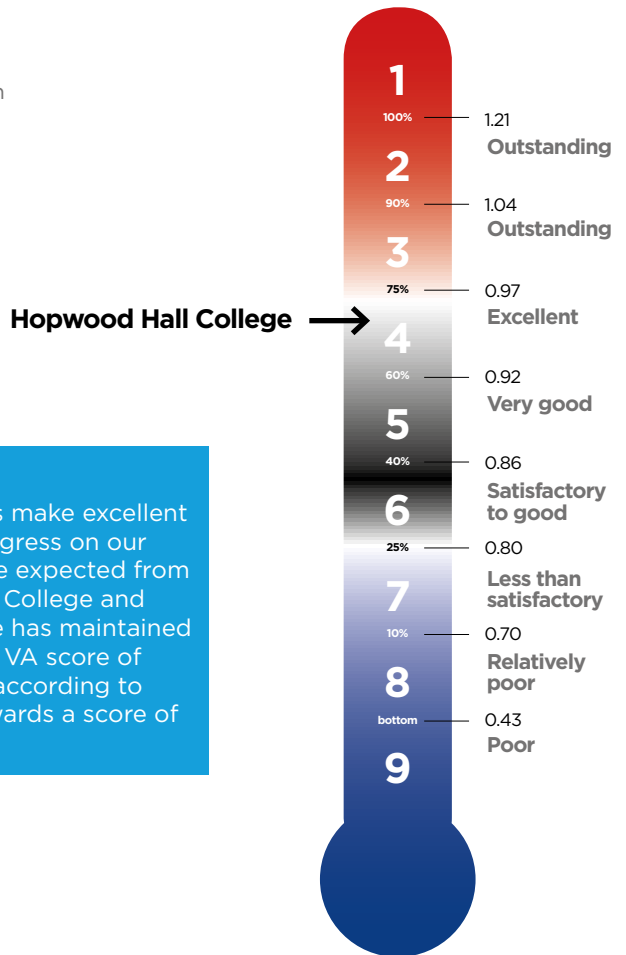
Headline QAR	2016/17
Overall course success rate	<b>82.7%</b>
16-18	<b>77.6%</b>
19+	<b>90.7%</b>
Apprenticeships	<b>57.0%</b>

In 2016/17 our learners survey results showed:

- 85% said the information, advice and guidance they had received about future options had been helpful
- 92% said the teaching on the course has been excellent
- 85% said their course is well planned and organised
- 90% said they found lessons enjoyable and challenging

## Value Added

Value added measures confirm that learners make excellent progress and in some cases exceptional progress on our courses. Most do much better than might be expected from their prior achievements when they join the College and perform well above projections. The College has maintained a high Value Added position in 2016/17. The VA score of grade 4 denotes "very good" performance according to ALPS methodology and is leaning more towards a score of 3 which would denote excellent.



## Student achievements:

	2016/17 HHC	2015/16 HHC	2014/15 HHC	National %
Long level 3 vocational	84%	95%	96%	91%
Long level 2 vocational	93%	96%	98%	92%
Long level 1 vocational	91%	95%	97%	93%

# PERSONAL SUCCESSES

A number of our students excel on their courses at Hopwood Hall. Here are just a few of their stories.

## Building Trades & Engineering

Tania Riccio broke the mould in 2017, she was the only female in the three-student-shortlist for the prestigious 'Student of the Year' at the Worshipful Plaasterers annual awards.

After making the shortlist, Tania travelled to London with her mother and Plastering Lecturer, Rob Wilson, and was delighted to pick up the third place award from the Lord Mayor of the City of London.

On being the only female nominee, Tania said: "It's great, it's unexpected, but great. I'm proud to be breaking the social barriers that say girls can't be involved in a trade or in construction, a girl being nominated for this should prove that.

"I'd really have to thank Rob for getting me nominated. I knew absolutely nothing about plastering when I started Hopwood Hall and he has taught me everything I know since then. I'll never lose those skills and I definitely wouldn't be in contention for the award if not for his teaching and the college's facilities."



