

# WELCOME TO WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE

NCG

westlancs.ac.uk

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West Lancashire College is a thriving community-based college and home to around 2,500 learners, including young people and adults of all abilities and backgrounds. We offer programmes from entry level to degree level and every step in between, including A Levels, BTECs and apprenticeships.

We consider our college to be at the heart of West Lancashire; a welcoming, supportive, inclusive and safe place, where you can be yourself and study, work and socialise as part of our vibrant and diverse community.

We're proud to be one of seven colleges that make up NCG, one of the country's leading college groups and we're a key part of providing education and training to learners, apprentices and employers across the UK.

NCG's mission is to enable social mobility and economic prosperity through exceptional education. This mission sits at the heart of West Lancashire College and it is supported by our own vision; to be at the heart of our local community, recognised for the work we do in supporting social mobility through a skills and careers focused curriculum that connects individuals to opportunities and enables people to fulfil their potential throughout their lives.

West Lancashire College benefits from passionate and talented colleagues, who form a community committed to supporting our students to develop their skills and talents and achieve their aspirations. By joining our team, you'll be part of an organisation that works in close partnership with employers and local industry to offer education and skills training that leads to real employment opportunities for our learners and makes strong local economic impact here in the North West. Whatever your role, you'll have the chance to work collaboratively with colleagues across all seven NCG colleges and share expertise, innovate and accomplish real change for our learners and our communities.

You've already been inspired to join our team and we want you to know that you'll be valued here and supported and empowered to innovate, collaborate and excel.

Welcome to the team. We can't wait to meet you!

# WORKING AT WEST LANCASHIRE COLLEGE

As a member of the West Lancashire College community, we'll ensure you have all of the tools, resources and support you need to enable you to fulfil your role, develop your skills and pursue opportunities.

Whether you're based in our main campus in Skelmersdale, or work remotely, we want you to feel at home and part of our team.

We're passionate about professional development and we encourage you to take every opportunity. We even dedicate days throughout the year to this to ensure you have the time to upskill and develop your work interests.

We also know how important your wellbeing is and as well as offering access to wellbeing and mental health support and resources, we have regular Wellbeing Days scheduled, where you can spend time team-building, volunteering, or undertaking wellbeing activities. Our people are the heart of our organisation. By joining the West Lancashire College team, and the NCG family of colleges, you will have access to a range of benefits including:

- working at an organisation that has a clear strategy, mission and purpose.
- being part of a business that is passionate about supporting its students to succeed and supporting the North West.
- access to mental health and wellbeing support, including an Employee Assistance Programme.
- the opportunity to collaborate and work with colleagues across the country.
- generous annual leave and flexible working, alongside an enhanced sickness policy.
- cycle to work scheme and eco-friendly initiatives.



Flexible Working



Free Parking



Competitive salary



Enhanced annual leave



Government pension schemes



Cycle to work scheme

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



### **Welcome to West Lancashire College.**

I'm so pleased that you feel we are the right place for you and I hope you'll feel at home here. We are a welcoming, supportive, inclusive and successful college, where you will be valued as part of our vibrant and diverse community.

We can trace our history back to 1977, when Skelmersdale Sixth Form College was founded on Northway. Now, we offer an extensive range of vocational courses, apprenticeships and distance learning courses to learners across the region, and each year, more than 2,500 students choose us to support them as they work towards their future goals and careers.

Learners enrolling at the College develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours that they will need to successfully take their next steps, benefitting from first-class facilities, committed teachers with excellent technical expertise and opportunities to learn directly from industry experts. An important part of what we do is helping to support the local, regional and national skills agenda, working with employers, partners and local government to ensure that we offer courses and qualifications to meet the needs of young people and adults in our local communities, as well as the skills needs of our local economy. Quite simply, we develop talent for the region which also helps us to support NCG's vision – to become the UK's leading college group, recognised for its local impact, national influence and reach.

West Lancashire College has a family feel and we treat every learner, and every colleague, as a special and unique individual with the potential to realise their ambitions and progress in learning, work and life.

No matter what your role is, you will be an important part of our community and will play a significant role in helping us to deliver our strategy, especially our most important goal – supporting our students to succeed. In return, we aim to provide a rewarding and supportive environment, in which we will help you to develop and reach your full potential.

**Denise Williamson**Principal

### MEET THE TEAM

Here at West Lancashire College we have almost 200 colleagues who make up our colleague community. Each individual plays a really important and valuable role, whether they are teaching, supporting our students or helping our college to run smoothly so that our students have a great experience. You'll be part of a team who will become your support system at West Lancashire College and during your induction you'll get to know your team, the college campus and more about our structure and how we work. We're led by our Senior Leadership Team, who each look after different areas across the college and you can find out who they are below:



**Denise Williamson,** Principal



Debbie Fennell, Vice Principal



Daniel Gorman, Vice Principal



### **COLLEAGUE VIEW**

My favourite thing about working at West Lancashire college is having the opportunity to make a difference. I feel supported and I'm offered the opportunity to develop professionally.

More than anything, I'm really proud to say I work for West Lancashire College.

**Dawn Hughes,**Campaigns, Events and School Liaison Manager

### CAMPUS INFORMATION

Our campus is an open, welcoming and vibrant place to work, and is home to some fabulous buildings. We have invested over £50 million over the past few years; our university style campus was opened in Skelmersdale in 2011, with the addition of a Construction, Engineering and Logistics Centre in 2019 and we have recently opened a high-tech STEM Centre.

Our campus offers ample free parking and easy access to public transport, as well as secure cycle storage facilities.

We want to make it easy for you to work in a way that suits you, so there's always quiet space available to work in too if you need to focus. If you're part of our teaching team, you'll teach in facilities that you'll recognise from industry.

The Atrium in our main building offers a coffee shop, canteen and a range of drink and confectionery vendors. The Imagery Hair and Beauty Academy offers staff the opportunity to access professional treatments at a fraction of high street costs, and you can also enjoy free access to many of our staff fitness sessions including Bootcamps and gym sessions, as well as have access to the newly developed Tawd Valley Park directly from our grounds.

So welcome to our campus, we hope you'll love it as much as we do!



West Lancashire College

## SOME OF OUR BEST BITS

### Excellent Facilities

We pride ourselves on offering some of the best training facilities in the North West, designed to reflect real working environments found in industry. Across our campus you'll find everything from a simulated hospital ward to hi-tech sports performance lab, a 200-seat theatre to state-of-the-art laboratories and an engineering suite.

### Award-Winning Student Support

Our Learner Services and School Liaison Teams hold the Matrix Award for Information, Advice and Guidance for the service they offer to our current and prospective students. That includes course and career guidance, to help our students succeed and reach their goals.

#### Sustainable Campuses

West Lancashire College currently holds the EcoCampus Silver Award and as part of NCG we are working towards sustainable and eco-friendly campuses and reducing our overall carbon footprint.

### Commitment to Collaboration

We're committed to industry collaboration and forging partnerships that will benefit our students. Our courses are developed with the support of industry and are designed to meet the needs of local employers. Some of our biggest partners include NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group, Peel Ports, Ibstock, Keep Moat and Virgin Care.

In September 2019, we launched a unique A Level programme – The School of Medicine, developed in partnership with the NHS West Lancashire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), to meet the growing skills shortage in the medical sector. Our first cohort of young medics have already received offers to study medicine from universities across the country, including the University of Oxford.



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