

# Foreword

The new 2023-26 strategy, Skills for a Sustainable Future, builds on the success of the first version produced in 2019 and clearly states our ambition and purpose for the next stage of the journey towards becoming a world class college, meeting the needs of our students, communities and the regional economy.

Through our vision, values and purpose, we aim to ensure Leeds City College plays a key part in The Best City Ambition, helping the city and wider region meet their skills needs. We can do so much more than this, of course. Through civic leadership, we will work in partnership to meet and address the city region's other opportunities and challenges, including the climate emergency, equality of opportunity, reducing poverty and inequality and building strong communities.

There is much to do and we invite you to join us in making it happen.

**Ken Morton, Chair of Governors**  
**Bill Jones, Deputy CEO & Executive Principal**



## 2023-2026

# Leeds City College Strategy

## Skills for a Sustainable Future

Deacon House Centre  
Seacroft Avenue,  
Leeds LS14 6JD

Eastgate  
7 Eastgate,  
Leeds LS2 7LY

Somerville House  
Leathley Road,  
Leeds LS10 1BG

Joseph Priestley Centre  
Beeston  
Burton Avenue,  
Leeds LS11 5ER

Mabgate Campus  
74-76 Mabgate,  
Leeds LS9 7EA

North Street Centre  
223 North Street,  
Sheepscar,  
Leeds LS7 2AA

Park Lane Campus  
Park Lane,  
Leeds LS3 1AA

Printworks Campus  
Hunslet Road,  
Leeds LS10 1JY

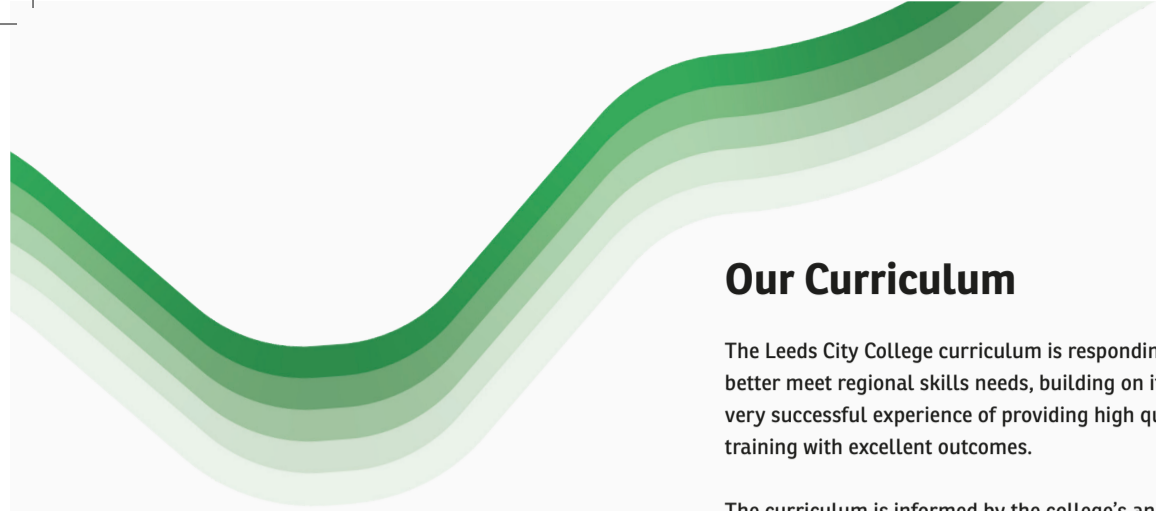
Quarry Hill Campus  
Playhouse Square,  
Leeds LS2 7UP

Rothwell Centre  
Marsh Street,  
Leeds LS26 0AE

Temple Newsam Home Farm  
Temple Newsam Road,  
Leeds LS15 0AE

University Centre  
Park Lane,  
Leeds LS3 1AA

The Vine  
Torre Road,  
Burmantofts  
Leeds LS9 7DH



## Vision

By 2026, our aim for Leeds City College is to be recognised as a leading provider of education, training and skills in the Leeds City Region and beyond. As part of Team Leeds, alongside other key stakeholders who share our passion and ambition to deliver the Best City Ambition and Inclusive Growth Strategy, we will also make a major contribution to West Yorkshire’s local skills improvement plan (LSIP).

Leeds City College, as a tertiary institution, will continue to educate and train people of all backgrounds, ages and abilities with a curriculum aligned with regional skills needs. By 2026, the college will have implemented qualification landscape reform, designed to ensure courses better meet the needs of employers and the economy.

Successful Leeds Sixth Form and Pudsey Sixth Form colleges will have been established, which by 2026 will have at least 800 and 600 students respectively offering academic routes to higher education. Leeds City College will have a full range of T Levels, apprenticeships and other qualifications delivering competence as well as specialist qualification courses.

## Mission

Our mission is to create learning environments where every student can achieve their full potential.

We continue to develop a market-led and high quality curriculum that focuses on key industry needs. Employability, enterprise and enjoyment will be central to all we do. Making the communities of Leeds more prosperous and cohesive will be our relentless focus.

## Values



These values will be underpinned by the following approaches:

- High expectations
- Trauma-informed practice
- Restorative practice
- Inclusive learning
- Commitment to excellence

## Our Curriculum

The Leeds City College curriculum is responding to sector demands to better meet regional skills needs, building on its well-established and very successful experience of providing high quality education and training with excellent outcomes.

