



PUBLIC CONSULTATION

on the proposed merger of
Northampton College and
Moulton College and the creation
of a single college group.



Northampton
College

Moulton 
COLLEGE

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS	3
FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIRS	4
LOCATIONS	5
RATIONALE FOR THE MERGER	6
THE BENEFITS OF A STRONGER COLLEGE GROUP	7
MOULTON COLLEGE	8
NORTHAMPTON COLLEGE	9
THE MERGED COLLEGE GROUP	10
PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME CHANGE	11
BENEFITS FOR ALL	12
CONSULTATION PROCESS	13
WAYS TO GET INVOLVED	14
STATUTORY NOTICE	15
PRIVACY STATEMENT	16



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This consultation seeks views on two related proposals:

- 1.** The merger of Northampton College and Moulton College through the dissolution of the Corporation of Moulton College and the transfer of its assets, rights and responsibilities to the Corporation of Northampton College.
- 2.** The proposal to rename Northampton College as Northampton and Moulton Colleges Group following the merger.

YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS

Northampton College and Moulton College are proposing to merge to form a single college group for Northamptonshire.

The proposed merger aims to create a stronger, more resilient organisation that can deliver an exceptional post-16 education and skills offer for learners, employers and communities across the county. By bringing together the complementary strengths of both colleges, we believe we can create more opportunities for learners, strengthen our response to local skills needs and increase our capacity to invest in facilities, staff and innovation.

The purpose of this document is to explain the proposed merger and provide students, apprentices, staff, employers, partner organisations and local communities with an opportunity

to give informed feedback before any final decision is made.

We welcome all views on the proposal and encourage you to take part in the consultation process outlined in this document. Every response will be carefully considered and will help shape the final proposal.

Should the merger proceed, we are committed to continuing to work closely with all stakeholders to develop a clear and ambitious vision for the future of further education and skills in Northamptonshire.

FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIRS

As Chairs of the governing bodies of Northampton College and Moulton College, we are pleased to present this public consultation document on the proposed merger between our two colleges.

Both colleges have long-standing reputations for serving learners, supporting employers and contributing to the economic success of Northamptonshire. While each institution has its own distinctive history, specialisms and identity, we share a common commitment to delivering high-quality education and training, creating opportunities for individuals and supporting local communities.

The further education landscape continues to evolve. Colleges are expected to respond to changing employer needs, support economic growth, develop higher-level skills and remain financially resilient in a challenging funding environment. We believe that exploring a merger is the right strategic step to ensure both colleges are well positioned to meet these challenges and opportunities.

This is a voluntary proposal. Both colleges are financially stable, both are rated Good by Ofsted, and both are committed to ensuring that learners remain at the heart of every decision.

The proposal is therefore focused on opportunity rather than necessity. **It is about building on success and creating a stronger future together.**

If approved, the merged organisation would educate more than 12,000 learners, employ approximately 1,300 staff and generate a combined turnover of £83 million. This scale would create one of the most influential education and skills providers in the region, enabling greater investment, stronger partnerships and improved opportunities for learners and employers.

We value the views of our stakeholders and encourage everyone with an interest in the future of further education in Northamptonshire to participate in this consultation process.

Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback.



