



# Annual Report 2015-16



# Mission, Vision and Core Values

## Mission

Derwentside College provides high quality education and training that focuses on developing the knowledge, skills and qualities needed by our learners to progress into sustained employment and build successful careers.

## Vision

**Derwentside College aims to be:**

- the best college in the country at supporting learners into sustained employment and in building successful careers.
- renowned for our excellent relationships with employers and partners.
- recognised as delivering innovative and excellent teaching, learning and assessment.

## Core Values

Excellence

Accountability

Partnership

Employability



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## **Derwentside College works in partnership with the following Learning Providers:**

AWITT  
Brenikov Training  
Consett YMCA  
Group Horizon  
KF Training  
Learning 4 Ever  
NAC Group  
Learning for Life  
TTE Technical Training  
Vision Training North East



# Chairman's Welcome



**As the Chair of Derwentside College I am proud to report that we have had another fantastic year of success and achievements.**

We have developed further our strategy to offer the best opportunities for our students to reach their full potential. This has been done by placing great emphasis on employability and the delivery of an excellent educational experience for our learners.

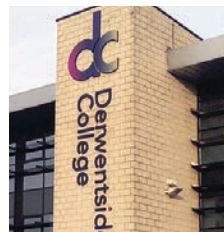
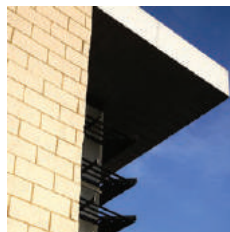
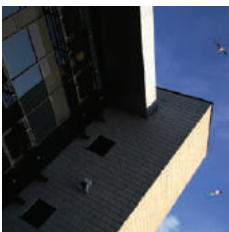
We have continued to build on our outstanding success in growing apprenticeships, with significant support from local and national industry and I'm delighted to report the College is one of the largest providers of Apprenticeships in the country.

However, our emphasis on apprenticeships has not interfered with our role of providing classroom qualifications. Indeed, in 2015-16, we have improved our position once again. This has been due to the immense amount of hard work from all of our staff; Teaching, Support and Management. They have been outstanding in their commitment and enthusiasm for the success of our students.

I would like to thank the Principal and Senior Management Team for their leadership to ensure the continued success of the College.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking my Board Colleagues for their time, enthusiasm and commitment to ensuring Derwentside College remains a leader in education provision for our community and beyond.

**Tony Edwards**  
Chair of the Board





# Principal's Statement



**As Principal and Chief Executive of Derwentside College, it is a pleasure to present our 2015-16 Annual Report. This has been another successful year and I am proud of the students and staff for their continued hard work.**

As demonstrated by our mission and vision, we are relentless in our focus on developing the employability of our learners as well as our services to employers. We are one of the largest and most successful apprenticeship providers in the country and in 2015-16, we had 6,205 apprentices and worked with 1,193 employers. Whilst many of our learners are located in County Durham, we also deliver apprenticeships across Tyne and Wear, Northumberland, Tees Valley and Yorkshire and Humber.

We continue to perform well financially, despite significant funding cuts across the sector and in 2015-16 we returned another healthy surplus.

Success rates on our classroom-based courses continue to be very high, placing us again in the top 10% of all colleges. Our apprenticeship success rates are also well above the national rates and in some areas significantly so. In April 2016, we had a very successful Ofsted inspection in which Ofsted once again judged the College to be Good overall.

I am pleased to report that, according to the government's latest published statistics, the College has the highest percentage of young people with sustained progression into education, training or employment in the North East region. Furthermore, we also have the highest percentage of young people progressing into apprenticeships in the country.

Throughout 2015-16, we continued to build on our outstanding partnership with Jobcentre Plus in continually aligning our programmes to local job vacancy trends. The building of our new construction facility is one such example. Now one year on from opening the doors to our new centre, over 300 learners have benefitted from this provision.

I would like to thank the College's staff and the staff of our strategic partners for their unwavering dedication to helping our learners achieve truly amazing outcomes. I would also like to thank College Board Members for their on-going dedication and their invaluable support.

