

Annual Report 2016/17



Contents

	Chair of Governor's Statement: Shirley Collier	8
	Principal and Chief Executive's Statement: Dr Alison Birkinshaw	12
	Community Engagement 2016-17	20
	Financial Summary	26
	Student Statistics	28
	Highlights of Results	36
	Success Stories	43
	Staff Analysis	84
	Equality and Diversity	88

Public Value

York College Corporation is an exempt charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 1993 as amended by the Charities Act 2011. The Corporation was established in 1999 and is subject to the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 for the purposes of conducting the activities of York College.

The Corporation is responsible for the following functions:

- The determination and periodic review of the educational character and mission of the institution and the oversight of its activities
- Approving the quality strategy of the institution
- The effective and efficient use of resources, the solvency of the institution and the Corporation and safeguarding their assets
- Approving annual estimates of income and expenditure
- The appointment, grading, suspension, dismissal and determination of the pay and conditions of service of the holders of senior posts and the Clerk
- Setting a framework for the pay and conditions of service of all other staff.

In setting and reviewing the objectives and activities of the College, the governors, as trustees, have had due regard to the public benefit that is expected to derive from the advancement of education and training. They are particularly keen to ensure the College develops academic and vocational skills and knowledge, whilst providing a broad education which enhances an individual's employability skills. Ultimately the College wishes to nurture responsible citizens for the future who can engage positively, in many ways, with their community. These overarching desires are expressed through the setting of the College's mission, vision and values, strategic plan and key objectives. Reports on the College's performance may be found in the Annual Report published each January, the College's Self Assessment Report and other strategic documents.



Vision, Values and Mission

Governors and all College staff have been consulted on the College's mission, vision and values which underpin the annual setting of key objectives and strategy through the College's Staff Board structure and governor strategic planning activities:

York College's ambition is to be truly outstanding in all that we do.

The York College Mission:

"York College: where everyone matters and a successful future begins."

York College's Mission is to provide a life-enhancing educational experience, through inspirational teaching, working in partnership and helping individuals to be the best they can.

York College's Values are summarised by the following statement:

As a way of fostering learning, York College values:

- All our students and their individual achievements
- The commitment and professionalism of our staff
- The highest standards in all that we do
- Working together to meet the needs of our College and the wider community
- Effective, efficient and appropriate use of resources
- Respect, equality and honesty

The College's progress against its key objectives is monitored closely by governors, College managers and other staff and informs strategic planning and the College's self assessment activities and reports. Governors also direct activities and receive regular information and reports regarding the College's engagement with its communities, the satisfaction expressed with the portfolio as well as the education and training and service offered by the College. Feedback is used to inform future developments and is gathered from stakeholders in a number of ways, including:

- Parent/carer, employer, student, prospective student advice and feedback activities, including:
 - Surveys
 - Focus groups
 - Feedback following events

- Governor activity including Employer and Skills Committee and Chair directed appraisal of Principal involving key stakeholders
- Reporting, including that of complaints and compliments

Chair of Governors' Statement: Shirley Collier



At York College, our greatest ambitions are for our students and their individual achievements. 2016/17 has been another year of strong results across the curriculum with outstanding successes, both in vocational studies as well as A and AS levels and the number of high grades well above national averages. It is also a year which has seen ongoing change to the assessment of the A level curriculum, the introduction of a new grading system for GCSEs and new specifications in some subjects. I congratulate staff and students on managing these transitions and on achieving outstanding results – hundreds of students attained the elusive grade 4 (grade C in the “old” system) in English and Maths at GCSE in order to allow them to progress to further studies of their choice and the excitement in college on results day was palpable.

We have continued to strive to maintain the high standards expected of a College assessed by Ofsted as Outstanding across the full range of the College's activities. This has included maintaining compliance with all with statutory and regulatory requirements (and

ensuring that our partners do likewise), and offering not only a wide range of courses and subjects at a range of levels to suit individual students, but also high levels of pastoral care for students in an increasingly complex world. Sadly, extremism has touched all our lives this year, with York College students being directly affected by the tragedy at the Manchester Arena in May. The well-being of students has been a particular focus this year for the college, and we have worked closely with colleagues at City of York Council and at our two universities to keep the college a safe environment where students receive not only a first class education but also a rounded and positive experience. Extra-curricular and end of year activities continue to be a highlight for students, families, staff and governors alike; the annual Fashion Show, held this year at the Principal Hotel, and the end of year Art Show were enjoyed by all.

Our work with employers both informs the curriculum which we offer and enhances the experience that students have whilst at York College. In a year which has seen the start of major change in how apprenticeships

are funded, staff in the Business Development Unit have hosted breakfast and twilight meetings to help employers understand and benefit from the new scheme. We are pleased to be working with a range of new employers and expanding the scope of apprenticeships including new courses in dental care and aviation.

Government intervention has been a feature of the past year with all colleges being reviewed to ensure their sustainability. Cuts to colleges' budgets have again loomed large, and several colleges across the country have decided to merge as a result. York College's position however is unchanged, our finances have remained strong and our financial health has again been assessed by the Skills Funding Agency as 'Outstanding'.

On an annual basis the governors review the skills needed on the board and regard equality, diversity, breadth, currency and relevance of experience as key to the efficacy of the board; indeed equality and diversity lie at the heart of the College's vision and achievements, and you can read more about our approach in a later

section of this Annual Report. The College has recruited three new governors this year who bring a wealth of knowledge - as employers, employees, residents of the city and parents – to our work. At our strategic planning day this year governors looked further to the future and had wide-ranging discussion about how best to meet the needs of employers, parents and students. This work will continue throughout 2017/18 with detailed examination of each part of the college offer.

On behalf of the board of governors, I'd like to thank every member of the College team and all the students for their hard work which has produced well deserved results, and for ensuring York College continues to be a vibrant place to study and work.

Shirley Collier

Chair of Governors

November 2017



Principal and Chief Executive's Statement: Dr Alison Birkinshaw



In 2015 a national programme of Area Based Reviews was announced, with the intention of creating more resilient and efficient FE colleges. The review of the Further Education College provision in York, North Yorkshire, East Riding and Hull began in October 2016 and the report was published in August 2017 with the recommendation that York College should remain stand-alone. We were pleased that our financial resilience (we remain assessed as financially outstanding) and the quality of our provision (we are judged as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted) was so recognised and we took the opportunity to re-commit to meeting the education and training needs of the region.

For York College, this year has proved a time to highlight outstanding individual achievements as well as the team work and overall student attainment that makes us so successful. Kevin Clancy, our Head of Construction retired at Christmas, only to hear that he had been awarded the MBE for services to Further Education in the Queen's Birthday Honours. We now have two of our middle managers (Miggy Biller, the Head of Maths, was also awarded the MBE in the 2016 New Year's Honours) whose service has been nationally and deservedly recognised in this way.

Kevin and Miggy are two of our most experienced managers. Rianne Hughes, one of our newer members of staff, a tutor in Business, was awarded a prestigious Silver Pearson Teaching Award in the category FE Lecturer of the Year and achieved this as the result of nominations from her students. The Pearson Teaching Awards are an annual celebration of exceptional teachers, created to recognise the life-changing impact an inspirational teacher can have on the lives of the young people they teach. Rianne was chosen from thousands of nominations to be one of 56 winners across England, Ireland and Wales.

And Rianne's students also celebrated being crowned St Leonard's Hospice Accumulator Challenge Champions 2017 after turning £30 into over £3,000 in just 30 days. These students competed against 18 other teams from across North Yorkshire including Minster FM, Royal Bank of Scotland and The Marriott Hotel. They achieved the Association of College's Yorkshire and Humber Enterprise award and then also donated their prize to the hospice fund. Charity fundraising is a key feature of many activities

across the College and overall our Business, Tourism and Hospitality students raised over £5,000 for charity during the year.

These stories are just the highlights of a year of success for York College. Overall, our 2016-17 results demonstrated good improvements in almost all areas. Our pass rate for A levels held last year's position at 99.7% (only three U grades in 913 entries) (National Average fell to 97.9%). High grades also rose significantly to 59% from 55% (National Average: 53.1%), so it is clear that our work to improve our A* to B grades is paying off and must continue. 35 A level subjects achieved a 100% pass rate and there were a large number of 100% subjects with 50%+ high grades:

- Ancient History (65% A*-B)
- Archaeology (75% A*-B)
- Textiles (100% A*-B)

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- Early Modern History (64% A*-B)
 - Economics (59% A*-B)
 - Engineering (73% A*-B)
 - English Language (56% A*-B)
 - English Lang/Lit (67% A*-B)
 - Film Studies (67% A*-B)
 - Further Maths (85%)
 - French (58% A*-B)
 - German (83% A*-B)
 - ICT (50% A*-B)
 - Law (61% A*-B)
 - Maths (78% A*-B)
 - Modern History (87% A*-B)
 - Photography (50%A*-B)
 - Physics (55% A*-B)
 - Psychology (65% A*-B)

- Sociology (67%A*-B)
- Spanish (83% A*-B)
- PE/Sport (71% A*-B)

Over 30 students obtained 3 or more A*s or A grades and significant numbers progressed to top universities, including four to Oxford and Cambridge. Our pass rate at AS was 91.2% (National Average:89.6%) a good improvement on last year's 88.6% with also a rise in high grades to 37% from 34%. We are confident that our policy of entering all A level students for the AS examination helps them prepare for these demanding new specifications and prepares them for further study and university applications.