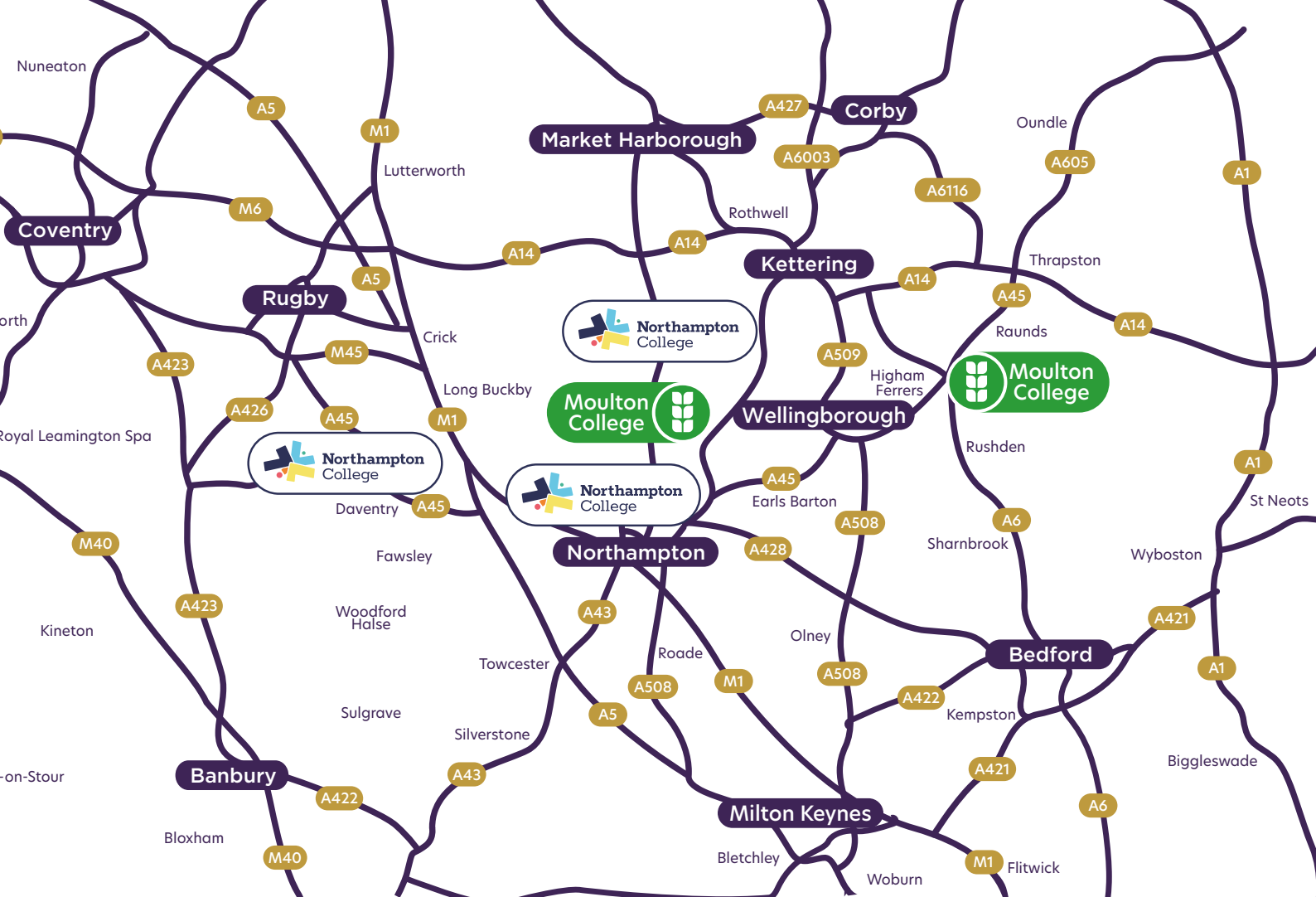
**Professor
Anne-Marie Kilday**

Chair of Governors –
Northampton College



Liz Male MBE

Chair of
Governors –
Moulton College



LOCATIONS

Moulton
COLLEGE

West Street,
Moulton,
Northants
NN3 7RR

Chelveston Road,
Higham Ferrers,
Northants
NN10 8HN



Northampton
College

Booth Lane,
Northampton
NN3 3RF

Lower Mounts,
Northampton
NN1 3DE

Daventry Campus,
Badby Road West,
Daventry
NN11 4HJ

RATIONALE FOR THE MERGER

Northampton College and Moulton College are exploring a merger to strengthen post-16 education across Northamptonshire and create a larger, more resilient college that can better serve local communities. Both colleges have a shared ambition to deliver high-quality skills training, respond effectively to employers' needs and remain financially resilient.

The two colleges offer highly complementary provision.

Northampton College has developed a broad technical, vocational and academic curriculum across a wide range of sectors, whilst Moulton College is nationally recognised for its specialist land-based, construction and sport provision.

The two colleges currently have a combined total of more than 12,000 students and approximately 1,300 staff and there is a shared belief between the senior leadership teams and governing bodies of both colleges that they are "stronger together", enabling them to provide a transformational post-16 offer for the county and communities they serve.

