

Our links with employers

Ashton Sixth Form College has links with employers who contribute to the College at a strategic, operational and academic level. One of Ashton Sixth Form College's aims is to continue to develop and expand the college's profile as a local centre for higher education in the Tameside and East Manchester region that meets the needs and interests of the local community, local organisations and employers whilst focussing on areas of expertise.

We work with key organisations, employers and Higher Education institutions to build an appropriate curriculum offer that offers learners choice, flexibility and support. The national developments in college based higher education and university partnerships with colleges offer Ashton Sixth Form College the opportunity to respond to local skills needs and higher level learning for Tameside.

The college is a full and active contributor to the Tameside agenda with members of college staff being members of relevant boards and committees and attending strategic partnership events. The Chief Executive of Tameside Council is a member of the College's governing body and is the designated link to HE and Skills and as such supports the HE provision, development and events.

The College has an excellent reputation for its vocational provision in Education, Early Years and Health and Social Care and has a strong and effective relationship with these sectors. The College has built on these partnerships to respond to the demand for up-skilling within certain sectors (eg. Early Years).

Our higher education students are observed in their own work based setting. For these programmes, having appropriate work or voluntary activity in place at the beginning of the course is a condition of entry, and is detailed in our programme entry requirements.

We aim to ensure that all our learners are given the best possible opportunity of gaining, sustaining and progressing in their chosen career path. All of our Higher Education courses have built in employability skills to ensure our learners have the skills, knowledge and personal attributes to catch the eye of employers, thus making them highly employable. We are committed to ensuring that our learners understand how to be effective in the workplace and successful in their chosen career. Many of our teaching staff have strong industry backgrounds and are experts in their field. We are committed to providing relevant work related opportunities to all students. This can include:

- Opportunities to engage in personal and professional development planning.
- Opportunities to develop skills required for self-employment.
- The development of transferable skills – e.g. numeracy, literacy, communication.
- Guest lecturers who have industry expertise and a passion for sharing this.
- Matrix accredited careers service advisors are available to help learners make informed career decisions.