It was also pleasing to see that students studying on our vocational, technical and professional qualifications achieved very well indeed. The percentage of triple distinctions on Level 3 qualifications remains very high at 54% of the cohort with an improved 29% gaining triple distinction*s. This meant that vocational value added again remains very strong. Some very high results

were achieved in some areas, most notably in Music, Performing Arts and Business. Business students achieved particularly well with 93% triple distinctions of whom 85% were triple distinction stars, and in many other areas the majority of students achieved at least a triple distinction.

We were also delighted with our GCSE results for all our students and especially English and maths for 16-18 year old students who need to retake these qualifications if they haven't achieved high grades. The 2017 results and high grades improved significantly for this group of students, despite the fact they were taking the new GCSE examination in English which was significantly more demanding than in previous years.

Our Higher Education provision has also experienced good success with 77% of 2:1s or better and 40% firsts on the BA programmes and 67% Merits or Distinctions on Foundation Degrees. Our HNC students achieved 85% Merit or Distinction, and the College achieved an overall Teaching Excellence Framework Silver award for its HE provision.

We know that much of the College's overall success is down to high quality teaching and learning, and we continue with our focus on evidence-based professional development for teachers to improve student achievement and student satisfaction, whatever the area of study. As a result 96% of our lessons when observed were graded Good or better, and 97% of students when surveyed believed their lessons to be interesting and stimulating with 98% satisfaction with assessed work.

York College students also achieved significant individual and group successes and as always hundreds of York College students progressed to Higher Education in 2017, with many accepted at some of the most selective universities in the UK. And a large number of students continue to choose to study locally, either at our York universities (University of York and York St John) and or York College itself. Overall, approximately 75% of our students remain in education with a high proportion of the remainder progressing directly into employment, and this makes us very proud.

We are also proud of the wider range of successes achieved by individuals and groups of students, and there are so many of these that a small selection must suffice:

For example, Sam Ward studied vocational science and secured one of only twelve places nationally to train to degree level in nursing as part of the scheme sponsored by the Royal Navy. An AS Level German student, Georgia Hope, received a place on a coveted German scholarship which funded a month-long summer study programme in Germany, organised by the Pädagogischer Austauschdienst and funded by the German government.

Our sports students were again particularly successful this year and York College has been crowned English Colleges' Football Association Champions. In a very tense and entertaining match we managed to win the competition 4-3 on penalties. The work done by the College and our partners i2i Football Academy

in making football a national success should not be underestimated. In the past 12 months the Football Development Centre at the College has reached 3 national cup finals and won one, as well as helped four students become professional footballers. But the College's sporting success doesn't stop at football, as first year Level 3 Sport students, Chris Lythe and Josh Bayliss, represented the county in Badminton and Tennis respectively. Chris, who previously gained the title of Yorkshire and Humberside Regional, continued his impressive form by dropping only two games and played an integral part in the Yorkshire and Humberside Badminton team securing Gold. And Sport & Exercise Science student Lucy Hadaway represented England at the Youth Commonwealth Games in Nassau, the Bahamas, returning home victorious with a Bronze medal in the long jump for an impressive 5.90m leap.

In Construction, York College bench joiner William Ellis was crowned the 2017 Screwfix Trade Apprentice winner and beat off competition from across the UK to

walk away with the Grand Prize – a £10,000 business bundle. Two students studying the Level 3 Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment course have secured two of the nine places available on the Lend Lease Construction undergraduate scheme, preparing them for work in the construction industry and for chartered membership of their chosen professional institute. The SkillsBuild competitions are ongoing and the College has secured successes across a range of construction areas in first to third places regionally. And our Construction students continue to support the local community in a project at Woodhouse Grange Cricket Club spending a significant amount of time building a much-needed cricket pavilion and renovating other areas of the ground. The building work took two years to complete, with approximately 40 students working collectively on different parts of the project. Level 1 & 2 students studying a range of construction crafts were involved in their own areas of expertise; bricklayers built the shelter, plasterers

boarded and skimmed the ceilings and externally rendered other areas of the ground and score box, joinery students hung the doors, painting and decorating students painted the changing facilities and score box and, nearing completion, the stonemasonry students made a commemorative plaque for the pavilion.

Not to be outdone, the Music and Performing Arts students had a similarly successful year with a range of fantastic showcase events and our Art, Design and Craft students continued the tradition of end of year exhibitions and fashion shows. Graphics and Fashion students particularly enjoyed working with the North Yorkshire Moors Railway (NYMR) to replicate specific 60s iconic garments from designers such as Mary Quant and Yves Saint Laurent to form part of the railway's fashion exhibition, to be displayed at Pickering Station.

We all know that education at York College adds up to more than taking qualifications or winning

competitions and the success of our students depends very much on the rounded experience we can offer them. The vast majority of our students (and our staff) benefit from an enhanced curriculum which includes work experience and work related learning, trips and residential visits, and other exciting activities throughout their course. Our annual report gives a flavour of these as does our website since it is impossible to capture the full range of activities taking place. This year our students and staff have visited places as far afield as Ningbo (China), Courmayeur (Italy), Barcelona, Los Angeles, Athens and Berlin. This is in addition to almost 250 day and residential visits to a huge variety of venues across the length and breadth of the UK organised by staff teams to enhance the student experience.

I would like to congratulate all our students and staff for their 2016-17 successes and place on record my thanks to all our employers and other partners, our governors and, of course, all staff at York College for their support, hard work and commitment during the past year. I would also

like to thank Shirley Collier for her support during the past year as Chair of Governors.

It continues to be a privilege to be principal of such a college and to work with our team to make sure that York College has a very successful future and our students continue to be well prepared for their next steps into further or higher education or employment.

Dr Alison Birkinshaw OBE

Principal and Chief Executive
November 2017



Community Engagement 2016-17

York College prides itself on the way it works with its local and regional communities, and the breadth and diversity of these. Of course, the definition of a 'community' can be wide ranging and can cover virtual as well as 'real' communities; the College has a long history (which has been recognised by Ofsted and other authorities) of very real engagement with and responsiveness to all types of community groups and individuals.

Many staff at York College have a significant number of interactions with community groups and are involved in building partnerships, whether these are formal or informal. Members of the Senior Management Team are involved in formal partnership work which informs strategic planning. Other members of staff represent the College on local networks, including voluntary, sporting and artistic groups, and the College has a long history of individual staff supporting governance structures in schools. York College governors have strong links with local community groups and our Local Authorities and the College has sought to formalise operational relationships with schools by identifying individual SMT

members to link with schools in York and North Yorkshire. And the College is well represented at a variety of other partnership meetings, whether one off meetings or more regular, and whether these are concerned with local issues (for example, car parking) or key stakeholder meetings (for example, membership of the local head teachers' group).

All of our curriculum areas have partnerships and networks with relevant groups (whether business or community) and these can often bring great benefits in informing curriculum development, enhancing work experience placements and making curriculum delivery real for the students. The projects also bring real benefits to the community groups themselves. It is not possible to give every instance of this type of work across the College, but a small number of examples below should suffice:

- Art and Design students work on real life projects for businesses each year and benefit from the support of the local guilds. The division has very strong links with York studios and the York Art Gallery and Yorkshire Museum's Trust, frequently working on joint projects.

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- Performing Arts students take performances into local high schools and align these to the curriculum being studied in the schools through consultation with teachers. They are also fully engaged in community and theatrical performances throughout the year.
 - Construction students undertake regular projects in the community each year and are also involved in partnerships abroad developing their skills in sustainable design; and the technical and professional students are each year engaged in real life design projects which give impressive employer related experience.
 - Stonemasonry staff have very strong links with the community of stonemasons across the country, York Minster and other minsters and cathedrals.
 - Two construction tutors (Bricklaying and Stone) are linked into the international community in their areas through their role as WorldSkills' judges and tutors and were delighted with the continued success of the construction apprentices.
 - Child Studies students all benefit from work placements and the team has a strong relationship with employers in the sector, adapting the curriculum content on the basis of feedback received.
 - All Hair and Beauty students benefit from exemplary links with employers and their work experience and curriculum delivery is informed by this.
 - The Business, Hospitality and Catering/Travel and Tourism students have benefited from a large number of international links, including learning visits to Spain and Italy. They have also developed strong community links with their charity fundraising activities and the students regularly cater for the various business breakfasts, food festivals and other events in York and the wider region thus gaining valuable experience. The College's restaurant has also been awarded the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence.
 - Languages have developed very successful exchange partners, building strong links with international groups.
 - Science students benefit from strong partnership work with the hospitals and medical schools

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- The work of the Skills for Life team is embedded in the local community. The work with female offenders, and our links with the international community through our ESOL are examples of this type of engagement that brings real benefits to those with literacy, numeracy or language needs.
 - The Division of IT and Computing has been leading the way in demonstrating how virtual communities can really benefit both students and businesses.
 - And of course, a number of employers recognise the quality of training delivered at York College and engage with divisions to secure new employees on Apprenticeships and HE programmes each year.
 - And our International students (about 150 of them each year) and formal work with international organisations in China, Switzerland, Denmark and Norway in particular makes a real difference in the internationalisation of the curriculum and the community in the College.