*K Redhead*

**Karen Redhead**  
Principal and  
Chief Executive



# Success Stories

Derwentside College has an innovative approach to employer engagement which has led to the development of significant growth in apprenticeships. The College is one of the largest and most successful providers of apprenticeships in the Country and in 2015-16, the College worked with 1,193 employers and had 6,205 apprentices.

## College and NHS Partnerships



The College's excellent and well-established partnership with County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust continues to go from strength to strength. To date 350 apprentices have been trained in a diverse range of areas, and over 100 brand new jobs have been created for young people aged 16-24.

As a result of this success, this has led to the growth of further NHS Trust Partnerships with the College now working with further NHS Foundation Trusts across the region. This will see many more existing staff upskilling through apprenticeships as well as the creation of new jobs.



Stephanie Nicholson, Business Development Co-ordinator with Apprentices from Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals Trust.



Susan Errington, Executive Director of Business Development (centre) with staff from Derwentside College and County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust, with a new intake of Apprentices for Clinical Healthcare and Administration.



## New Minister of State for Apprenticeships and Skills visits Derwentside College

We were delighted to receive a visit from the new minister for apprenticeships and skills, Robert Halfon MP.

Taking time out of his busy schedule to do a whistle-stop tour of the North East and speak to some of the region's largest employers at the forefront of the Apprenticeship agenda, Robert, said: "It's been a fantastic opportunity to visit Derwentside College. I've met so many inspiring students and apprentices who are working hard to achieve their goals."

"It's been particularly interesting to see all of the work Derwentside College has been doing to help those who are looking for work and their commitment to ensuring apprenticeships are the real ladders of opportunities they can be."

Robert Halfon concluded his visit by saying "Every town should have a Derwentside College."



## Ofsted - April 2016

Derwentside College is relentless in its approach to improving learner outcomes and attaining very high standards of training. Achievement rates on our courses have been high for many years, placing the College firmly amongst the top colleges in the country. In April 2016, the College had a very successful Ofsted inspection. Ofsted once again judged the College to be Good overall with exceptional strengths including:

- The College has successfully implemented an ambitious strategy to be a major provider of apprenticeships;
- Very effective partnerships with employers results in high achievement rates for learners and apprentices;
- High quality teaching, learning and assessment helps learners to achieve their goals;
- Apprentices develop very good work-related skills and knowledge which employers value greatly.



## Working in Partnership with Durham County Council

A successful partnership between Derwentside College and Durham County Council has enabled 40 members of the Council's staff from the Regeneration and Economic Development Service to gain an invaluable range of skills in the area of leadership and management.

**Andy Palmer**, Head of Strategic, Programmes and Performance at Durham County Council, said: "Our partnership with Derwentside College is vital as it has enabled our staff to access a wide range of academic qualifications in Management and Business Administration."

**Peter Brockman**, Senior Resources & Development Officer, for Regeneration and Economic Development, added: "In my role it can sometimes be frustrating finding the right training & development opportunities for staff, but over the last 2 years we have been fortunate to build a fantastic working relationship with Derwentside College. This successful partnership has enabled our staff to continue with their professional development but also significantly improve their employability skills at the same time."



**Susan Errington**, Executive Director of Business Development at Derwentside College, said: "We want to ensure our learners have access to outstanding opportunities to secure employment and maximise their career potential. We are delighted that this successful partnership with Durham County Council is providing their staff with the qualifications and experience they need."



## Changing Learners' Lives

We have numerous success stories of how we change learners' lives on an almost daily basis. Below is just a small selection.

### Jodie Proctor

Jodie Proctor never really enjoyed her time at school and spent her whole life feeling stupid. After attending an open event at the College in 2012, Jodie was quickly diagnosed with Dyslexia and from here her learning journey began, with Jodie receiving significant support with her studies. In Summer 2016, Jodie received the news she'd been waiting for when she received a first class Honours Degree from Northumbria University.