Tania at the Worshipful Plaasterers Annual Awards



Blaine with the Mayor of Rochdale

## Art & Design

Blaine Bennett made the headlines back in December 2016, when he won the 2016 Mayor's Youth Awards for his progress and success in overcoming emotional and learning barriers.

The then Level 1 Art & Design student was nominated for the award after his final project was displayed in Touchstones Gallery in Rochdale. The award has since helped Blaine gain a huge amount of independence and life skills he previously found difficult to develop.

On the impact of winning the award, Blaine said: "The ceremony was really nice, the Town Hall is a beautiful building and the Mayor of Rochdale was a very pleasant man. Having such a recognition of my achievements has made me feel great. The award has really boosted my belief in achieving my highest targets.

"I am very pleased and proud of myself. Everyone was born and raised in different ways, if you can't take risks then you can't create a future."



Rebecca Northover (bottom right)

## Performing Arts

Before starting her Level 3 Extended Diploma in Performing Arts course, Rebecca Northover spent summer 2017 with ten teammates; taking on the best the world had to offer at the Underwater Hockey World Championships in Tasmania.

Playing as a centre back in the starting six, Rebecca and her GB team beat Canada 10-0, 10-0, 8-0 and 5-0. However, in a tightly fought match, team USA edged GB 2-1 and prevented Rebecca and co from a semi-final show down with Columbia.

“We obviously would have liked to go further, but the competition was amazing for me personally anyway. I played a sport I love at the highest level and met some great people along the way!” said Rebecca.

Rebecca has since returned to playing for the Manchester Underwater Hockey club at domestic level whilst continuing her studies in Performing Arts.

## Creative & Digital Media

No sooner had Aaron Diskin completed his Level 3 Extended Diploma in Media Production, he was on the receiving end of a phone call from the BBC with an offer of employment.

After initially applying for a media apprenticeship at the BBC's Media City offices, Aaron made it to the final 20 but sadly didn't make the final cut. However, he convinced the BBC of his abilities so thoroughly that they made him a full time Runner for BBC Sport instead. Aaron is now responsible for guest hospitality, administration tasks and assisting in the editing process among other responsibilities.

“I also secured a conditional offer at The University of Salford after I didn't get the apprenticeship, but now I have been given this opportunity with the BBC I have chosen to defer it.” said Aaron.

“As bad as I felt when I didn't get the apprenticeship, now I am where I am it has been a great life lesson.

“If you have a passion, pursue it and don't give up when times get difficult as you always come out the other side as a stronger person.”



Aaron Diskin



# OUR COMMUNITY

## Student Support

At Hopwood Hall College, we develop a safe and inclusive environment where the needs of learners are appropriately identified and supported to assist them to meet their full potential.

### During 2016/17:

- Student Support Tutors focused on delivering the college tutorial programme as part of every learner's study programme. They supported the development of learners, including their personal, social and employability skills, and monitored academic progress. The tutorial programme had a specific focus on safeguarding, bullying, extremism, promoting British Values and developing Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural skills.
- The Student Support Team worked with a range of disadvantaged learners to ensure they met their learning outcomes. The team tracked and monitored progress and ensured that appropriate interventions and challenging targets were put in place.
- The College supported 98 Looked-After Children, 95 safeguarded learners, 11 young carers and 5 young parents to successfully achieve their college programme.
- The Learning Support Team provided in and out of class support for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities. Within the team we supported 55 High Needs Learners and supported 157 learners with their Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). 88 learners received counselling support from the college.
- We successfully continued with a range of learner engagement and enrichment programmes including charity events, focus week activities and Learner Voice and Parental Engagement sessions for our learners with disabilities and learning difficulties.

- Safeguarding, including Prevent, is given a high priority within Hopwood Hall College and the safety and wellbeing of our learners and staff is part of a well-developed culture across the College. In 2016/17 675 safeguarding/welfare concerns were logged and 95 learners safeguarded. Safeguarding training has been cascaded to the workforce with a further roll out of Prevent training. This has resulted in 100% of staff knowing to whom safeguarding concerns should be reported and 100% of staff understanding their responsibilities.
- The Student Support Team have delivered a range of training programmes for both staff and students on a range of safeguarding themes including LGBT, Trans Awareness, Child Sexual Exploitation, Prevent (Routes Performances) and Drive Safe.