Significant numbers of students volunteer in the local community (and win awards for doing so) and are

involved in work experience and cross-college charity fundraising activities coordinated through our enrichment programme. Charity fundraising is not confined to students, however. The staff fill hampers each year for the Christmas Beesom Hamper project; Estates team support the St Leonard's Hospice for the midnight walk raising funds for the hospice; and the College always supports the city-wide events which promote sustainable travel. The College proactively opens up its facilities for community use recognising that summer schools, the use of the sports facilities, room use by organisations, are all excellent ways of building a multitude of links with individuals and community groups.

The College is a member of a wide number of local, regional and national education partnership groups which serve to inform curriculum developments and strategic planning. These include education partnership groups led by the Local Authority (including those designed to direct developments of the 14-19 curriculum) and there are strong ties with adult learning providers in the City

through partnership work with the adult education team and the Principal's charring of Learning City York.

Higher York is a key formal partnership of HE providers in York which serves to inform HE developments and design in the city with clear benefits to the local and regional student and business community. In addition, York College has extensive senior representation on a range of local, regional and national strategic and planning groups and committees which inform and influence the education provision and support (including that at a higher level) made available at York College.

The College has very strong links with employer groups and is grateful for the support shown to the College by these groups. York is unique in the number of guilds and employer groups that still survive and provide very positive support networks for young people making their way in business. For example:

- The York Guild of Building makes awards for the construction students each year and works with the College to inform curriculum development.

- The Company of the Merchant Taylors provides significant support to the College, through its sponsorship of the Fashion Show and individual students studying Music, Media and Performing and Creative Arts.
- The Company of the Cordwainers also has a longstanding relationship with the College, sponsoring and assisting with the fashion and textiles curriculum and shows in particular.
- Students benefit from the Company of the Merchant Adventurers' sponsorship of enterprise activities and competitions.

The College belongs to a number of formal employer groups, such as the Chamber of Commerce, and uses these networks to gather information regarding emerging skills needs to inform planning. Links with the Local Enterprise Partnerships are valued and partnership work with large employers in York has resulted in specialised training packages being designed to improve business efficiencies as well as supporting student placement and master classes.

We work closely with the Police, for example, through the Safer York Partnership, who meet at the College 3 or 4 times a year and have very strong links with the safeguarding/Prevent teams in York and North Yorkshire.

Clearly we must also engage closely with our student communities, including those from overseas, using the College's Student Voice infrastructure. This serves to inform quality improvement and planning in a detailed way. Our Schools Liaison and Marketing teams have also developed strong links with other student communities in the schools in York and North Yorkshire, and Higher York facilitates links between the student communities in each member organisation.

All the above partnership work (which is not an exhaustive list by any means) has an important role in planning provision, and has been particularly useful in developing our curriculum progression into HE (Higher York), extensive NEET work (Local Authority and Connexions), adult provision (the York and North Yorkshire Local

Authorities), and innovative work. The amount of time this partnership work takes should not be underestimated and we pride ourselves on being responsive to local and national needs.

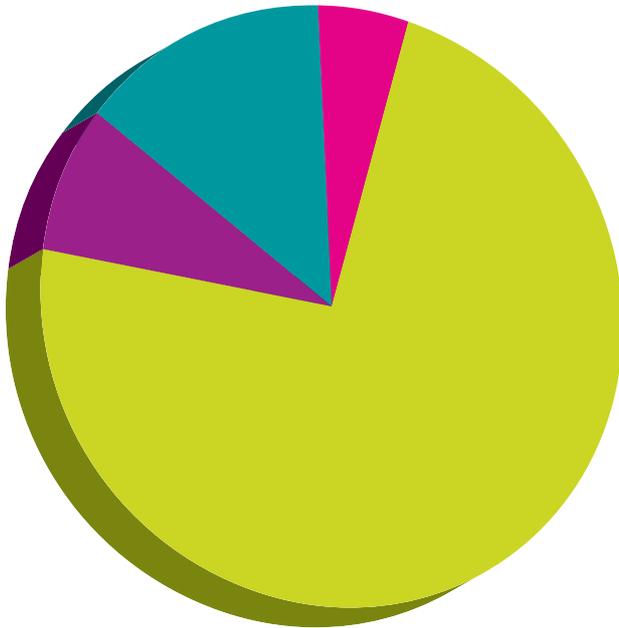
Each year the College refreshes and reconsiders its strategic plan and set of priorities for the future year based upon the feedback drawn from all the networks outlined above. The College's Employer and Skills committee of the Governing Body helps facilitate oversight of this planning and directs formal consultation with local employers and other stakeholders through its network of co-optees and advisers. Additionally, the College's Annual Report is given at the College's December awards event with responses invited and the College uses the informal and formal feedback drawn from the networks above to inform curriculum and skills planning.

York College is always keen to seek additional feedback from local communities, businesses and individuals about its plans. Anyone can email the Clerk to the Governing

Body if they or their organisation would like to discuss any element of this annual report or the College's future plans with the College's Governing Body or Senior Managers. The College also welcomes applications from suitably experienced individuals to join its governing body either as a full member or as a co-optee onto one of its committees.

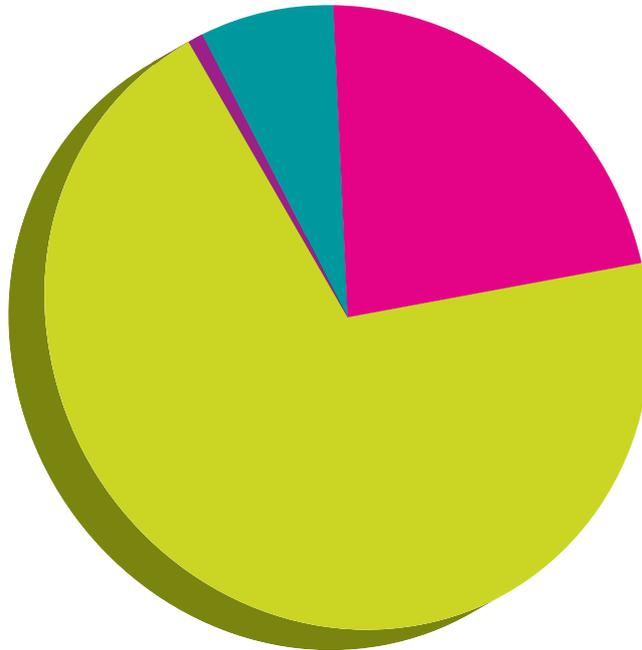
Financial Summary 2016-17

Income 2016-17



Income	£million	%
Funding Body Grants	19.7	73
Tuition Fees	3.9	14
Education Contracts	1.4	5
Other Income	2.1	8
Total Income	27.1	100

Expenditure 2016-17



Expenditure	£million	%
Staff Costs	18.6	70
Operating Expenses	5.9	22
Depreciation	2.0	7
Interest Payable	0.2	1
Total Expenditure	26.7	100

	£million
Surplus/(Deficit)	-1.4

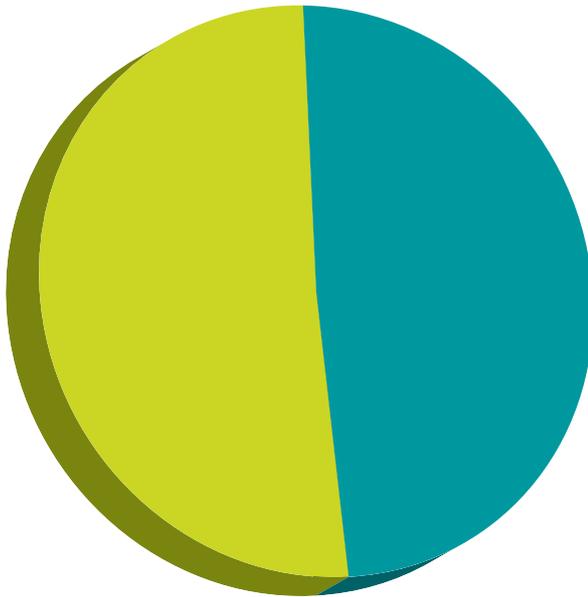
Student Statistics

In 2016/17 the College's profile of FE student enrolments (leavers) was:

Age	%
Under 16	0
16-18	83
Adults	17
Total	100

Students Study Level	%
Entry Level	2.8
Level 1	10.3
Level 2	42.7
Level 3	43.9
Level 4+	0.3
Total	100

