



**MOULTON COLLEGE  
ACCOUNTABILITY AGREEMENT  
2026/27**

# 1.0 OUR PURPOSE AND STRATEGIC PLAN

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Moulton College is a specialist land-based and technical college serving Northamptonshire and the wider South East Midlands region. The College exists to develop the skills, knowledge and behaviours that enable learners to succeed in employment, higher education and life while contributing to economic growth and community prosperity.

The College's curriculum intent is to deliver high-quality technical and professional education that responds directly to employer need and supports local, regional and national priorities. This aligns with government priorities outlined through Skills England, the Industrial Strategy and regional skills plans.

Moulton College continues to position itself as a leading provider of:

- Land-based education
- Agriculture and Agri-tech
- Construction and Green Skills
- Animal, Equine and Environmental sciences
- Sport and Public Services
- Apprenticeships and workforce development
- Higher technical education
- Adult and lifelong learning



# 1.0 OUR PURPOSE AND STRATEGIC PLAN

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The College strategic priorities are:

1. Skills Excellence – delivering high-quality education and improving learner outcomes.
2. Employer Partnerships – co-designing curriculum with industry.
3. Green Growth and Sustainability – supporting net zero and environmental innovation.
4. Student Experience and Inclusion – ensuring personalised support and progression.
5. Financial Sustainability and Growth – strengthening resilience and investment capacity.
6. Innovation and Digital Transformation – embedding technology and future skills.

This Accountability Agreement aligns Moulton College strategic priorities with:

- South East Midlands Local Skills Improvement Plan
- West Northamptonshire Economic Growth Strategy
- Skills England priorities
- Modern Industrial Strategy
- National priorities for technical education and productivity

## 2.0 OUR COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

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Moulton College serves Northamptonshire and neighbouring areas across the South East Midlands.

The College operates within a predominantly mixed urban and rural economy characterised by:

- Growing logistics and advanced manufacturing sectors
- Significant agricultural and land-based industries
- Rapid housing and infrastructure growth
- Green technology and environmental opportunities
- Increasing demand for digital capability
- Health and care workforce shortages
- Skills shortages in construction and engineering

The College estate and specialist facilities include:

- Commercial farm and agricultural estate
- Animal centres
- Equine facilities
- Construction and engineering workshops
- Environmental and countryside facilities
- Sports and specialist laboratories
- Residential provision

The College plays a critical role in supporting rural communities and ensuring access to specialist technical education.

## 2.0 OUR COLLEGE AND THE COMMUNITIES WE SERVE

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### Scale of provision

Moulton College delivers provision from entry level through to degree-level study including:

- Full-time 16–19 study programmes
- Apprenticeships
- Adult education
- Higher education
- Workforce development
- Skills Bootcamps
- Short courses
- SEND and supported learning programmes

Provision spans:

- Agriculture
- Construction
- Animal management
- Equine
- Sport
- Engineering
- Business
- Food and Bakery
- Environmental studies
- Digital
- Public Services

## 3.0 APPROACH TO DEVELOPING THIS ACCOUNTABILITY AGREEMENT

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The Accountability Agreement has been developed through:

- Employer engagement activities
- Curriculum planning processes
- Local Skills Improvement Plan consultation
- Labour market intelligence
- Futureskills Northamptonshire collaboration
- Employer advisory boards
- Local authority engagement
- University and partnership discussions
- FE Provider Dashboard performance data

Key stakeholders consulted include:

- Northamptonshire Chamber
- West Northamptonshire Council
- North Northamptonshire Council
- University of Northampton
- Northampton College
- Landex
- Sustainable Farm Network
- Employers across priority sectors
- Public sector partners

The College actively collaborates to reduce unnecessary duplication and strengthen progression pathways.

## 4.0 BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC PROFILE

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The South East Midlands economy is characterised by:

Growth sectors

- Construction and infrastructure
- Logistics and transport
- Advanced manufacturing
- Health and social care
- Engineering
- Digital technologies
- Professional services
- Green industries
- Land-based industries

Employer consultation identified recurring themes:

Employer challenges

- Recruitment difficulties
- Leadership and management capability gaps
- Green skills shortages
- Digital capability needs
- Workforce ageing
- Skills mismatch
- Apprenticeship awareness barriers
- Demand for flexible training

Cross-cutting themes identified through the LSIP include:

- Sustainability
- AI and digital literacy
- Employability
- Communication skills
- Leadership
- Workforce productivity

## 5.0 CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

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### **Objective 1: Improve learner outcomes and sustain quality**

Increase learner achievement rates year-on-year, with outcomes consistently at or above national benchmarks and retention sustained above 93%.

