



PLUMPTON
COLLEGE

ANNUAL REVIEW

2019





2019

Excellent continued progress in the consistent delivery of innovative and engaging teaching & learning across the college through outstanding development programme.



INTRODUCTION



Stan Stanier
Chair of Governors



Jeremy Kerswell
Principal

Plumpton College has continued to move forward towards its strategic aims and ambitions to be an innovative and inspirational college. Whilst the financial climate both in our education and commercial operations has proved challenging this year, the college has demonstrated its resilience in still being able to report a modest surplus.

Throughout the year we have continued to deliver high quality learning and teaching and the best possible experience for our students. Our continuous professional development programmes help ensure all staff develop relevant skills and make use of these to their full potential.

Highlights for the year include:

- The continued development of our new “One Garden Brighton” campus and visitor destination at Stanmer Park which, when complete, will provide excellent facilities for our students and a fantastic show-case for our work and produce for the public.
- Our partnership with the Royal Agricultural University continues to develop with the RAU now validating all Plumpton College degree courses and further research and teaching collaborations being planned.
- We were delighted to be awarded an AoC Beacon Award for the “Effective use of technology in further education”. This recognised some highly innovative virtual reality work undertaken as part of the Education & Training Foundation’s Outstanding Teaching Learning & Assessment programme.
- We have also continued to innovate in ways to engage secondary school pupils and help them better understand the land-based sector and the opportunities that lie within it. Of particular note was the running of our own Big Bang STEM event designed to show how STEM and land-based subject areas can be both highly interesting and challenging.

Finally, we are very grateful to colleagues from the FE Commissioner’s office who ran a diagnostic assessment of the college resulting in both a very positive outcome and some very valuable recommendations for which an action plan is in place and now being implemented.

OUR MISSION, VISION & VALUES



OUR VISION

To be an innovative and inspirational College delivering excellent education, training and research that enables our students and employers to play a leading role in future industry growth and development.

OUR MISSION

To consistently provide high quality training and education in a safe and welcoming environment that enables our students and employers to be successful.

OUR VALUES

Ambitious and progressive

Enterprising

Professional

Supportive

Passionate about everything we do



Adopted the **GREATEST NUMBER** of new employer-led qualifications for full time students and apprentices across any other land based provider in the South of England over the past year.



Excellent progress
in the provision of
inspirational and
professional learning
environments across
the wider college
estate.



Student satisfaction
overall increase
for our FE students,

100%

of questions asked scored
higher than the previous
year, with over

90%

for our HE students.



£3,500

donated to charity on the
Annual Raising & Giving Day
run by Students.

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

£1¼ Million pounds

Invested per year into estate capital and
development works.



5% increase in
achievement
rates across
all subjects.

Maintained very
high destination
rates into
employment.



90%

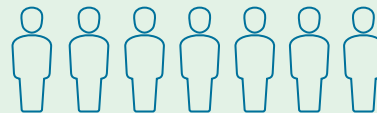


94%

of graded lesson
observations were judged to
be good or outstanding.

Graded Ofsted **OUTSTANDING** residential inspection.

1000



local secondary school pupils attend the first land-based
Big Bang STEM event hosted and run by Plumpton College.

STRATEGY & AIMS

- 01 To provide an innovative and inspiring learning experience enabling everyone to fulfil their potential
- 02 To offer a dynamic curriculum that attracts students, enhances personal development and supports the future growth of the industries we serve
- 03 To develop sustainable and enterprising relationships with employers, schools and key partners to enhance student experience, prospects and sector business.



Higher Education

The year has seen the first cohort of Foundation and Honours degree students taught with our new HE partner, the Royal Agricultural University, with a pipeline of ongoing curriculum development planned, starting with Vet Nursing in September 2019.

School Liaison

The college continues to engage extensively with schools across the South East, and its adoption of STEM practices to showcase the future of the industry was recognised with a gold award at the South of England Show and with nearly 1000 pupils attending Plumpton's own Big Bang event. These approaches undoubtedly play a significant role in positively influencing the college's profile amongst prospective students and resulted in our attracting more applicants to study at Plumpton than ever before (both 16-18 and adults).





Increasing engagement with schools and local community to raise college profile.

Partnerships

The college's strategic work with employer partners has resulted in both the National Trust and RHS now selecting Plumpton College as their national training provider for apprentices.

This follows the successful partnership developed a year ago with Tesco Booker whose first national cohort of butchers and fishmongers started on program this year.

The College attaches much importance to maintaining and developing close and positive relationships with both internal (staff and students) and external stakeholders, (employers and Local Enterprise Partnerships, local authorities and communities, voluntary bodies, schools, universities, and other Colleges).

Our relationship with the local community continues to provide rich opportunities for students to engage in a range of community projects, from designing and building gardens for a local hospice to the construction of a WW2 Commemorative bench for the local village.

04

To provide inspirational learning spaces and state of the art facilities which showcase best practice, embrace technological advances and maximise student progress

05

To manage resources efficiently and commercially to be ever-more resilient and sustainable

06

To attract, retain and develop an ambitious, high performing and professional workforce committed to delivering excellence to all.



FINANCIAL RESULTS 2019

After a disappointing financial outturn from the year previous, the college has managed to deliver an operating surplus for the year. In doing so, financial controls have improved, reporting of risk continues to improve and a more conservative approach to budget setting taken after two years of considerable growth.

Despite student residence not being full during term time, the college continues to be able to maximize its revenue generation during holiday periods. For a second consecutive year, the college farm also secured an operating surplus alongside providing ever better educational facilities for students.