Student Gender (Further Education: Enrolments)



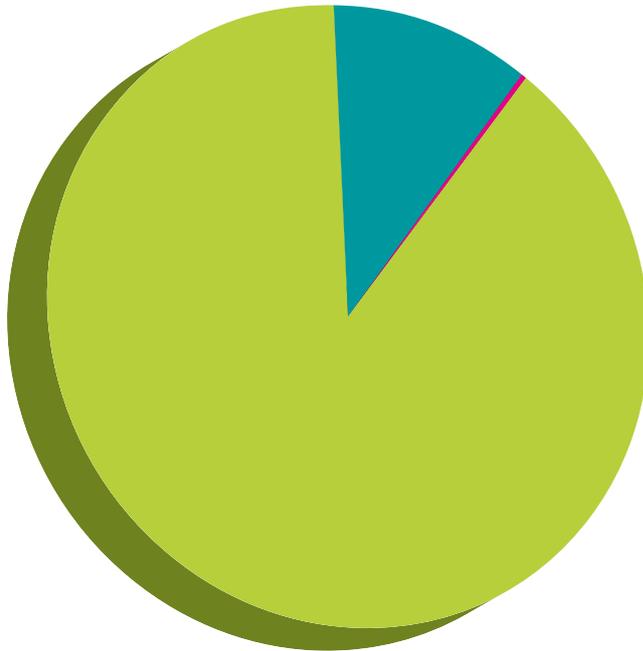
	%
Male Students	51
Female Students	49
Total Students	100

Learning Difficulty (Further Education Enrolments)



	%
No disclosed difficulty	72.1
Learning difficulty	13.2
Not known/not provided	14.7
Total Students	100

Student Ethnicity (FE Student Enrolments)



	%
White British	89.2
All other ethnic groups	10.7
Not known/provided	0.1

Apprenticeships

The number of apprentices in learning throughout the year was 622, excluding CSkills

Of whom:

367 were aged 16-18

255 were aged 19+

74 apprentices completed during 2016 - 2017 and achieved a Level 2 Intermediate Apprenticeship

70.3% Intermediate Apprenticeship achievement, national average 69.1%

133 apprentices completed during 2016 - 2017 and achieved a Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship

78.9% Advanced Apprenticeship achievement rate, national average 69.2%

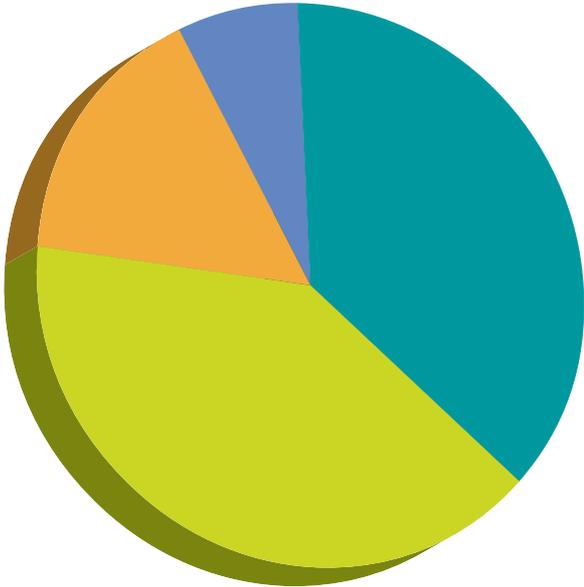
2 apprentices completed during 2016 - 2017 and achieved a Level 4 Higher Apprenticeship

100% Higher Apprenticeship achievement rate, national average 61.6%

Student Statistics (Higher Education)

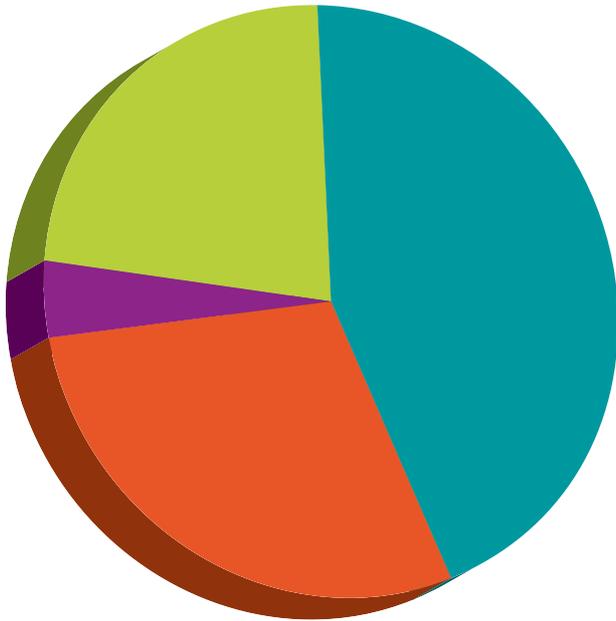
475 Students studied at Higher Education level

BA Programmes



	%
First Class	40
2:1	37
2:2	16
Third	7
Other	0
Total	100

Foundation Degree



	%
Distinction	23
Merit	44
Pass	29
Certificate of Higher Education	4
Total	100

International Students

During 2016/17, there were 140 students enrolled at York College from outside the European Union. This included 71 Norwegian students studying the Heltberg Programme and 69 students studying other provision.

	Number
Heltberg Programme	71
Other Provision	69

Fantastic Results

A Level Results Success 2017

In 2017 York College announced an outstanding A Level pass rate of 99.7 per cent with a record of almost 60 per cent high grades achieved (A* - B). The College were significantly above the national average, and they have been for 23 consecutive years.

Over 30 students gained three or more A* or A grades, with an amazing seven students achieving 3 A*s or more. There was also a 100 per cent pass rate in 35 A Level subjects.

Oxford and Cambridge university places were successfully secured by the following students:

- Georgie Bryan (formerly of Joseph Rowntree School) achieved A* in Modern History, A in Religious Studies, B in Maths and an A* for her Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Georgie will study Philosophy at Queens' College, Cambridge.
- Ed Coidan (formerly of St Peter's School) achieved an impressive range of A Levels including Ancient and Modern Languages. Ed will study Classics and Oriental Studies at Wadham College, Oxford.

- Jack Hughes (formerly of Millthorpe School) achieved three A*s in Early Modern History, French and Spanish and an A grade in German. Jack will study History & Modern Languages at Magdalene College, Cambridge.
- Will Osborne (formerly of Millthorpe School) achieved A*A*A* in Geography, Maths and Physics and an A grade in AS Level Further Maths. Will progresses to Exeter College Oxford to study Earth Sciences.

Particular congratulations to these inspirational students:

Thomas Adams (formerly of Manor CE Academy) gained three A* grades in Maths, Further Maths and Chemistry. Destination: Durham University to study Maths.

Rui Chen (formerly of Archbishop Holgate's School) achieved three A*s in Maths, Further Maths and Physics. Destination: University College London to study Computer Science.

Callum Charlton (formerly of Kenilworth School) attained A*s in Economics and Maths, and two A grades in Further Maths and Physics. Destination: University College London to study Economics and Statistics.



Georgina Fishwick (formerly of Millthorpe School) achieved an A* in Law and A grades in English Language and Sociology. Destination: University of Birmingham to study Law.

Phoebe Frere (formerly of Joseph Rowntree School) gained an A* in Maths, and A grades in Computer Science and Further Maths. Phoebe also achieved an A* for her EPQ. Destination: University of Southampton to study Computer Science.

Jessica Heap (formerly of Ryedale School) the winner of the 2017 Caroline's Rainbow Foundation Psychology Prize, achieved an A* in Psychology and A grades in Sociology and English Language & Literature. Destination: University of York to study Psychology.

Sara Jenkins (formerly of Ryedale School) achieved an A* in Sociology and A grades in Law and Early Modern History. Destination: University of Liverpool to study Law.

Rana Mallah (from Iraq) achieved three A* grades, in Maths, Further Maths and Biology. Destination: London School of Economics to study Actuarial Science.

Hannah Park (formerly of Manor CE Academy) achieved three A grades in Biology, Geography and Sociology. Destination: University of Leeds to study Medical Sciences.

Lucy Ross (formerly of Joseph Rowntree School) achieved an A* in Maths and A grades in Further Maths, Economics and Religious Studies, plus an A* grade for her EPQ. Lucy achieved the required grades to meet her offer for Cambridge University and instead decided to study Politics & Quantitative Methods at the University of Manchester.

Jay Smyth (formerly of Monkwearmouth College) achieved three A*s in Business Studies, Maths and Psychology. Destination: Durham University to study Business and Management.

Dominic Sorrell (formerly of Millthorpe School) achieved three A*s in Maths, Further Maths and Physics, and an A grade in Economics. Destination: University of Edinburgh to study Physics.

Dr Alison Birkinshaw, Principal of York College, said:
"I am immensely proud of York College's A Level results and the achievements of every single student in our A Level Faculty.

