

Context and background

Lewisham Southwark College was formed in August 2012 (as LeSoCo) with the merger of Southwark and Lewisham Colleges.

The integration of the two colleges has now been successfully completed and the College is now concentrating on rationalisation of its campuses to focus resources more sharply on the quality of teaching and learning and state of the art facilities for our students. We are now one of the biggest colleges in London with 17,000 students, 650 staff and an income of nearly £38m.

Our Waterloo campus gives us direct access to the employers on the South Bank and Central London and we enjoy great partnerships with Jobcentre Plus, local authorities, schools and other stakeholders.

Guarantee education, employment or training for every school leaver in Southwark.

Lewisham Southwark College as the main and largest provider of post-16 education and training across both London boroughs operates an open recruitment and selection process. The College's provision is wholly vocational, occupational or professional and is aimed at getting people in to work.

The aim of the recruitment and selection process is to fully identify the appropriate level of study (not only for the main qualification but also for English and maths), suitability and commitment to the curriculum/course and future aspirations and plans. The College is fully committed to providing a programme of study for all applicants.

The College operates across a wide educational spectrum and supports young people and adults from pre-Entry Level through to Level 5 (equivalent to the second year of an honours degree) and includes provision for people with learning disabilities and difficulties. Lewisham Southwark College delivers provision in 13 out of the 15 subject sector areas (the remaining two are mostly attributed to A-Level provision).

The College also supports the employment base of Lewisham, Southwark and across London through its Workbased Learning provision, which includes a vast range of apprenticeships and workbased NVQs.

What education programmes the college have so all young people can maximize their achievement and progress – including young people with special needs or who might have a range of aptitudes.

14-16: Lewisham Southwark College delivers a wide range of provision for students aged 14-16, which includes:

- Full time provision for year 11 (general education)
- Full time provision for year 11 (ESOL specific)
- 1 or 2 day Work Related Learning
- Provision for students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities

16-18: The College currently caters for over 2300 full-time 16-18 year old students across a wide range of areas, including:

- People Studies (Health, Social and Childcare; Sport; Travel and Tourism)

- Creative Studies (Dance, Drama, Music, Art, Fashion, Media, IT, Beauty and Catering)
- Business and Technology (Business Administration and Management; Construction and Building Technology)
- Foundation Studies (ESOL, Support Learning and General Education)

In People Studies, Creative Studies and Business and Technology, most programmes of study are offered from Level 1 (pre-GCSE) to Level 3 (A-Level). Provision within Foundation Studies is mainly focused at pre-Entry, Entry and Level 1.

Depending on where students start their journey at Lewisham Southwark College, there are good progression routes, both internally and externally. Towards the end of each academic year, all 16-18 year old students will have a progression interview which will support their application for further study (at the College or at another provider), higher education or employment. If the latter, the College will support each young person to find an apprenticeship or a job with training (through the Jobs and Careers Department).

For students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities progression on to further study or in to supported employment (where appropriate) are the key destination points.