

Here is the latest news from Derby College Group (DCG)

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Mandie Stravino
Chief Executive

I am delighted to welcome you to the new academic year at Derby College Group.

It has been a busy summer at Derby College Group enrolling new students online and preparing for the new academic year ahead.

As the new academic year begins, I thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to move fluidly, and adapt to constantly changing circumstances, government guidance and scientific advice.

These first weeks of term are classed as an induction period for students. Your child will have received an introduction to their study programme, been given access to an online student handbook, their own Derby College email address and access to our online learning space, Moodle. They will also have been allocated a personal coach who will work with them throughout their time at College and help ensure they achieve a positive destination after their study programme.

I am as frustrated as many of you will be, about the impact that some of the COVID avoidance requirements are having on our students however, my main concern must remain the health of our students and mitigating the risk of further disruption to our students' education. To this end, some difficult decisions have had to be made; I am personally responsible for imposing the strict bubbling system, which reflects the SAGE advice on segmenting, which states that 'segmenting of student/staff populations (e.g. by course, year group, site, etc) should be designed to support easier detection of linked cases and, if necessary, enable more targeted closure / quarantine. Segmenting will be more effective if there are fewer contacts outside the group'.

However, regardless of all the current COVID related challenges we face, it has been amazing to see students returning to our wonderful learning environments. I have had the pleasure of welcoming some of the groups and although some students were anxious about their first day, they have all been excited about returning to education and starting this new chapter of their lives.

This is such a crucial stage of their education and they have faced so many barriers and disappointments over the last few months, it is a privilege that they have chosen us as their education provider – they have trusted us with their future, at this difficult time, and I am determined that we won't let them down regardless of the restrictions this virus has forced us to impose – we owe that to these amazing students.

We hope you enjoy reading your monthly e-newsletter from Derby College Group.

Student Services at Derby College

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Current students at Derby College

[Term Dates](#)

[Parents Evening Dates](#)

Prospective students of Derby College

[DCG Virtual Open Days](#)

Student Support Fund

We are currently processing new bursary applications, it is still not too late to apply. Students who are eligible can receive financial support to help pay towards course related costs, such as equipment, trips, travel to and from College and meals while they are on a College programme. Forms and advice are available at Student Service desks on every campus.

Parent and Carer Council coming soon. . .

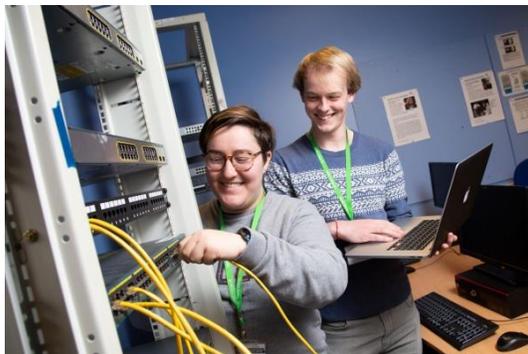
'Parental and Carer council' will provide opportunities for parents and carers to voice their ideas and opinions for improving and enhancing student progress and achievement. If you are interested in exploring this in more detail please contact Aaron Denton – Head of Behaviour for Learning aaron.denton@derby-college.ac.uk



APPRENTICESHIPS AND SKILLS MINISTER VISITS DCG

Minister for Apprenticeships and Skills Gillian Keegan MP has visited Derby College Group (DCG), which is the first FE provider in the East Midlands to launch the new T Level qualifications, to see for herself how the study programmes will develop.

The Minister met the first students enrolled on the Construction, Design, Surveying and Planning T Level programme at the Hudson Building which is part of the Roundhouse technical and professional skills college in Pride Park. Elsewhere at DCG, young people have joined the Advanced Education and Childcare; Digital Production, Design and Development – all of which are equivalent to three A-Levels. [Read the full story.](#)



DIGITAL T LEVEL STUDENTS JOIN EMPLOYER INDUCTION

The first students to enrol in the new Digital Production, Design and Development T Level at Derby College Group (DCG) have joined an extended employer induction programme at the Joseph Wright post-16 Academic and Arts college.

A wide range of employers including Rolls-Royce, RDS Global, Natwest Group, First Response Finance, Lubrizol and Atkins Global connected with nearly 100 full time Computer Science and Digital T Level and T-Connect students through virtual workshops as part of DCG's commitment to bridge the gap between education and employment. [Read the full story here.](#)



LOCAL PEOPLE GET A TASTE OF ADULT LEARNING AT ILKESTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Local people took the opportunity to book free taster sessions for the adult learning options available at Derby College Group's Community College in Ilkeston.