"This academic year has seen our students and their tutors getting to grips with new specifications and linear assessments in many A Level subjects, and these record high grades show just how well they have risen to this challenge. The College's specialist tutors have done a great job in preparing and supporting students so that they can now progress to some of the very best universities in the country.

"At a time when many schools and colleges have dropped AS Level exams, we are also delighted to see our very best AS results, which will have prepared our first year A Level students for next year and help them secure top offers at university or from employers.

"This has been a difficult year for students and staff alike and I am so proud of this wonderful set of results. I would like to place on record my congratulations to the students, and my thanks to the staff for working so hard to understand the new examinations so quickly."



Excellent Vocational Achievements

Vocational students at York College achieved brilliant results with well over half the year group, an impressive 331 students (54 per cent), attaining Triple Distinction grades in their Level 3 courses, of which 192 were Triple Distinctions* (D*D*D*) - the highest grade (equivalent to 3 A*s at A Level).*

Individual vocational subjects received excellent results, including 93 per cent Triple Distinction or better in Business, 81 per cent in Musical Theatre, 75 per cent in Acting, 73 per cent in Performing Arts Production and 67% in Construction.

Amongst hundreds of highly successful students was Sam Ward (previously of Malton School) who studied the Extended Diploma in Applied Science - achieving D*D*D*. His fantastic results enabled him to take up the offer of one of twelve places in the UK to study to be a



Naval Nurse. Sam starts basic training at HMS Raleigh naval base in Cornwall before starting a degree in Adult Nursing at Birmingham City University in December, alongside his naval ceremonial duties.

Sam, a volunteer with The British Red Cross, said: "I came to York College to study Applied Science after failing my AS Levels elsewhere. After deciding I wanted to become a Medic in the Navy, I saw a massive improvement in my grades whilst studying at College and this allowed me to apply for the higher position of Naval Nurse. This experience made me appreciate the value of hard work and definitely helped me in the tough selection process."

Yasmin Copeland (formerly of Holy Family Catholic High School) and Charlie Fothergill (formerly of Brayton High School) studied the Extended Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment. They secured two of the nine available places on the Lendlease Construction undergraduate scheme. This amazing opportunity will prepare them for work in the construction industry and give them chartered membership of their chosen professional institute.

Yasmin achieved Triple Distinction* grades and Charlie achieved D*D*D, they are delighted that sponsorship and employment with the multi-national property and infrastructure company will pay them a bursary whilst studying at Northumbria University, guaranteeing them jobs at the end of their studies.



Both students will study four year degrees; Yasmin in Construction Engineering Management and Charlie in Quantity Surveying. Their undergraduate studies will be integrated with periods of salaried industrial experience with Lendlease during the student holidays and in year 3, an industrial placement year. Yasmin said: "My College course included modules on the different professional and technical construction trades, which really helped me choose which field of work I wanted to go into. Ultimately I would like to be a Project Manager and I am excited to

start my undergraduate studies and to have a wealth of industrial opportunities with Lendlease."

Clare Wareing, Assistant Principal for Vocational studies comments: "As is the case every year, many of our Vocational students will take up places at universities, drama schools or conservatoires, once again demonstrating that Vocational courses provide excellent progression opportunities for those who wish to continue their studies or move directly into employment. Congratulations to all of our students who completed Vocational courses in the last academic year."



Brilliant GCSE Outcomes

York College announced fabulous GCSE results for students aged 16-18 years, and adult students, who sat their Maths and English Language exams this year.

A total of 237 students achieved grades 9-4 in English Language and 171 students achieved an A*-C in Maths from this summer's examinations. And nearly two thirds of adult students who took GCSE Biology achieved high grades (A*-C).

Karen Loseby (aged 51) from Malton, achieved English Language (6), Maths (C) and Biology (B). As a teaching assistant at St Mary's RC School in Malton, she already has a degree from York St John University and needed these GCSE subjects to be able to start a PGCE course in September. She said: "I worked really hard for these exams and I've passed all three in just nine months of study. It's such a relief to get the grades and I feel so happy."

George Munford (aged 18) from York, previously of Huntington School, has studied Public Services at York College, having gained a grade C in Maths last year.

He is delighted to have achieved a grade 4 for GCSE English Language this year. He said: "Gaining my GCSE will definitely open a lot more doors and help towards things in the future. I will hopefully now be able to gain an apprenticeship with Network Rail – something I wouldn't have been able to do without my English Language GCSE."

The College's GCSE results are a significant improvement on last year's results, particularly for students aged 16-18 who are now required to retake their English and Maths qualifications if they didn't achieve them at a high grade the first time.



A Level Success Stories

Ranked Yorkshire's No.1 GFE College

York College was ranked as Yorkshire's No.1 General Further Education College and rated in the top three Colleges in the country for A Levels (based on A Level points per entry).

This year approximately one thousand York College students (who study a range of A Level, Vocational, Access and Foundation Degree courses) submitted successful UCAS applications. Out of this significant number, five students secured conditional Oxbridge places.

Glyn Jones, Assistant Principal for A Levels at York College says: "The College is often described as the ideal stepping stone between school and university or employment. With a 'junior university' ethos, specialist tutors and important pastoral support, the College's outstanding learning environment enables students to perform to the best of their ability and progress to the next stage of their careers."



Modern Language Alumna Teaches Students

Jade Douglas, a former A Level student who excelled in Languages at York College returned to her old classroom to teach current AS Level German students to deliver an informative teaching session on what life was like in East Germany (DDR).

Jade's useful DDR presentation covered an AS Level area of study. Encouraging the class to discuss her presentation and give feedback, student Alice Mahon (formerly of All Saints RC School) said: "Jade's class was interesting, we were asked to think differently about the DDR, the topic was brought to life in a real way and gave us a unique and intriguing insight."

Jade says: "I enjoyed learning languages at Millthorpe School, then during my A Level studies at York College my love for French and German intensified. In 2010 I progressed to the University of Leeds to study a BA (Hons)

in French and German and happily carried on with my studies, achieving an MA in Professional Language and Intercultural Studies. My love of languages has led me to where I am now; in my second year of studying a PhD in Contemporary German Literature.

"It's great to return to York College. Being back in the very room where I studied A Level German and where I was completely enthused by my tutor, Alison Armstrong. It's weird and also a bit nerve wracking for me to be stood in front of the class teaching current AS Level students, and with my former tutor in the classroom too!"

Tutor Alison Armstrong said: "It's lovely to see Jade again. When she studied A Level German with us she had a natural flair for the subject and I knew she would go on to great things. I'm not surprised to see her back here teaching me one or two things! She is an inspiration to our current students and we are very proud of her."



Jessica wins Caroline's Rainbow Foundation Psychology Prize 2017

A Level Psychology student Jessica Heap, from Filey, won the Caroline's Rainbow Foundation Psychology Prize in 2017. The annual Award is presented in memory of ex-student Caroline Stuttle who was tragically murdered during a gap year in Australia in 2002.

Jessica, formerly of Ryedale School, studied A Levels in Psychology, English Language & Literature and Sociology. Psychology tutor Scott Franklin describes her as: "One of the most remarkable students we have had for a long time in A Level Psychology. Jessica has produced fantastic work and can explain her thoughts in a beautifully clear manner. She is an accomplished psychological researcher too, who already produces undergraduate-quality projects and she relishes the opportunity to hone these skills at university. Her bright personality and intellect allows her to thrive in a strong academic environment. Jessica has a bright future ahead and I wish her every success."

Delighted to receive the 2017 Prize winner, Jessica said: "I am overwhelmed and honoured to be chosen for the Caroline's Rainbow Foundation Psychology Prize. I'm fascinated by psychology, it helps us find out why people behave the way they do and better understand the world we live in. Looking to the future I would like to be a clinical psychologist helping people with anxieties."

Marjorie Marks-Stuttle presented Jessica with a gift voucher and certificate. She said: "Just like my daughter Caroline, I can see that Jessica is completely absorbed by psychology. I wish her well as she progresses to university to further her studies."

Following excellent A Level results, Jessica has progressed to the University of York to study a degree in Psychology.



Vocational Success Stories

York College Crowned ECFA Champions 2017

Congratulations to the York College/i2i Football Development Centre who were crowned the ECFA (English Colleges Football Association) Champions 2017. In a rollercoaster match against Gower College Swansea, played at Bescot Stadium (home of Walsall FC), the Under 19s team clinched the title winning 5-4 on penalties, after the game finished 3-3 in extra time.

In a dramatic penalty shootout which saw both teams miss chances, it was left to Elliott Anderson (formerly of Caedmon School, Whitby) to coolly convert the winning penalty, which saw York College crowned ECFA National Champions, avenging last year's defeat in the same competition.

York College Sports Development Centre Coordinator, Gaz Lee is extremely proud of the team, saying: "This cup victory is absolutely outstanding for the students involved with the College's Football Development Programme. The work done by the College and the i2i Football Academy in making the Football Development Centre a national success cannot be underestimated. We provide an excellent education pathway and a successful football programme to enhance the students' learning journey."