### Alyson Thompson



Alyson Thompson recently received an award for Personal Achievement in Business Administration. Following the completion of her Apprenticeship, Alyson has now progressed from Branch Administrator for the Countrywide Care Home Group to National Training Manager. Alyson is now studying for a Higher Apprenticeship in Management and Leadership.

## Apprenticeship Success

Twins, Stuart and James Parkin began their engineering apprenticeship training with the College some 15 years ago, before quickly climbing the career ladder at Hiatco in Stanley. In October, the brothers took over at the helm, being offered joint Director Roles. Stuart said: "It just shows that apprenticeships can lead to great things, I never thought when I joined the business that one day I'd end up running it".



Stuart and James 15 years ago



Present Day and now Joint Directors

## Our Partnership with Sterling Pharma Solutions

Occupying a site near Cramlington, in Northumberland, Sterling Pharma Solutions is one of the employers that's been making a real impression on the North East's regeneration and drive for success. The company has a culture of actively developing the skills and knowledge of their workforce, and in recent years they have progressed this commitment through the apprenticeship route.

Working in partnership with Derwentside College, Sterling has 80 intermediate, advanced and higher apprentices in various areas across the plant who have recently achieved or who are currently undertaking their apprenticeship.



**Manager of the Pilot Plant, Steve Slater,** explains: "The Pilot Plant is where we employ Technicians who have progressed from Operator level - it's their first step into being self-supervising, so we need to support them with training and development. They learn as they work, with assessors from the College supporting them as they progress. We have tried various providers for our apprenticeships, but the service we get from Derwentside College is second to none. Their assessors are as committed to the success of our apprentices as we are and the support service is excellent."



**Kevin Cook, CEO** at Sterling Pharma Solutions added, "We look forward to working with Derwentside College in the future to continue to help our staff achieve their goals."

# Financial Performance

In 2015-16, the College generated a cash surplus (EBITDA) of £554,000 and invested £346,000 in capital projects



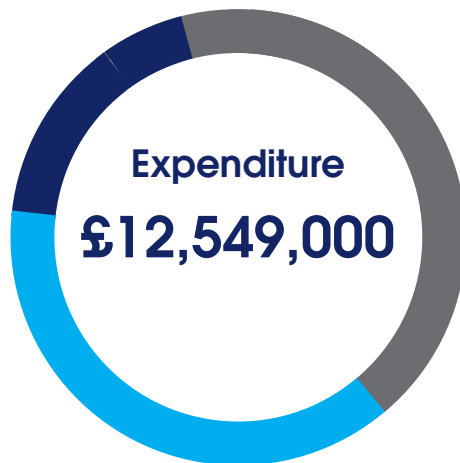
**Income**  
**£13,049,000**

● Funding body grants	£12,613,000
● Tuition fees and education contracts	£293,000
● Other income	£143,000

● SFA Income	£9,384,000
● EFA Income	£3,010,000
● Other funding	£153,000
● Deferred capital grants	£66,000



**Funding Body Grants**  
**£12,613,000**



**Expenditure**  
**£12,549,000**

● Staff costs	£5,145,000
● Operating expenditure	£2,370,000
● Payments to sub-contracting partners	£5,034,000

