

# The Isle of Wight College

DRAFT

Strategic Plan 2017 – 20

## Introduction

Welcome to the strategic plan for the Isle of Wight College. The college is a further education college, based in Newport the county town of the Isle of Wight. Recognising its role as the only provider of general further education on the island, the college offers a broad curriculum from foundation level to higher education, to meet the needs of employers and the local community. In the national context the college is considered to be 'medium' size with approximately 1,900 students aged 16-19, 6,000 adults and just under 400 apprentices. The college is proud of its work with students with disabilities or complex needs and has recently opened the 'Pathways' building which provides specialist facilities for these students. Recent developments in the college's estate reflect the economic priorities of the island. The new centre for composites, advanced manufacturing and marine (CECMM), funded by the Solent local enterprise partnership (LEP) and built in collaboration with local employers will meet emerging local skills needs.

Colleges face a period of unprecedented change with reforms to qualifications, apprenticeships and the overall approach to post sixteen technical education. The college recognises its responsibility to embrace these changes and to continue to develop the services it offers to meet the needs of its stakeholders. Having consulted widely, this plan sets out its aims and priorities for the next three years to meet these challenges.

## Mission

The mission of the Isle of Wight College is:

To deliver outstanding education and training driven by:

- Putting students first
- Working with employers
- Supporting our community

## Educational character

The college:

1. has high aspirations for all its students and supports and challenges each to learn, develop, succeed and progress;
2. expects and supports its staff to provide teaching and learning to the highest standard, creating a positive, inspiring and enjoyable experience;
3. offers a range of programmes to meet student ambitions and workforce needs, from foundation to degree level and across a wide range of employment sectors;

4. works with employers to design and provide training for their current and future workforces, including apprentices.
5. works in partnership and collaboration with businesses and other organisations to enhance opportunities and quality;
6. embraces equality and diversity and recognises that some students and employers may benefit from a bespoke approach to learning

## **College values**

The Isle of Wight College values:

1. leadership – characterised by impartiality, objectivity, openness, accountability and recognition
2. communication – which is clear, honest, direct, relevant and timely
3. learning – listening to feedback and responding constructively
4. empowerment – promoting personal responsibility and accountability
5. diversity – being respectful, inclusive and acting with integrity
6. innovation – encouraging creativity, enterprise, entrepreneurship and the use of technology
7. well-being – creating a safe and healthy environment

*These college values have been developed to reflect the Nolan Principles which govern standards in public life.*

## **Strategic Aims 2017 – 2020**

### **Strategic aim 1 (Quality)**

To provide excellent education and training

### **Strategic aim 2 (Curriculum)**

To offer a wide range of learning opportunities, which are responsive to student, apprentice and employer needs and which enable sustainable organisational growth

### **Strategic aim 3 (Resources)**

To provide first class resources and ensure their efficient and effective use to support learning

### **Strategic aim 4 (Staff)**

To recruit, develop and retain a highly skilled and motivated staff and governing body

### **Delivery priorities:**

There are a number of themes which are fundamental to the success of this plan. These delivery priorities respond to the national, regional and local context and appear in each of the strategic aims.

1. **Apprenticeships** – implementing the new apprenticeship standards, the levy and securing growth to meet government targets in apprenticeship recruitment
2. **Inclusivity** - responding to the needs of students who may face barriers to their learning. For example, those with special educational needs (SEN), equality and diversity protected characteristics and those with emotional, behavioural or social issues.
3. **Maths and English** – supporting students to develop their skills in these fundamental subjects
4. **Higher education** – developing higher education programmes, including higher and degree level apprenticeships, to address local skills shortages
5. **Teaching and learning** – innovating to ensure students are challenged and enjoy learning
6. **Finance** – providing a sustainable financial base for the future of the college