Business Bulldogs Win St Leonard's Hospice Accumulator Challenge

It was an impressive win for the College's Level 3 Business students who were victorious in the St Leonard's Hospice Accumulator Challenge 2017; the students turned a £30 loan into an impressive £3,410.61 in just 30 days!

The students competed against 18 other teams from across North Yorkshire including Minster FM, Royal Bank of Scotland and The Marriott Hotel to create the largest profit from a £30 loan in 30 days. The students kick-started the challenge by hosting a charity dinner in Ashfields restaurant as well as a raffle and auction with prizes including a ski trip to Bulgaria, afternoon tea at the Merchant Taylor's Hall and a PlayStation4.

Using all their business acumen, the students created a packed itinerary of fundraising events running throughout February including Valentine's roses; a daily 'tuck shop' and a loose change sunflower. Their fundraising efforts

concluded with a fundraising finale on Shrove Tuesday with a pancake sale, tombola and coast-to-coast cycle challenge where staff and students cycled from Scarborough to Liverpool in the College Atrium.

Josh Thomas (previously of Tadcaster Grammar School) said: "After visiting the Hospice and seeing how much they help friends and families, as well as the patients themselves, we wanted to raise as much money as possible for such a worthy cause."

Business Tutor Rianne Hughes said: "The Challenge was an excellent opportunity for the students to hone their business skills; they approached local businesses and haggled in true 'Apprentice' style, managing to gather a fantastic array of prizes. They put so much effort into the Challenge and they showcased what Business students at York College are capable of."



Donating towels to Scarborough Sea Life and Marine Sanctuary

Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy students found the perfect home for their laundry, collecting twenty bin liners full of towels (which had been used for treatments in the York College training salons), to help staff at the Scarborough Sea Life and Marine Sanctuary care for rescued seal pups.

Lia Bull, Marketing Executive at Scarborough Sea Life and Marine Sanctuary said: "Our Sanctuary experts have a constant need for old towels which are used to wrap around seal pups when bottle feeding or treating them, and with all the saltwater and fish oil they do not last long. We were delighted when the College delivered twenty bags full – it was a massive boost to our towel store."

Beauty student Alice Robinson, from Scarborough, studying Level 4 Advanced Beauty Therapy Techniques, said: "Living in Scarborough I have a soft spot for these gorgeous seal pups. At College I saw so many towels unable to be used in the hair and beauty salons and knew how much the Seal Sanctuary needed them. I study one day a week at York College where I am learning the very latest skincare techniques, and I'm about to start my first job working in the luxury spa at Raithwaite Hall in Whitby. It's really good living and working by the sea and being able to study this higher level beauty course in York is such a bonus."



Zacharias Clinched 'the Golden Apron'

It was fantastic to see Level 2 Professional Cookery student Zacharias Abbott claim the 'Golden Apron' and be named Yorkshire's best young chef in a competition open to young chefs from across the county.

It was third time lucky for Zacharias (formerly of Archbishop Holgate's School) who had entered the competition twice before, previously reaching the semi-final and final. Winning the title this year brought him a package of prizes including the chance to design a range of products which will appear on the shelves of sponsors ASDA at Christmas.

In the final Zacharias served up his 'Yorkshire themed' main dish; juniper-rolled Yorkshire venison with fondant potatoes, carrot, parsnip, rhubarb and ginger with a port and cranberry sauce, as well as a pudding recipe supplied at the semi-final held at the Yorkshire Wolds Cookery School. A starter-sized portion of the main dishes were served to 70 guests who then voted 'blind' on their favourites.

The Golden Apron competition is run by James Mackenzie - the chef/owner of the Michelin-starred 'Pipe and Glass' in South Dalton, and the Yorkshire Wolds Cookery School and farming company JSR, is sponsored by ASDA and Cranswick plc.

James Mackenzie commented: "The standard was just brilliant. The competition is about the ideas and recipes, and how they are presented on the plate – there's no doubt this young chef has a very, very bright future."

Zacharias, aged 17, worked part-time at Middlethorpe Hall at the time of the competition and after leaving College in the summer he is now working full-time for the country house hotel. As part of his prize, he will also receive a work placement with sponsors and food suppliers Cranswick plc.



Former Student in BBC Dr Who Spin-off

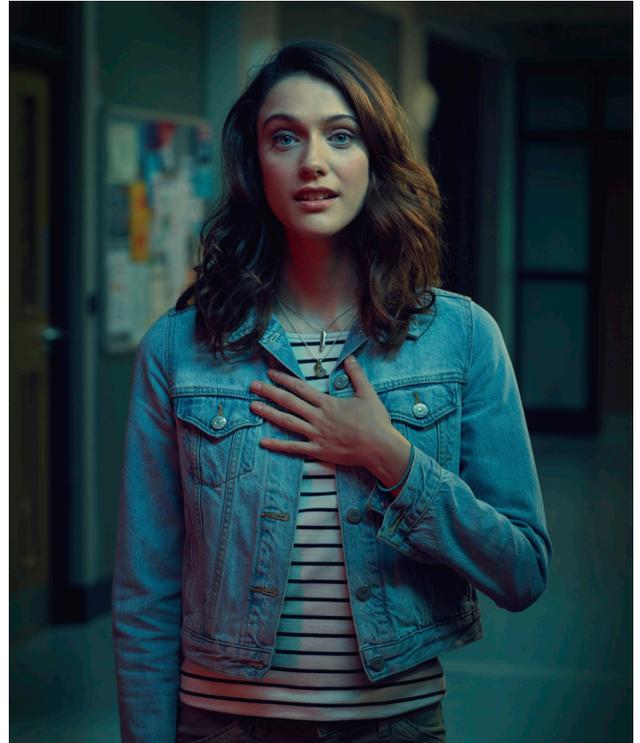
The Performing Arts Division was delighted to see former student Sophie Hopkins playing a leading role in the exciting new Dr Who spin-off drama series *Class* on BBC Three.

Sophie played the role of April in the science fiction series; her character April was one of four Coal Hill School sixth formers dealing with hidden secrets and desires, alien threats and possibly the end of existence.

Sophie, formerly of Woldgate School, came to York College in 2007 to study the National Diploma in Performing Arts (Acting) and a National Award in Musical Theatre, graduating in 2009. She then moved to London and spent a year with repertory theatre company Fourth Monkey and she has worked on several short films and indie projects.

Sophie says, "My time at York College made me realise that acting was the career I wanted. I joined the College during its first year on the new campus and it was fantastic to

have our own theatre and dance studio. The facilities were great. We worked with the technical theatre and stage design course too, it felt like a professional environment which is key if you're going to be ready for the real world. I worked so hard when I moved to London, at one point I had three jobs plus auditions and acting work! It was gruelling but every second was worth it. I was picked up by my agent (Identity Agency Group) last year and then everything changed. I'd had auditions before and then the calibre of the roles I was going for was crazy! Towards the end of 2015 I found out that I had landed the role of April in the BBC series *Class*. It's so wonderful being part of the Doctor Who world! My agency in London has just partnered up with United Talent Agency in L.A so I'm excited for what the future holds."



Community Project at Woodhouse Grange Cricket Club

York College Construction students completed a community project at Woodhouse Grange Cricket Club in Sutton on Derwent, building a much-needed cricket pavilion and renovating other areas of the Ground.

The building work took two years to complete, with approximately 40 students working collectively on different parts of the project. Level 1 & 2 students studying a range of construction crafts were involved in their own areas of expertise; bricklayers built the shelter, plasterers boarded and skimmed the ceilings and externally rendered other areas of the ground and score box, joinery students hung the doors, painting and decorating students painted the changing facilities and score box, as well as other buildings at the Ground. Nearing completion, the stonemasonry students also made a commemorative plaque for the pavilion.

Club Chairman John Stroughair said: "We have more and more teams playing at Woodhouse Grange and needed better facilities for our second ground. With York College

construction students providing much of the labour to supplement club volunteers' efforts, and with generous materials donations from others, we have gone from having a very basic concrete slab shelter (like something you might find on a farm), to having a proper clubhouse/pavilion which we may be able to develop further in the future. The new facilities provide a practical focal point and gives our development and junior teams a real sense of pride and identity when they play here. It has been a pleasure to see the students working on the different areas of the construction – they enabled the job to be expedited and have seen it through to completion. The help from York College has been invaluable."

Bricklaying tutor Mike Burdett said: "Having a real life project to work on was hugely beneficial to staff and students, and the Club was very accommodating in allowing the project to span two academic years. The community project gave us the opportunity to deliver a very worthwhile teaching and learning experience and we are delighted the Club can now operate more effectively due to the new facilities."



Apprenticeship Success Stories

Stage One Welcome Six Apprentices

At the start of the 2016/17 academic year Stage One, the creative construction, manufacture and engineering company in Tockwith, welcomed six new apprentices to their fold.

Julie Scholefield, HR Manager at Stage One, said: "Due to individual projects and the nature of our business, staff tended to progress through the company, meaning that promotion from within almost always provided the best solution to our recruitment needs. In recent years, Stage One has grown significantly and there is a real need to formalise our recruitment process by working with a local training provider."