● Depreciation	£404,000
● Pension adjustments	£225,000

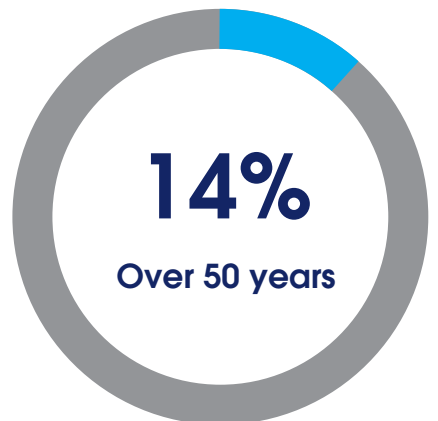
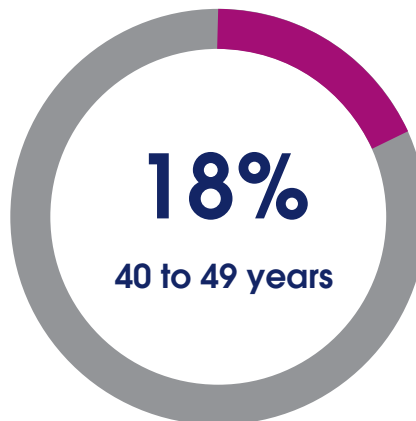
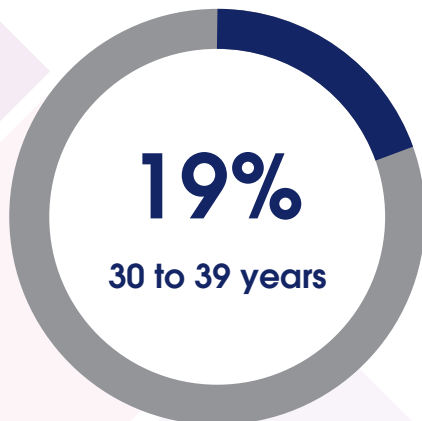
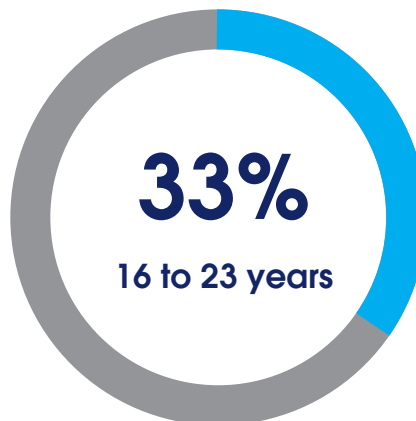
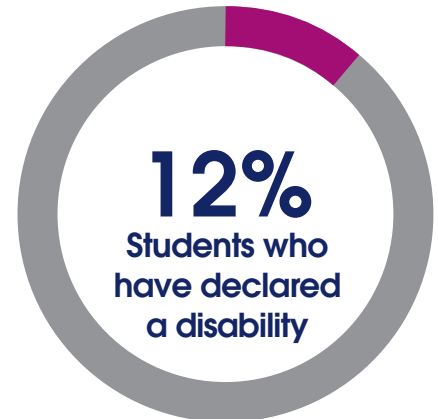
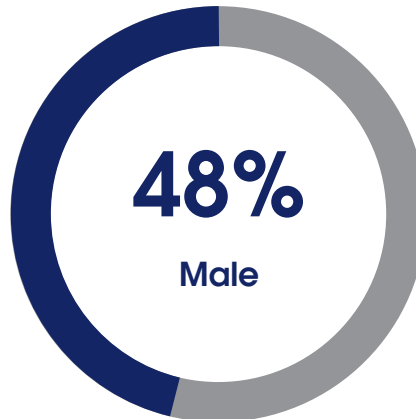
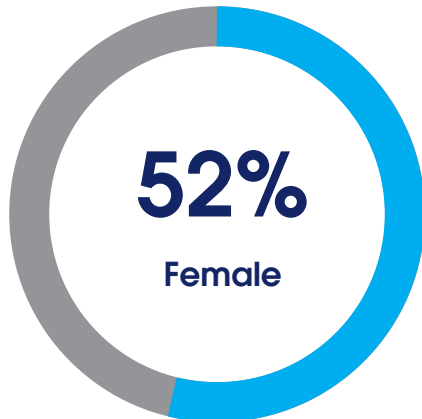


**Other Cash Expenditure**  
**£629,000**



# Our Students

In 2015-16, we had **8,673** students



# Our Students

## A selection of successes in 2015-16



Ryan Hall, our Student of the Year 2016, has been nominated as a finalist for the Inter Continental Hotel Group European Star Awards and is off to Berlin.