### Ofsted Quote:

"Leaders and managers have implemented robust procedures and training for safeguarding. Staff, governors, employers and learners are confident in dealing with safeguarding matters. The highly trained safeguarding team is meticulous and thorough in recording and monitoring any issues which arise."

**November 2016**

## Learner Engagement

At Hopwood Hall College, we value what our students have to say and welcome feedback to help shape the future of the College. During the year, our learners have again been involved in a number of activities and projects that have shaped and improved the learner voice at Hopwood Hall.

In 2016/17, we:

- Delivered a range of learner voice activities including themed focus weeks, Question of the Week, Principal's Question Time and enrichment.
- Continued to extend our enrichment offer to include new and exciting opportunities for students to get involved in whilst at college.
- Learners were involved in various college activities for example One World Week, NUS event, college meetings, annual review, charity events and student disciplinary meetings.
- A new mechanism of learner voice called the Student Cabinet was introduced. The Student Cabinet was also invited to attend tutorials and provide feedback directly to learners and is made up of learners from across the college who put themselves forward as potential candidates. Each Cabinet Member had an area of specialism and form part of the group of learners (the Cabinet) who will help shape and improve services at the college.
- The College has developed an LGBT+ group who have been instrumental in organising events, training and activities in college. There is also a learner's engagement group for learners with LDD who have been working on a new LDD Student Charter based on their learner experience.
- Learners are represented on key college groups, at student disciplinary panels and they have attended events such as the NUS Conference.

## Equality and Diversity

The College welcomes and celebrates equality and diversity and strives to ensure that everyone is treated with respect and dignity.

The College has in place a Single Equality Scheme with six challenging strategic objectives which are monitored and reported to the College's Equality and Diversity Steering Group.

Staff and student feedback showed that 97% of staff stated they understood and supported the colleges' vision for equality and diversity and 96% said that they understood their role in promoting equality, tackling bullying, discrimination and harassment.

97% of teaching staff stated they felt confident in embedding equality, diversity and inclusion into their teaching practice. 93% said equality of opportunity is embedded into the culture of the college - 7% above benchmark in FE College benchmarking.

A high profile poster campaign has been delivered in college and through social media to raise awareness of equality, diversity and inclusivity (EDI) and social, moral, spiritual and cultural practice (SMSC) with learners and staff. This is underpinned by the diverse Tutorial Programme and e-learning content to enhance learners understanding of key topics such as bullying, internet safety, Prevent, British Values (BV), International Women's day, LGBT and Black History awareness.





# Our Technology

## **IT Infrastructure**

The IT Services team continue to develop their customer focus and have implemented a number of processes aimed at providing the highest standard of IT provision at Hopwood Hall College. It also supports the college's ambitious iLearn strategy to deliver engaging and interactive learning content.

### **Key projects included:**

- Further enhancement of the College's wireless internet service at Middleton campus
- Increased the internet connection band width across the college to allow faster connectivity
- Improved security for Bring Your Own Device WiFi to comply with safeguarding and Prevent

## **iLearn**

During 2016/17, the iLearn Centre had an overhaul, new branding was designed and equipment was purchased to ensure learners had access to the latest technology in a suitable environment. Both Centres had BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) areas incorporated to maximise opportunities for learners to get online. We worked collaboratively with curriculum to design, develop and purchase high quality content to enhance and support learning and the number of learners accessing the platform has increased year on year.

Later this year we are planning to create a 'makerspace' that will provide an area where learners and staff can experiment with specialist technology.

# Our Staff

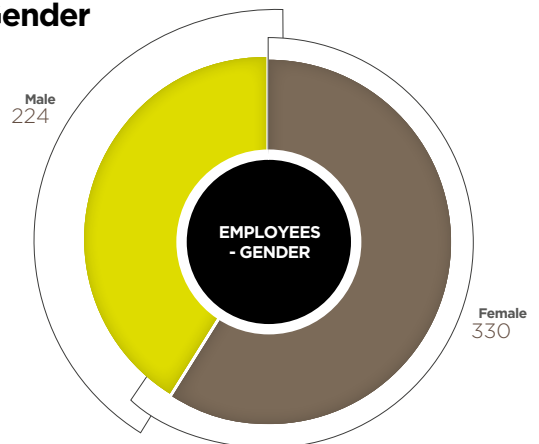
During 2016/17 the College employed 554 people on a variety of contracts. The average full-time equivalent headcount was 319 with salaries of £13m equating to 56% of our overall expenditure.