Stage One worked closely with the Business Development Unit at York College to find appropriate candidates, as well as the right training and assessment, with new apprentices studying formal apprenticeship

qualifications; Harry Smith, Jack Davy and Will Fuller-McMillan - bench joinery, Lewis Hyland and Jake Braithwaite - engineering and Sarah Parkes - business administration.

Julie says: "Planning for the future of our business is very important to us and we wanted to offer formal apprenticeships with recognised training and qualifications. The College's BDU team have knowledge of courses and relevant qualifications to help us build the right packages of training and assessment for all our apprenticeships."



Stuart wins Electrical Times Apprentice of the Year title

Well done to apprentice Stuart Hubbert who was named Electrical Times Apprentice of the Year 2016 at a national awards ceremony in London.

Stuart, aged 29 from Harrogate, started his Electrical Installation apprenticeship at York College in 2012, whilst employed by Dunnington Electricals Ltd in Harrogate. After completing his apprenticeship in May 2016 he is now in full-time employment with the company.

Gary Slater, Electrical Installation tutor at York College, said: "I am thrilled for Stuart, he absolutely deserves this recognition on a national scale. Whilst at College he was a first-rate student, producing quality practical work in the electrical workshops, passing all elements of his coursework and winning Best Apprentice awards at the York College Construction Awards in 2014 and 2016. He was a pleasure to teach, and a generous student -

always willing to help others. We are very proud of his achievements and know he has a bright future ahead of him in the industry."

Dunnington Electricals Ltd, Marketing and Office Coordinator Sarah Hickling said: "Dunnington Electricals is extremely proud of Stuart Hubbert for winning Electrical Apprentice of the Year at the Electrical Industry Awards. He has worked exceptionally hard over his four year apprenticeship and fully deserved to win. We also thank York College for their fantastic tutors who helped Stuart become an outstanding electrician. He is truly an asset to our team."



Work Placement Student's Hotel Indigo Mural

Level 2 Art & Design student David Law (formerly of Joseph Rowntree School) made a lasting impression on his work placement at Hotel Indigo in York, creating a large scale mural for the enjoyment of hotel guests and visitors.

David said: "I decided to take on this placement as I had never attempted such a large-scale painting before and wanted to challenge myself to find out what I'm capable of. Also, street art and mural painting are subjects I am very interested in, and as the project involved materials and processes I had experience of using, I was excited.

"Firstly, I researched into York's history, culture and legendary characters. I then spent several days taking photos and gathering inspiration for elements to include in my mural design. I had to create sketches and a mock-

up of the final design, calculate the cost and quantities of the materials I required, with the overall mural taking one month to complete.

"I learnt many new skills from this experience such as dealing with clients on a professional level, painting using different materials and the processes and techniques involved in creating a mural painting. In the future, I aim to establish myself as a professional working artist with my own art studio as well as working as a professional tattoo artist. I would really like to do more mural painting and street art."

Mike Sweeting, General Manager at Hotel Indigo said: "Once I saw David's work it stood out - it was absolutely what we needed. David was pleased with his planning and preparation of the project and he created such a stunning piece of work."



Higher Education/Adult Learning Stories

York College Graduation Ceremony 2017

Higher Education students were brimming with pride at the York College Graduation Ceremony held in York Minster on 14th September 2017. The occasion was a celebration of the hard work and dedication shown by graduands in a range of subjects including Art & Design, Business, Child Studies, Construction, Digital Technologies, Education, Engineering, Media Make-up, Public Services and Sports Therapy.

Canon Christopher Collingwood from York Minster welcomed graduands and guests and an opening address was given by College Principal Dr Alison Birkinshaw, followed by a key note speech by Sir Gary Verity, Chief Executive of Welcome to Yorkshire. The Vote of Thanks was given by Chair of Governors, Shirley Collier.

In 2017 York College graduates achieved fantastic results; 77 per cent of students graduating from BA programmes achieved a First Class or 2:1 Degree classification, 67 per cent of Foundation Degree graduates achieved a merit or

distinction grade and 85% of HNC graduates achieved a merit or distinction grade.

Special prizes were awarded to:

HE Student of the Year: Ben Porter (Post Graduate Certificate in Education)

Most Determined Student of the Year: Joseph Whiteley (BA (Hons) Management)

Governors' Award: Frederick Ayres (Foundation Degree Computer Systems, Design and Solutions)

Andrea Shepherd, Assistant Principal for Higher Education at York College said: *"Graduating in the wonderful surroundings of York Minster is a fabulous way to celebrate the hard work and dedication of all our higher education students. This very special occasion is not only for our students, it is just as important for their proud families and friends who have supported them throughout their studies. I congratulate all our graduates and wish them every success in their future careers."*



From Cooking to Computing

Once a television acclaimed chef, Rebecca Room decided on a total career change when she enrolled on the Foundation Degree in Computer Systems, Design and Solutions at York College.

Having studied history at university, aged just 17, and not enjoying the experience, Rebecca decided to leave the course after the first semester. She found employment in sales and worked her way up from telesales, to brokering and software sales, leaving in 2010 to have children.

With a young family Rebecca looked for employment to fit around her new life. Working as a chef (evenings and weekends) her talents shone through, even getting to the television stages of Master Chef The Professionals. However, with this experience came the realisation that she did not have the passion for food that she saw in other good chefs and she did not see cheffing as a long term career.

Rebecca's friends and family encouraged her to completely change direction. They said: "You love computers and all the latest technology, you should look into working with computers." Coincidentally, when searching the York College website, Rebecca recognised her former boss as a student studying the Foundation Degree in Computer Systems, Design and Solutions. She said: "I felt empowered to enquire about the course and before I knew it I was signed up!"

Rebecca, aged 31, says: "It's like someone has flicked a switch; I'm now working on web-design and coding and absolutely loving it. I thought I might go into teaching but now I know that coding is what fascinates me – it's a bit like cooking, to solve problems there's a basic recipe and then, using my coding knowledge, I can embellish and add my own flair. Everything else I've done was just a job, but this is something I find exciting, I feel passionate about it. I really do see myself working in the industry - there's nothing else I'd rather do."



Fashion Students Meet International Designer

As part of the Fashion City York events, students studying BA (Hons) Fashion Design and Production at York College had a wonderful opportunity to meet internationally renowned fashion designer Paul Costelloe when he visited Browns department store in York.

Paul Costelloe took time to show the students his new spring/summer designs, sharing his ideas and inspirations for his new collection. He explained that his pieces are crafted using the finest premium fabrics, underpinning his values and philosophies of quality, youthfulness, beautiful tailoring and acute attention to detail. Drawing inspiration from the traditions of fine British tailoring, with beautiful cuts and refined details at the core of each of his collections, his traditional tailoring is re-interpreted into contemporary pieces that retain a sense of relaxed British elegance.

York College fashion tutor Marie Neal-Smith said: "Meeting an international fashion designer with such an established brand was a fantastic opportunity for degree level fashion students. The Fashion City York event provides a unique fashion platform for the city and supports the young fashion designers of the future, which is very relevant for our students as they progress into the fashion industry."



Record Breaking Powerlifter Studying Sports Therapy Degree

Ranked 4th in the country for powerlifting (Under 23s) and holding the Yorkshire & North East squat record (for all ages), makes York College student Ben Wharton a force to be reckoned with.

Ben, aged 20 from Hovingham, is studying the two year Foundation Degree in Sports Therapy which will enable him to top up to a BSc (Hons) degree in one year. He explains: "Sport is my passion and personal training is a big part of my life. At school I broke three shot put records and an Under 17s district record. Then, after realising I didn't carry enough weight to continue with the sport, I put my energies into powerlifting. My training has paid off and I'm proud to have performed so well nationally at such a young age."

Whilst carrying out a rigorous fitness regime Ben also manages to study and hold down a part-time job. He says: "The Sports Therapy course at York College is validated by York St John University and it only takes up two days a week, plus the College's tuition fees are cheaper than at most universities. The best thing is the teaching; I'm learning all about injury prevention, skeletal and muscular anatomy, strengthening and conditioning and sports massage – all of this really helps with my own sporting performance. I particularly like putting theory into practice in the College's Sports Therapy Clinic where I help clients with their bespoke sports injuries. It's a great course which can lead to all manner of jobs in sport; physiotherapy, coaching, sports therapy and working with sports teams."



International stories

New Year Chinese Visit

As part of the Prosperity Fund, an ongoing international partnership funded by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and managed by the AoC and British Council, York College hosted a Chinese delegation from Ningbo in January 2017.

The visit provided an insight into the education system, the importance of Further Education and the different kinds of training programmes available to post-16 students in the UK. With an emphasis on engineering and industry, the delegation visited engineering apprentices at Nestlé and Siemens to see how the College works successfully with local employers to meet the training needs of their apprentices. The delegation also visited York Minster.