In recent years:

Northampton College has continued to grow substantially, has strengthened student outcomes and the quality of students' learning experience and is in a strong financial position.

Moulton College has successfully grown its student community, enhanced the quality of the student experience and continues to strengthen and stabilise its financial position, creating a platform for future development.

Both colleges have a strong track record of providing high-quality further education for Northamptonshire and, between them, offer the full range of further education curriculum needed to support the county's ongoing success.

The two colleges have been working much more closely together recently, including through shared training, student competitions, expertise-sharing and through the Futureskills local partnership with the University of Northampton.

Both organisations are considered by Ofsted to be Good.





THE BENEFITS OF A STRONGER COLLEGE GROUP

Greater resilience and investment capacity

The combined organisation would have greater financial resilience and increased capacity to invest in facilities, technology, curriculum development and student support.

Stronger alignment with employer needs

The merged organisation would be able to respond more effectively to local and regional skills priorities, supporting economic growth through closer engagement with employers and a more coordinated skills strategy across Northamptonshire.

Improved opportunities for learners

A larger group would enhance progression routes, increased curriculum choice and access to specialist facilities and expertise across multiple campuses.

Securing long-term sustainability

A larger college would be better placed to respond to funding challenges and take advantage of opportunities created by policy reform and devolution, providing a strong foundation for long-term success.

MOULTON COLLEGE



NUMBER OF
LEARNERS

4,000



NUMBER
OF STAFF

442



ANNUAL
TURNOVER

£33m



Moulton College has been at the forefront of specialist land-based education for over a century and is recognised nationally for its expertise across agriculture, animal welfare, equine studies, environmental subjects, construction and sport.

Based at its Moulton campus near Northampton, with an additional construction skills campus at Higham Ferrers, the college combines specialist facilities with a strong commitment to student experience, employability and industry engagement.

Today, Moulton College educates thousands of learners across further education, apprenticeships, higher education and adult learning programmes. The College employs approximately 442 staff and generates an annual turnover of around £33 million.

Moulton College's strengths include:

- Nationally recognised land-based provision
- Specialist construction and trade facilities
- Excellent sports education and development programmes
- Strong employer partnerships
- High-quality technical and vocational learning environments
- Extensive specialist estate and industry-standard facilities.

The College has successfully grown its learner community in recent years, strengthened the quality of the student experience and continued to improve its financial position, creating a strong platform for future development.

NORTHAMPTON COLLEGE



NUMBER OF
LEARNERS

8,000



NUMBER
OF STAFF

838



ANNUAL
TURNOVER

£50m

Northampton College is a high-performing further education college, serving around 8,000 students across its Booth Lane, Daventry and Lower Mounts campuses. It consistently delivers high levels of student achievement and progression into employment, apprenticeships and further study.

The College offers a broad range of academic, technical and vocational programmes, alongside apprenticeships, higher education and adult learning. Its curriculum is designed to support learners at every stage of their journey, equipping them with the skills, knowledge and experience needed to progress into work, further training or higher-level study.

Northampton College currently employs approximately 838 staff and has an annual turnover of around £50 million.

Northampton College's strengths include:

- A comprehensive technical and vocational curriculum
- Strong apprenticeship provision
- Established partnerships with employers across Northamptonshire
- Major investment in industry-standard facilities, including digital, construction and green skills centres.
- Clear pathways into higher education and employment.

In recent years, Northampton College has continued to grow significantly, strengthen learner outcomes and enhance the quality of education and support provided to students whilst maintaining a strong financial position.

THE MERGED COLLEGE GROUP

This merger is about building a stronger, more connected skills system for Northamptonshire, while protecting the specialist strengths that our communities value.

The proposed merger would create a college group with the scale, expertise and resources to become the leading provider of further education and skills across Northamptonshire.

The Group's guiding principle would be simple: to do the right thing for learners, staff, employers and communities while maintaining financial sustainability and delivering high-quality education and training.

Stronger Together



12,000+
LEARNERS



c.1,300
STAFF



£83m
COMBINED
TURNOVER



ONE
COORDINATED
SKILLS SYSTEM



FIVE
CAMPUSES ACROSS
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME CHANGE

As part of the proposed merger, the Corporation of Moulton College would dissolve and Northampton College would be the continuing corporation.