During the year we also:

- Invested £80k to deliver 198 development events as part of the College Training and Development Plan. These included 34 role relevant sponsored qualifications. The internal delivery of mandatory staff training was delivered through e-Learning.
- Continued the learner employability scheme providing work placements for 12 learners within the College. This included on the job coaching, CV writing and job interviews, one of these learners has progressed to become a college employed Apprentice. Khadeejah Hussain worked as a student work experience placement and successfully secured the position of SMT Support Apprentice.
- Continued to deliver the College Apprenticeship Scheme employing 25 Apprentices in 2016/17; 6% of the workforce. Four of our apprentices completed their apprenticeship programme and secured jobs within the college, for example Alex Pogson worked as a Science Apprentice and was successfully appointed to the role of Science Technician. Further succession plans have been established within departments, whereby former Apprentices have been promoted and progressed to more senior positions.
- Continued to focus on high performance by delivering two Teaching and Learning conferences and a dual site “Teaching and Learning Marketplace” for all teaching, learning and assessment employees.
- Delivered a Business Support Conference focussed on departmental Self-Assessment Review and the Quality Improvement Plan.
- Received continued positive feedback from the annual employee survey and compared very well against other FE colleges in an employee survey benchmarking exercise. The College conducted a number of Employee Voice sessions that were well attended.
- Delivered a comprehensive Health and Wellbeing Plan focusing on improving the health of employees and learners including a full college employee health and wellbeing activity day in July. The college continues to offer flu vaccinations as part of the Health and Wellbeing strategy.
- Completed a full cycle of the Performance Management System linked to the performance related bonus. 96% of employees in 2016/17, who were in the performance review cycle, were graded as good or outstanding.

Demographic of the 554 staff employed by the college during 2015/16

## Gender





## Ethnicity

Count of Ref Number

### Ethnicity Grand Total

White (British)	453
Not known/Not provided	24
Mixed (White and Black African)	3
White (Other)	6
Black/Black British (Caribbean)	2
Asian/Asian British (Other)	5
Asian/Asian British (Pakistani)	19
Prefer not to say	2
Chinese	1
Asian/Asian British (Indian)	5
White (Irish)	9
Mixed (White and Black Caribbean)	2
Black/Black British (African)	6
Asian/Asian British (Bangladeshi)	3
White (English)	5
Other (Any)	2
Mixed (White and Asian)	1
Mixed (Other)	4
Black/Black British (Other)	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>554</b>

## Our Estate

Across college, we continue with our commitment to invest in the estate, equipment and IT resources to transform the student experience and create a 21st century college. £1million was allocated for investment in 2016/17 and this included new IT kit with the planned replacement of hardware in classrooms and iLearn Centre.

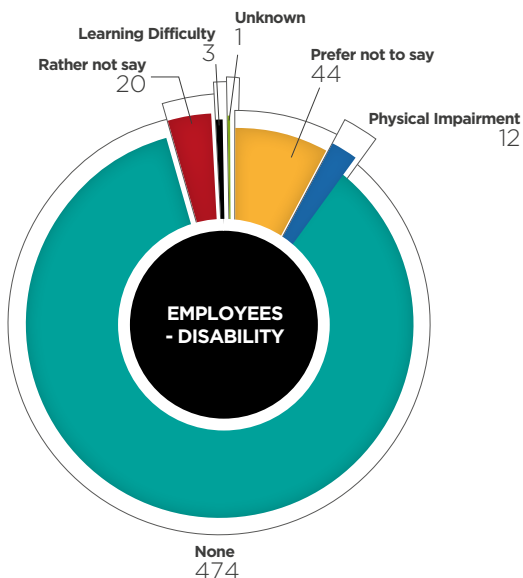
Listening to students and staff views specifically in relation to feeling safe and secure there was a significant upgrade to the CCTV system across the College.