We have the highest percentage of young people progressing into apprenticeships in the Country for the third year in a row. \*



We have the highest percentage of young people with sustained progression into education, training or employment in the North East region for the third year. \*

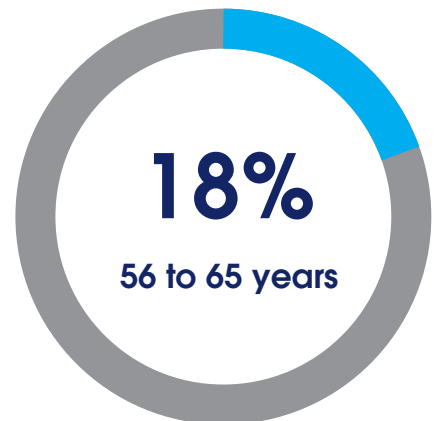
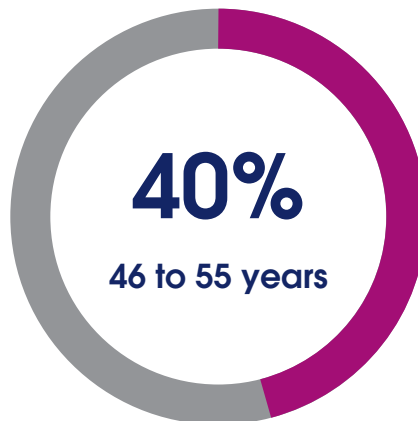
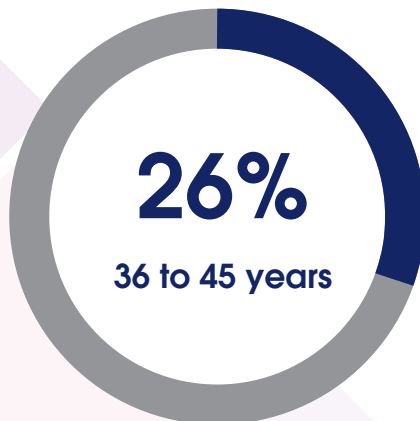
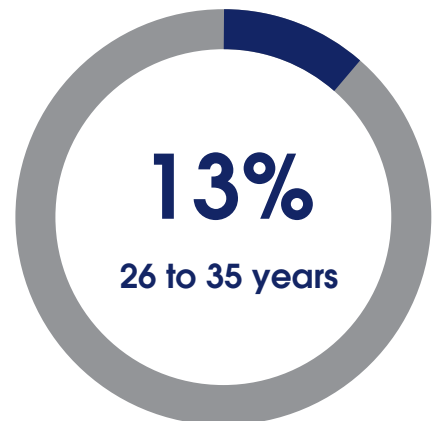
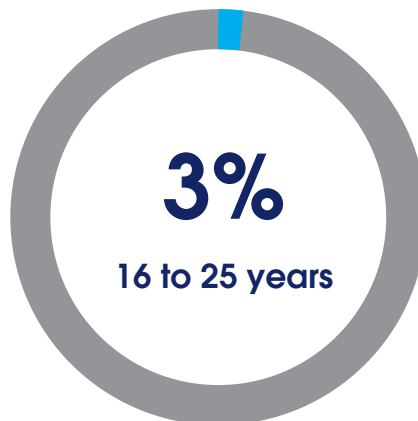
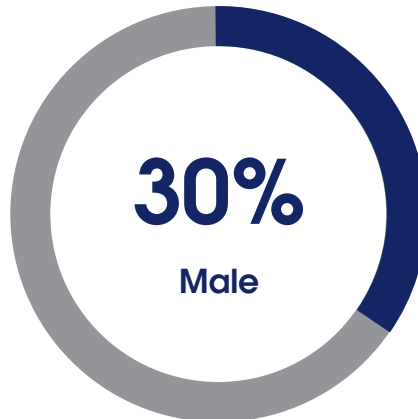
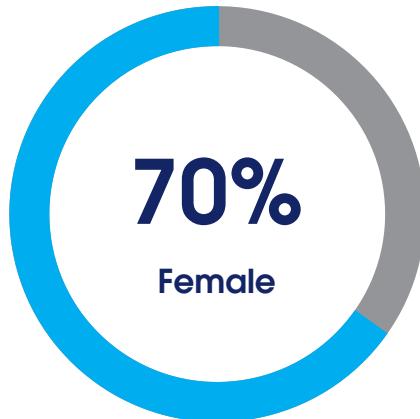


In 2015-16, success rates for classroom learning were in the top 10 percent of all Colleges in the Country. We have maintained this strong position for many years.