To reflect the merged organisation and recognise the heritage, contribution and future role of both colleges, it is proposed that Northampton College adopts a new group name following the merger.

The proposed name of the merged group is:

Northampton and Moulton Colleges Group

The merger proposal includes retaining the established and respected Northampton College and Moulton College brands.



Moulton College will remain Moulton College

The Moulton College brand, specialist land-based reputation and distinctive curriculum offer would be retained and protected within the merged college structure.



Northampton College will remain Northampton College

The Northampton College brand would continue operating under its established name and retain its strong identity within local communities.

This approach enables the group to benefit from shared leadership, resources and investment whilst maintaining the brands and specialisms that learners, employers and communities value.

BENEFITS FOR ALL

The proposed merger is designed to benefit learner, staff, employers and communities across Northamptonshire.



Impact on learners and apprentices:

- A wider curriculum offer across multiple campuses
- Increased progression opportunities from entry level through to higher education
- Greater access to specialist facilities and expertise
- Enhanced apprenticeship opportunities
- Improved learner support services
- Increased investment in learning environments and equipment
- More opportunities without having to change provider.

Impact on staff:

- A merger would bring more opportunity and long-term stability, but we recognise it also creates uncertainty for staff in the short term - and we're committed to handling that openly and fairly.
- Best practice from both colleges would be shared across the Group, raising standards in all areas
- Provide greater resilience in a tough funding landscape, supporting future opportunities to improve pay, conditions and job security

- Enhanced job progression as more roles and opportunities exist within a larger organisation
- The merged Group will prioritise the creation of a culture where staff feel valued and success is celebrated whilst respecting those features that make each campus feel unique
- Enhanced financial stability through more efficient use of resources will bring greater resilience against funding pressures.

Impact on the local community and industry:

- A larger college would deliver stronger employer and university links
- The merger would create a stronger local skills system, with a more coordinated post-16 offer across the area
- More efficient use of resources through economies of scale will allow increased investment in skills training in Northamptonshire
- The merger would increase capacity to respond to employers and partners, providing a more joined up response to their needs
- A larger institution can play a bigger role in regional growth, attracting funding and investment into the area.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The public consultation process is a critical step in the proposed merger, ensuring that stakeholders can provide feedback and express their views.

How your feedback will be used

We are committed to ensuring that this consultation is meaningful and that every response received is carefully considered.

Feedback gathered during the consultation period will help both colleges understand the views of learners, apprentices, staff, employers, community representatives and other stakeholders.

Responses will be reviewed by the senior leadership teams and governing bodies of both colleges before any final decision is made on the proposed merger.

Following the conclusion of the consultation period, all responses will be analysed and summarised in a consultation report. This report will identify key themes, areas of support, concerns raised and actions proposed in response to stakeholder feedback.

A summary of the consultation findings will be published on both colleges' websites and will be used to inform the final merger proposal presented to the Corporations of Moulton College and Northampton College.

While the consultation is not a referendum, the views expressed by stakeholders will play an important role in shaping the

final proposal and how any future college group is designed, governed and communicated.

We want this process to be open, transparent and constructive. Your feedback will help ensure that any future organisation reflects the needs and aspirations of the learners, employers and communities it will serve.

Public consultation process

10 August 2026

Public Consultation begins

14 September 2026

Consultation update

21 September 2026

Feedback submission deadline

19 October 2026

Public Consultation outcome published

1 January 2027

Date of proposed merger

All feedback received during the consultation period will be reviewed and considered by both governing bodies before any final decision is made.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

We welcome your views and want to ensure that all our stakeholders can engage with this consultation process through a range of different activities.

Staff briefings

Staff briefings will take place during the week commencing 17 August 2026, with additional drop-in sessions available throughout the consultation period.

Student briefings

Student engagement sessions will take place across all campuses during the first two weeks of the autumn term.

Public Consultation events

Details of all public consultation events are listed within the table below.