### Rochdale campus

In December 2015, the College suffered significant damage following the floods on Boxing Day that completely devastated the centre of Rochdale and many other parts of the north of England. Work has continued into 2016/17 to build resilience in the estate including physical barriers and also finalising the repairs and replacement of equipment. The total damage was in excess of £1m.

### Middleton campus

The flagship project for summer 2016 was the redevelopment of the refectory and social space at the Middleton campus. This included relocating and completely redesigning the social areas to create a space that is bright, multi-functional and larger to accommodate more students. The refectory had a complete update with new counters that allow for four serving stations, flooring and furniture. A new roof was also installed on Healey building over the summer as it had reached the end of its useful life.



# Our Highlights

## May 2017

Sport at Hopwood Hall dominates divisions

2016/17 turned out to be another bumper season for Hopwood Hall's sport courses.



The College's first team coached by Rob Johnson had the football side of the trophy cabinet covered, managing a League and Cup double; the Category 2A Premier League being confirmed after a 16th consecutive win.

Not to be outdone, the College's rugby boys won both the Lancashire Cup and the National Cup. The latter was snatched in dramatic style; with a try from Cole Connolly in the final seconds of the game earning another memorable trophy for the Rugby Academy.

It would have been a treble winning season. However, despite finishing level on points with Halifax, with a better goal difference and beating them as many times as they beat us; the league was given to Halifax after they won by a higher margin when they visited Hopwood Hall.



## June 2017

Hopwood Hall earns bronze award

The Official Teaching Excellence Framework results ranked Hopwood Hall College at bronze on a national level for Higher Education.

This means we are ranked at the same level as other local educational institutions; Salford University, Salford City College and Accrington & Rossendale College. Many other local colleges did not feature in the results.

The Teaching Excellence Framework ranks teaching at universities across the UK. It draws on information about results, the jobs people go on to do and data from the National Student Survey from the last three years to give institutions a rating.

Coming off the back of an Ofsted review where we received the second highest grade possible, Hopwood Hall is well on the way to earning a silver award in the TEF rankings.



## August 2017

### Over £6000 raised for charity

A massive well done is in order for all those who contributed to our charitable efforts in 2016/17. In total, we raised a huge £6052.74 for 16 different causes.



Onesies were worn, cakes were baked and the college Principal was locked in the stocks during the 69 different events held in the name of charity.

The largest donation totals included £4314.16 for the Alzheimer's Society (chosen as the college's charity for 2016/17), £475.75 for Macmillan Cancer Support and £557.59 to Derian Childrens Hospice in honour of the late Josh McCormack.

The final donations that took us over the £6000 mark came during the excellent Health and Wellbeing Day, so thank you to everybody who took part.



## August 2017

### Hopwood Hall College tops Greater Manchester colleges in survey

Colleges in Greater Manchester were ranked by student satisfaction in the HEFCE 2017 National Student Survey, with Hopwood Hall coming out on top.

Over 300,000 final-year students took part in the Higher Education Funding Council for England's survey, with the results being used by higher education providers to improve students' academic experience. The results will also provide valuable evidence to inform students' choices about where and what to study.

Students ranked their satisfaction based on the quality of their courses, standard of teaching and student engagement. In Greater Manchester, Hopwood Hall College ranked the highest with a score of 92%, with Tameside College coming bottom after a 61% satisfaction rating.

### Greater Manchester college satisfaction ratings:

<b>Hopwood Hall College:</b>	92%
<b>Bolton College:</b>	87%
<b>Bury College:</b>	84%
<b>The Oldham College:</b>	83%
<b>Stockport College:</b>	81%
<b>Wigan and Leigh College:</b>	78%
<b>Trafford College:</b>	76%
<b>Salford City College:</b>	64%
<b>Tameside College:</b>	61%

Three of Greater Manchester's universities were also surveyed; The University of Bolton earned a 85% satisfaction rating, The University of Salford 84% and Manchester Metropolitan University 83%.

## Middleton Campus

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