# Our Staff

In 2015-16, we employed **158** staff





# Achievement Awards 2016

Derwentside College's Annual Achievement Awards ceremony was held in November 2016. The evening was attended by over 300 guests from across the region, with 22 students receiving special awards for academic excellence and personal endeavour. Guest presenters at the ceremony were Gary Philipson and Lisa Shaw, whilst Simon Weston CBE was the College's Guest of Honour.

## AWARD WINNERS



**David Clarke**

Excellence in Management and  
Leadership Higher Apprenticeship



**Julie Crawford**

Excellence in Business Administration  
Higher Apprenticeship



**Holly Elliott**

Excellence in Beauty Therapy



**James Fox**

Personal Achievement in  
Professional Cookery Apprenticeship



**Ryan Hall**

Excellence in Food and Beverage  
Service Apprenticeship



**Robyn Travers**

Personal Achievement in  
Management and Leadership  
Higher Apprenticeship



## AWARD WINNERS



**Lewis Bell**

Personal Achievement in Manufacturing



**Dempsey Dinsdale**

Personal Achievement in Construction



**Andrew Huntrod**

Excellence in Engineering Technical Support Apprenticeship



**Samantha Johnson**

Excellence in Engineering Manufacturing Apprenticeship



**Matthew Walton**

Excellence in Installing Electrotechnical Systems Apprenticeship



**Louise Batey**

Personal Achievement in Foundation Learning



**James Chappell**

Personal Achievement in Pathways Maths and English



**Kieran Creighton**

Excellence in Supported Internship Programme



**Joanne March**

Personal Achievement in Progression and Attainment



**Abbie Welsh**

Personal Achievement in Prince's Trust

## AWARD WINNERS

Care and Education



**Kelly Balfour**

Excellence in Clinical  
Healthcare Apprenticeship



**Lisa Daley**

Personal Achievement in Health  
and Social Care Apprenticeship



**Anne Davidson**

Personal Achievement in Health  
and Social Care Apprenticeship



**Yu Guo**

Excellence in Health and Social Care



**Elizabeth Lampard**

Excellence in Access to  
Higher Education



**Julie Thompson**

Personal Achievement in Care Leadership  
and Management Higher Apprenticeship

## Student of the Year Ryan Hall





# Board Members



**Tony Edwards**  
Chair of the Board



**Geoff Marshall**  
Vice-Chair



**Karen Redhead**  
Principal and Chief Executive



**John Davies**  
Independent Member



**Amanda Form**  
Learning and OD Manager  
County Durham and Darlington  
NHS Foundation Trust



**Geoff Gibson**  
Independent Member



**Geraldine Granath**  
Independent Member



**Phil Murry**  
Commercial & Finance Director  
NCFE



**Mark Short**  
Managing Director  
Dysart Group



**Malcolm Sowerby**  
Clerk to the Board



**Stephanie Nicholson**  
Staff Member



**Cathryn Richards**  
Staff Member

# College Management Team



**Karen Redhead**  
Principal and Chief Executive



**Chris Todd**  
Executive Director  
Finance and Resources



**Susan Errington**  
Executive Director  
Business Development



**Nigel Lister**  
Vice Principal  
Curriculum and Quality



**Denise Dunn**  
Assistant Principal Quality  
Improvement and Compliance



**Michael Johnson**  
Curriculum Manager  
Care and Education



**Dawn Eastham**  
Curriculum Manager  
Professional and  
Business Services



**Graham Cunningham**  
Curriculum Manager  
Engineering, Construction  
and ICT



**Kathryn Mellett**  
Curriculum Manager  
Foundation Learning and  
Learner Support



**Derek Barsby**  
Facilities Manager



**Mal Gray**  
Finance Manager



**Gary Mills**  
MIS and Funding Manager



**Lisa Waller**  
Business Development  
Manager



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