



## Corporate Social Responsibility

Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is a term used to describe when businesses look beyond their initial duty to their staff and customers (or students in the case of a college) and acknowledge that their actions have a wider impact. Undertaking a programme of CSR activities encourages businesses to operate in more sustainable, ethical, and charitable ways, enabling them to have a positive impact on the local community.

At Derwentside College we are firmly committed to our corporate social responsibility and see this as an essential part of our business. As a further education college and employer, we strive to provide social, economic, physical and cultural welfare to our local community, region and nation through various means including:

- Students – as part of the College experience, we encourage students to consider their own social responsibility through our tutorial programme which covers the British Values and prepares learners for life after College.
- Staff – we aim to create a workplace that encourages diversity and equal opportunities for all. We promote Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for all staff to encourage staff to continue to grow and develop in their careers. We carve out designated time throughout the year to allow staff the time and opportunity to complete CPD activities.
- Environment – we are committed to reducing our impact on the environment by seeking more sustainable options for everyday practices and managing our waste and energy consumption.
- Community – we play a positive role in our community through the close relationships and partnerships we have built with local schools, businesses and other institutions. These relationships enhance our offering to students by providing training opportunities, work placements and projects to maximise community engagement. Fundraising by staff and students is organised at course and College level throughout the year, supporting both local and national charities.

More information about the [College Mission, Vision and Values](#) is provided on the college website.