#### **Delivery:**

- Enhanced progress monitoring
- Attendance intervention
- Curriculum quality reviews
- Strengthened learner support

### **Objective 2: Expand priority sector participation**

Increase learner participation across LSIP priority sectors.

#### **Delivery:**

- Curriculum growth planning
- Employer co-design
- Apprenticeship expansion
- Skills Bootcamp development

### **Objective 3: Grow green skills and sustainability provision**

Increase participation in green and low-carbon programmes by 10%.

#### **Delivery:**

- Green Skills Centre development
- Renewable technologies
- Sustainability embedded across curriculum
- Employer partnerships

## 5.0 CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

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### **Objective 4: Strengthen land-based and Agri-tech skills**

Increase learner participation and employer projects within:

- Regenerative agriculture
- Precision farming
- Environmental management
- Agri-tech innovation

Delivery:

- Industry partnerships
- Sustainable farm network
- Live research projects
- Employer-led curriculum design

### **Objective 5: Construction and retrofit skills growth**

Increase participation and progression in construction and retrofit programmes by 5%.

Delivery:

- Retrofit programmes
- Apprenticeships
- Employer placements
- Green construction technologies

# 5.0 CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

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## Objective 6: Improve digital capability

Ensure all learners access digital skill development opportunities.

Delivery:

- AI literacy
- VR and immersive learning
- Digital capability frameworks
- Staff development

## Objective 7: Employer engagement and partnerships

100% of curriculum areas to engage employers in co-design activity.

Delivery:

- Industry Skills Boards
- Employer projects
- Placements
- Curriculum validation



## 5.0 CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL PRIORITIES

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### **Objective 8: Improve progression and inclusion**

Increase progression into employment, apprenticeships and HE.

Moulton College will use Inclusive Mainstream Funding to enhance inclusive education across all curriculum areas, ensuring learners with additional support needs can access, participate in and succeed within mainstream provision. Funding will support the development of inclusive teaching practice, specialist learning support, assistive technology, adaptive resources, early intervention and enhanced transition arrangements. Through this investment, the College will improve learner participation, retention, achievement and progression while reducing barriers to learning and supporting equitable outcomes for all students.

#### **Delivery:**

- Careers support
- Progression pathways
- Widening participation initiatives
- Enhanced employer engagement

## 6.0 LOCAL NEEDS DUTY STATEMENT

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Moulton College fulfils its Local Needs Duty through ongoing review of provision against labour market intelligence and employer demand.

This includes:

- Annual curriculum reviews
- Employer consultation
- Partnership engagement
- Analysis of destination data
- Collaboration with regional providers

Recent reviews have informed:

- Expansion of green skills provision
- Agri-tech development
- HTQ pathways
- Adult workforce provision
- Digital strategy development



## 7.0 KEY STAKEHOLDERS

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Moulton College works closely with:

- University of Northampton
- Northampton College
- West Northamptonshire Council
- North Northamptonshire Council
- Landex
- Sustainable Farm Network
- Jobcentre Plus
- Home Builders Federation
- Employer advisory boards
- Local schools
- Sector bodies

Through these partnerships the College supports regional productivity, workforce development and social mobility.



## 8.0 MEASURING IMPACT

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Progress against this agreement will be monitored through:

- Achievement rates
  - Retention
  - Progression
  - Apprenticeship outcomes
  - Employer engagement metrics
  - Learner participation
  - Destination measures
  - Stakeholder feedback
  - FE Provider Dashboard indicators
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The College Corporation will review progress annually as part of strategic planning and accountability processes.

This Accountability Agreement demonstrates Moulton College's commitment to delivering employer-led, future-focused education that directly addresses the priorities identified within the South East Midlands LSIP and contributes to economic growth, sustainability and social mobility across Northamptonshire and beyond.