The open day was organised to mark the official launch of DCG's new adult and community venue and included practical sessions on a number of topics including painting and decorating, brickwork, plastering, care, mental health awareness, psychology, sociology, community

interpreting, sign language, well-being as well as creative and digital skills. [Read the full story here.](#)

It's never too late to learn

ADVANCED LEARNER LOANS

Advanced Learner Loan

If you are aged 19 or over, you could qualify for a new type of loan to help pay for your tuition fees as you prepare to head further up the career ladder.



DERBY COLLEGE GROUP PART-TIME ADULT AND COMMUNITY COURSE GUIDE

Introducing our new Part-time Adult and Community Course Guide for 2019-20. It's packed with information about the many exciting opportunities DCG can offer to help you transform your life through learning.

Study with Derby College Group (DCG) and you will join a community made for people like you...

People seeking a new job or re-skilling for a career change. Professionals from all walks of life who want to enhance their qualifications and promotion prospects.

Mature students returning to education later in life. Aspiring entrepreneurs planning to set up their own businesses. People looking for flexible, cost-effective routes to higher education.

Parents keen to help their children with their studies. People overcoming barriers and disadvantages through learning. Enthusiasts thrilled to be exploring new pastimes. People who have decided that now is the time to do something different, to build a brighter future. People just like you. We look forward to welcoming you to DCG.

[View your copy of the Course Guide.](#)

ADULT EDUCATION BUDGET (AEB) FUNDING

Tens of thousands of adults on low wages can see their training fully funded.

Free courses for individuals earning less than £16,009.50

Up until now, unemployed adults have had to have been on benefits to receive full funding for education courses.

But the radical adult education budget has opened the door to a huge number of other adults on low wages earning **less than £16,009.50**.

This news is huge for learners on English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses who typically take low-paid jobs while they upskill themselves.

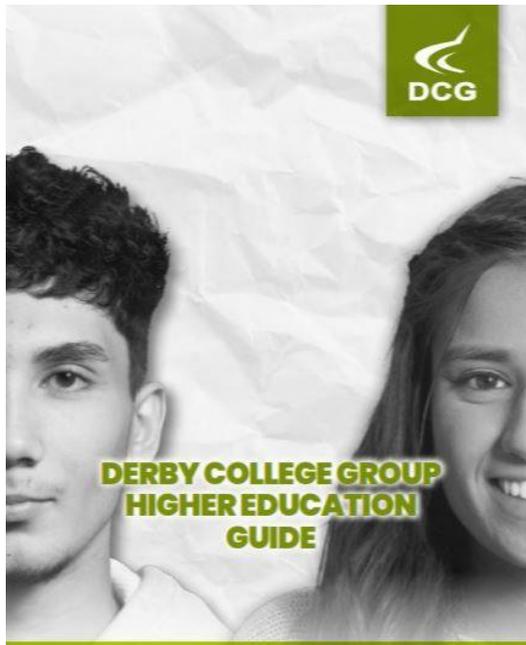
Find out more.



Do you want to improve your skills and prospects?

Do you need an up-to-date maths or English qualification on your CV? Have you been away from education for a while and are now keen to refresh your skills? Would you like to be confident in helping your children with their homework? **Then why not consider a FREE Adult Maths and English course at Derby College?**

[Read More.](#)



If university seems like a big step, then why not stay local and continue your studies at Derby College Group?

At Derby College Group we offer a wide range of HE (Higher Education) programmes that are linked to a range of universities - Derby University, Nottingham University and Sheffield Hallam, both full-time and part-time courses.

We have a designated HE centre at our Roundhouse and Broomfield Hall Colleges, and highly skilled staff who will support and develop the knowledge and skills that will equip you for your future. We also benefit from strong links with local employers that support and underpin the provision. You will also benefit from a dedicated team of HE study support coaches, and opportunities to attend and present at conferences.

5 reasons to study HE at Derby College

- Over a working lifetime, you could earn around £100,000 or more before tax
- You will benefit from higher level jobs and greater promotion prospects
- You will spend less as our fees are significantly lower than many universities
- Our class sizes are smaller than most universities, so you benefit from high quality teaching and support from your tutors
- You will have access to the College Sport and Leisure facilities

[To find out more please visit the College website, HE page.](#)