Date	Time	Location	What 3 Words
Saturday 5 September	10am - 12noon	Moulton College, Gate 1, Moulton NN3 7SY	///slate.crop.cake
Monday 7 September	5pm - 7pm	Moulton College, Gate 1, Moulton NN3 7SY	///slate.crop.cake
Tuesday 8 September	12noon - 1pm	Online webinar (recorded)	
Tuesday 8 September	5pm - 7pm	Moulton College, Chelveston Road, Higham Ferrers NN10 8HN	///skill.rocky.originate
Wednesday 9 September	5pm - 7pm	Northampton College, Booth Lane, Northampton NN3 3RF	///layers.hero.score
Thursday 10 September	5pm - 7pm	Northampton College, Daventry Campus, Badby Road West, Daventry NN11 4HJ	///transmits.paddock.seatbelt

Feedback can be given by any of the following means:

- By email to:
merger@northamptoncollege.ac.uk
- In person at one of the face-to-face meetings listed above.
- Through the online consultation form located on either college website.

- By post to:
**The Principal, Moulton College,
West Street, Moulton,
Northants NN3 7RR**
or
**The Principal,
Northampton College,
Booth Lane, Northampton NN3 3RF**

Answers to FAQs can be found at

moulton.ac.uk

northamptoncollege.ac.uk

STATUTORY NOTICE –

FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION ACT 1992

Notice is hereby given by the Corporation of Moulton College, West Street, Moulton, Northampton, NN3 7RR in accordance with The Further Education Corporations (Publication of Proposals) (England) Regulations 2012, of the proposal for the transfer of its property, rights and liabilities to the Corporation of Northampton College, Booth Lane North, Northampton, NN3 3RF and the subsequent dissolution of the Corporation of Moulton College.

Moulton College is a land based and technical college, supporting learners across vocational qualifications, apprenticeships, Higher Education, and adult part-time learning. It serves over 4,000 learners, employing 385 staff and with an annual turnover exceeding £33 million.

Dissolution of the Corporation of Moulton College is proposed in order that it may merge with Northampton College. The merger will create a strong institution delivering high-quality education and skills training for learners and employers across Northamptonshire.

The Corporation of Northampton College is separately proposing to the Secretary of State a change of name for the Corporation to be effective from 1 January 2027. The proposed name of the merged college Corporation is **Northampton and Moulton Colleges Group**.

The date proposed for the dissolution of the Corporation of Moulton College is 1 January 2027. All students at Moulton College who have not yet completed their course of study by the date of the proposed dissolution

will continue their education in the merged college on the same campus where they studied immediately prior to the dissolution of the Corporation of Moulton College. This will affect approximately 4,000 students (of which 2,600 are full-time and 1,400 are part-time): 2,500 16-18-year-olds (of which 2,300 are full-time and 200 are part-time) (FE learners) and 1,500 adults, including Higher Education (of which 300 are full-time and 1,200 are part-time).

A copy of the consultation document on this proposal is available at **www.moulton.ac.uk** or by writing to Executive Office, Moulton College, West Street, Moulton, Northampton, NN3 7RR.

The consultation period runs from Monday 10 August to 21 September 2026.

All responses and representations must be received by the closing date through

- Completing the online response form
- Emailing: merger@northamptoncollege.ac.uk

A summary of the feedback and the outcome will be published by 19 October 2026 on the Moulton College and Northampton College websites. [This will include answers to any key questions or queries raised.] A copy of the document will be available free of charge to any person who requests it.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Any personal information you provide to Northampton College and Moulton College as part of the consultation process will only be used for the purposes of acknowledging your participation and/or responding to any queries you submit at your request.

Personal information will not be published as part of the outcome of the consultation, only anonymous comments and responses will be made public. Any personal information you provide will be kept for six months and then destroyed in a secure manner.

You retain the following rights:

- The right to access your personal information, using either college's Subject Access Request process
- The right to have inaccurate personal information changed
- The right to restrict the processing of your personal information
- The right to object to the processing of your personal information
- The right to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office in relation to how Northampton College and Moulton College have processed your data. You can do this by visiting **www.ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint**



Northampton
College,
Booth Lane,
Northampton
NN3 3RF



Moulton College,
West Street,
Moulton,
Northants
NN3 7RR

Email: merger@northamptoncollege.ac.uk