During the two day visit, the delegation became familiar with the College campus and enjoyed meals in Ashfields, the College's training restaurant. The delegation took particular interest in the College's Education and Training provision and met with students to hear about their experiences.

Ningbo Polytechnic in China were cementing a three year 'Memorandum of Understanding' agreement with York College which involves both institutions working together on globally networked learning. The Agreement, signed during York College's visit to China in November 2016, will extend to exchange invitations to students for teaching purposes, study abroad and cultural exchange opportunities for students from both institutions, joint research activities and curriculum co-operation and Teacher Training programmes.

Andrea Shepherd, York College Assistant Principal (International), said: "We were delighted to show our Chinese colleagues the exceptional work that goes on in our College. China is a rapidly developing country and we would like to grow alongside them. This partnership will benefit our students enormously, giving them a greater awareness of international cultures and exposure to a completely different perspective. Now that our Chinese partners have seen what York College has to offer, we are excited to start working together on some fantastic opportunities which will mutually benefit both organisations."



Happy Norwegian Day!

Around seventy Norwegian students at York College celebrated their National Day at a special lunchtime party held in Ashfields; eating frankfurter hot dogs and cupcakes.

A Level student Maren Heggdal appreciated the efforts made by the College - putting on a Norwegian Day celebration for the whole group. She said: "At home I would normally be given the day off school and wearing national costume I would take part in a street parade. It is kind of the College to make a special effort for us all as we are missing our families and friends in Norway today."





Students of the Year 2017

Congratulations to five York College students who were awarded Student of the Year titles in recognition of their personal and academic achievements throughout the 2016/17 academic year.

A Level Student of the Year – Phoebe Frere



Vocational Student of the Year –
Finlay East



Students of the Year 2017

Congratulations to five York College students who were awarded Student of the Year titles in recognition of their personal and academic achievements throughout the 2016/17 academic year.

HE/Adult Student of the Year – Benjamin Porter



Foundation Maths Student of the Year –
Lyla Gentle



Students of the Year 2017

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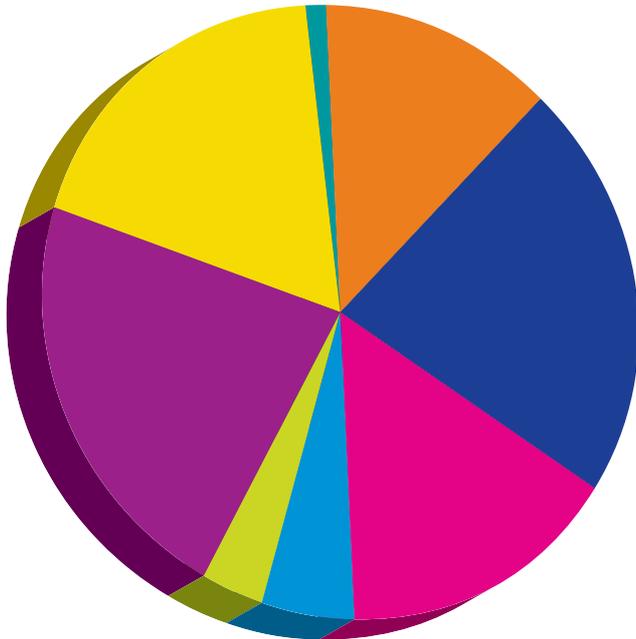
Foundation English Student of the Year – Kimberley Mainprize





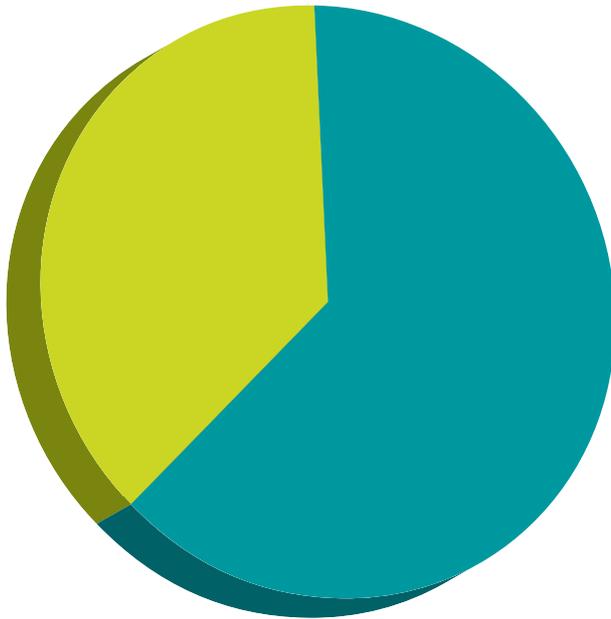
Staff Analysis

Staff Roles



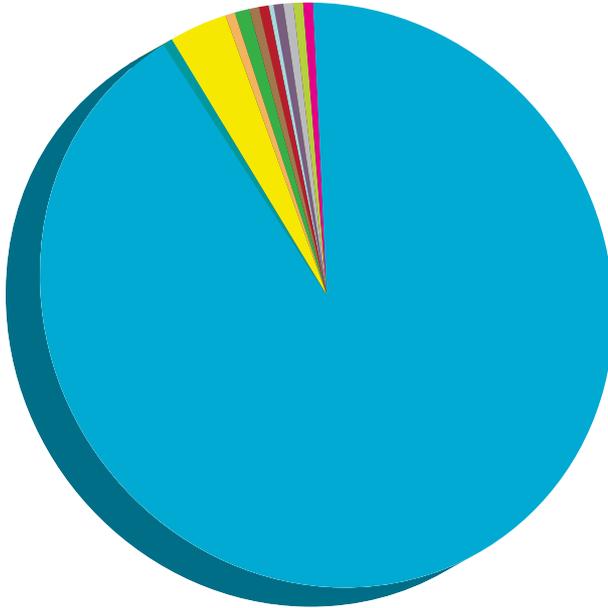
Directorate	%
14-19 Vocational	12.5
16-19 A Level	22
Employer Engagement	15.7
Finance	5
Life Long Learning & HE	3.3
QA & Support	22
Resources	18.4
SMT	1.1
Total	100

Gender



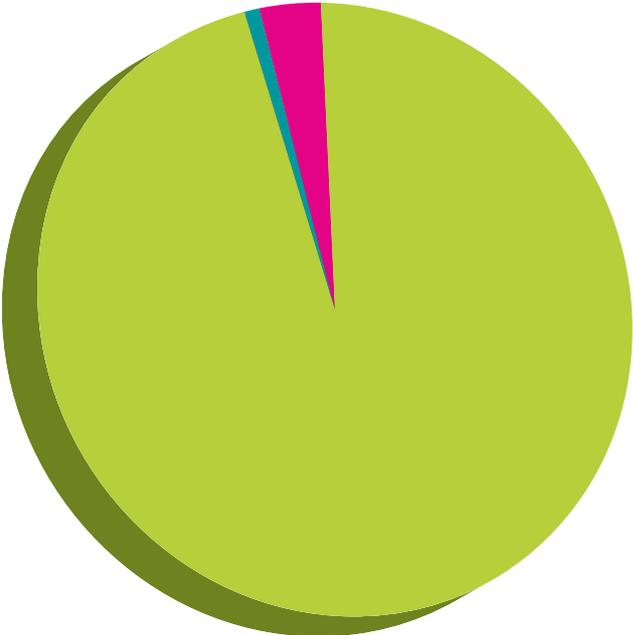
	%
Males	37.1
Females	62.9
Total	100

Ethnicity



	%
White - British	93.2
White - Irish	0.6
White - Any Other	3.4
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	<0.1
Asian / Asian British - Indian	1.0
Asian / Asian British - Pakistani	<0.1
Asian / Asian British - Chinese	0.3
Asian / Asian British - Any Other Asian Background	0.3
Black / Black British - African	<0.1
Black / Black British - Caribbean	<0.1
Any Other	0.3
Not Known	<0.1
Total	100.0

Disabilities



	%
No	96.1
Not Provided	0.8
Yes	3.1
Total	100.0

Equality & Diversity

This information can be made available in alternative formats. Please ring 01904 770400.

Disability Commitment

York College is committed to ensuring that disabled people, including those with learning difficulties, can access, participate and succeed in their learning.

We will make all reasonable adjustments to ensure that disabled people are not substantially disadvantaged.

Equality and Diversity Statement

'York College is committed to equality of opportunity. The aim is to create an environment in which people treat each other with mutual respect, regardless of: age, disability, family responsibility, marital status, race, colour, ethnicity, nationality, religion or belief, gender, gender identity, transgender, sexual orientation, trade union activity or unrelated criminal convictions.'

Safeguarding Statement

'The safeguarding of young people and vulnerable adults is fully embraced by all York College staff and underpins the College's values.'

Values

As a way of fostering learning, York College values:

- All our students and their individual achievements
- The commitment and professionalism of our staff
- The highest standards in all that we do
- Working together to meet the needs of our college and the wider community
- Effective, efficient and appropriate use of resources
- Respect, equality and honesty.



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