The college continues to invest over a quarter of a million pounds per year into estate capital and development works, and has taken a more

strategic approach to the use of its outcentres, with Netherfield making excellent progress in terms of student experience whilst the decision has been taken to close the Flimwell Centre.

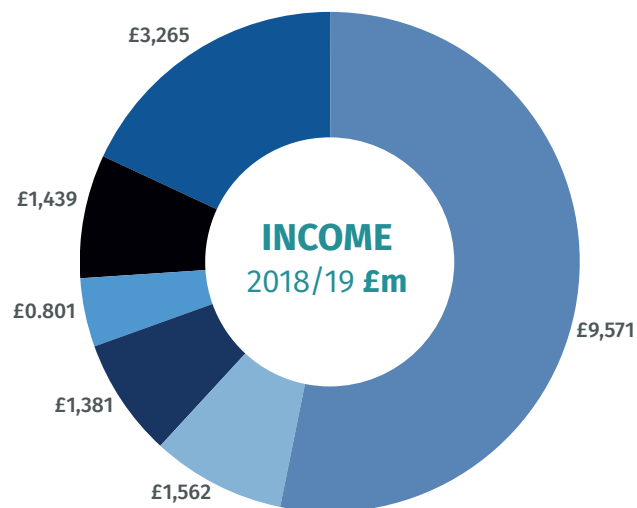
The project at Stanmer Park has made excellent progress, with building work now underway ready for a summer 2020 opening, and a new brand for the garden (One Garden Brighton) being developed and a subsidiary company established.

£827k of bursary and transport support to enable students to study at Plumpton.

(data sourced from annual report; TB college subsidy to bus contract and bursary spend)

The College has an operating surplus of £60k before FRS102 pension liabilities.

(data sourced from annual report; SOCI adjusted operating surplus)



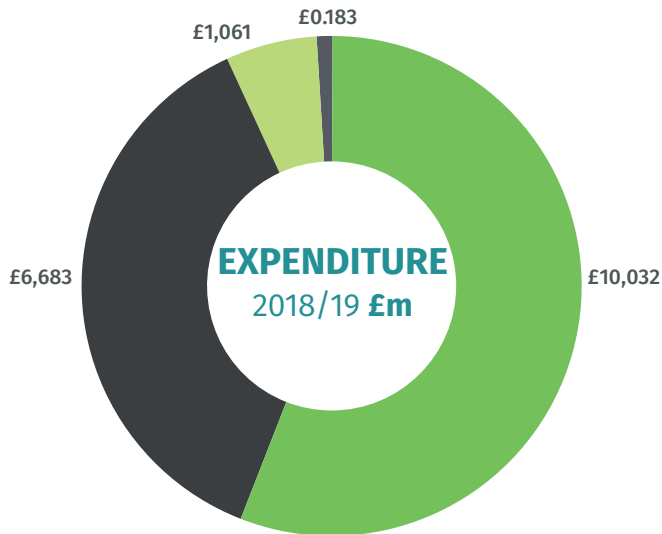
Total Income £18,019m

- Study programmes and apprenticeships
- Adult education
- Higher education
- Grants
- Farming activities
- Income generating activities

£5m of commercial and other income generated.

(data sourced from annual report; SOCI other income)

The college was also successful in bidding for Local Growth funds from the South East LEP to support the future development of the site. The Agri-Food project will deliver state of the art teaching and conferencing facilities, substantial technology incorporated into the college farm and essential infrastructure works, which will comprise the first major capital project at the site since 2012.



Total Expenditure **£17,959m**

- Staff costs (excluding FRS102 pension)*
- Operating expenses
- Depreciation
- Finance costs

* SOCI staff costs plus fundamental restructuring costs less FRS102 adjustment



HIGHLIGHTS

Students at Plumpton not only receive the best educational experience on their programme of study, but have the opportunity to be ambassadors for their course and industry across the country. Here are a few of their recent successes and achievements from this year.

SPORT

Plumpton College
Launches Football
Academy with
Lewes FC.



TECHNOLOGY AND TEACHING

James Maltby, Learning Technology Manager awarded one of only three Technical Teaching Fellowships from the Education and Training Foundation (ETF) in partnership with the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851. Technical Teaching Fellows are all expected to share their learning and expertise across the sector as part of the award.



AGRICULTURE

Countryfile Visits Plumpton: Adam Henson joined Agriculture students to look at how technology is used in teaching.



AGRICULTURE & FOOD

Rosie Masters, a butchery apprentice with Lydd Butchers was named Best New Apprentice, at the Institute of Meat (IoM) and Worshipful Company of Butchers Annual Prize-giving, held at Painters' Hall in London, on 21st February. Her prize was awarded by HRH The Princess Royal.



HORTICULTURE

Plumpton College Garden Design students were delighted to take part in RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The students helped with the 'planting a sculpture' exhibition and took home the gold award.



WINE

First Viti-Culture show hosted at Plumpton College for the UK Viticulture industry.





FOUNDATION LEARNING

Foundation Learning students attended the Jim Green Challenge which is held annually at the South of England showground, Ardingly. The students won 1st prize in two categories, with their scarecrow and prepare a flower bed for planting.

FORESTRY & ARBORICULTURE

Forestry & Arb Level 3 Forestry & Arboriculture students competed in the annual 3ATC Southern College Climbing competition run by the Arb Association winning both 1st and 2nd place.



APPRENTICESHIPS

National Apprenticeship Programmes Launched with Tesco Booker, RHS and National Trust.



Continued significant growth in apprenticeship provision placing the college as a regional lead in the delivery of a number of new trailblazer standards.



College values are successfully embedded into all aspects of staff and student experience.



PLUMPTON

COLLEGE

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