The curriculum is informed by the college’s and group strategic priorities, student and employer demand, qualification reform, regional skills priorities identified by employer representative groups, local and mayoral authorities, as well as national policy.

The best curriculum at Leeds City College is co-designed, co-delivered and co-assessed with employers, leading to guaranteed job opportunities or an interview for those who complete their course successfully. It is Leeds City College’s mission to increase the number of such courses so best practice becomes standard.

## Leeds City Region Growth Sectors

The West Yorkshire Combined Authority Leeds City Region Enterprise Partnership has identified the following key growth sectors. Leeds City College will increasingly align its curriculum to create talent pipelines to high quality and secure employment in these sectors.

### Healthcare and Innovation

Top posted occupations most highly sought-after in the region currently include health services and public health managers and registered nurses. The most in demand skills requested by recruiting employers include personal care, nursing, mental health, midwifery and medication administration.

There is a wide variety of courses at all levels in this sector at Leeds City College and managers are active participants in several workstreams and groups hosted by the Leeds Health & Care Academy as well as the One Workforce Group. Leeds City College is also the main provider of clinical healthcare apprenticeships with Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust and is now working with Leeds City Council to deliver care apprenticeships.

Twenty first century healthcare innovation requires a special set of skills. Whilst technical and clinical skills can be taught within the curriculum, learners will need to acquire creative, visionary and personal skills that are not typically taught within the context of healthcare innovation. These skills include creativity, analysis, creative thinking, communications, management, leadership, empathy, problem solving and social responsibility.

### Manufacturing & Engineering

The UK is seeing a resurgence of high-value manufacturing, and the Leeds City Region has a worldwide reputation for its technical and scientific capabilities in metrology, robotics, materials and the digitalisation of manufacturing. Growth in this sector will be in highly-skilled jobs rather than the more traditional side of engineering.

Leeds City College provides an employer-responsive curriculum relating to the developing manufacturing, electronic and automotive sectors, and strong links have been established with one of the leading employer groups in the region; Leeds Manufacturing Alliance (Festival) and more recently links with Make UK. The college has benefited from being able to invest in new equipment and a new teaching building on site which will provide excellent training facilities for all.

Engineering subsectors experiencing growth include nuclear energy, big data, food and drink manufacturing and artificial intelligence (AI). There is pressing demand for mechanical, electrical, electronic, chemical and software engineers. These roles will be particularly sought-after in the onset of the 4th industrial revolution and roadmap to a green, low carbon economy and net zero.

### Business, Financial and Professional Services

Leeds is a leading UK fintech and insuretech hub, and is home to the UK’s first fintech accelerator outside of London. 63% of jobs in the financial services sector in Leeds are high skilled, and the city exports £2 billion in financial services.

Leeds City College and University Centre Leeds have a wide-ranging offer, from Level 2 through to degree level programmes, that help to meet the skills needs of this sector. The pace of this increase needs to accelerate in forthcoming years, and closer links with regional employers in the sector developed. The skills landscape already reflects some challenges and changes, such as a growth in demand for programming languages and machine learning.

### Digital Technologies

The Leeds City Region hosts major employers including Sky’s Digital & Technology Services Campus. Innovations such as Data Mill North, the Open Data Institute and Leeds Institute for Data Analytics are harnessing the power of big data, while IXleeds is the UK’s only fully independent internet exchange outside of London.

New employer partnerships have been formed that are developing bespoke apprenticeships in a range of courses including: digital marketing, digital infrastructure, software development and many more. T Levels in digital design and production have been successfully introduced as well as creative arts courses such as games design and TV and film.

As digital transformation is central to all organisations in the digital economy, digital business analysis skills are in demand. Skills such as coding and digital marketing are in the topmost in demand by employers.

### Sustainable Development/Carbon Net Zero

The college will prepare its students for the future carbon net zero economy and make a full contribution to the city’s response to the climate emergency, through reducing its own emissions to carbon net zero by 2035, raising awareness amongst its staff and stakeholders and in developing its curriculum in sustainable development.

The college has created a range of courses with key modules on sustainable development, including electric/hybrid vehicles, climate change, environmental awareness and climate science. The college continues to raise awareness and ways of tackling climate change amongst students and other stakeholders through a range of initiatives and collaborative partnerships.

As environmental sustainability becomes the norm, businesses will need the skills to take advantage of this change. The blend of green skills adoption, coupled with an environmentally-sustainable workforce culture, will inspire new business models and strategies that deliver for people, planet and profit.

## Strategic Priorities

### 1

#### Responsive Curriculum

Increase and develop new courses that are responsive to employer needs and increase progression to higher level education and training as well as employment, particularly in digital skills, engineering and manufacturing (including low carbon technologies), creative industries, health & social care and finance & professional services.

### 2

#### Stakeholder Engagement

Increase the capacity and effectiveness of Leeds City College to further improve stakeholder engagement to benefit the college and improve student experience as well as to ensure the college makes its full contribution to the needs of the city region.

### 3

#### World Class Facilities

Implement the Property Strategy to ensure sufficient, high-quality accommodation.

### 4

#### Wellbeing

- Improve student and staff wellbeing through:
- The implementation of the staff wellbeing strategy that supports the development of strategies to improve health as well as to identify and remove factors in the college’s operations that contribute to negative wellbeing outcomes
  - Create an overarching strategy that brings together actions and strategies that improve student health and wellbeing improving their effectiveness
  - Seeking to address the cost-of-living crisis through affordable remuneration and other benefits

### 5

#### Our people

Implement the group People Strategy to address recruitment and retention issues at Leeds City College.

