



Annual Accountability Statement **2025/26**

**NEWHAM
COLLEGE
LONDON**

ABOUT US

In November 2024, Newham College of Further Education and NewVlc Sixth Form College merged to form Newham College London—now the largest provider of post-16 education in the London Borough of Newham.

With campuses in East Ham, Stratford, Plaistow, and Canning Town - home to the London City Institute of Technology (LCIoT) – alongside community venues in Manor Park and Forest Gate the College supports over 11,000 learners annually, delivering a breadth of curriculum, across A Levels, T Levels, BTECs, technical and vocational programmes, apprenticeships, adult learning, and higher technical education.

The merger brought together two respected institutions with deep local roots.

Newham College, originally founded in 1985 with origins dating back to the late 1800s, rated Good by Ofsted (2022), was the first UK college formally recognised for its contribution to local skills needs.

NewVlc, based in Plaistow and established in 1992, built a strong reputation as one of London's most inclusive and academically successful sixth form colleges, with a long-standing commitment to social mobility.

Today, Newham College London educates around 4,500 16–18-year-olds and approximately 7,000 adult learners and apprentices. With four campuses, two community-based centres, 700+ staff, and a combined turnover of £60 million, the College is one of the borough's largest employers and a vital contributor to Newham's economic growth and civic development.

Our campuses provide safe, inclusive and aspirational learning environments where student ambition and attainment is central to all we do.



ABOUT US

Our curriculum is shaped by national, regional and local priorities and local employer partnerships. Underpinned by strong safeguarding, personal development, and a modern, high-quality, aspirational teaching culture. We are proud to work with leading employers including Barts Health NHS Trust, Amazon, Lloyds Banking Group, and Transport for London to co-design industry-informed pathways.

As co-lead of the London City Institute of Technology, we also work closely with Queen Mary University of London to deliver cutting-edge education in AI, data science, engineering, and transportation.

As a Corporation, our guiding vision is to be a transformative force for good ensuring all students, regardless of background, can thrive, achieve, and progress into meaningful futures. Whether celebrating university offers, successful apprenticeships, or stories of resilience and determination, we share and champion our students' achievements at every opportunity.

Newham College London is committed to delivering an ambitious, inclusive, and forward-looking education offer that empowers every learner to access opportunities, reach their full potential, and succeed in Newham and beyond.

This commitment is underpinned by four core organisational commitments that guide our efforts to increase educational impact, strengthen economic resilience, and improve social mobility across Newham and East London.



OUR FOUR ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENTS

Our Students

We are committed to supporting every student to achieve their full potential. We will provide high-quality, inclusive and aspirational education and training that prepares every student for their chosen careers, ambitions, and the challenges of the future.

Our Staff

We are committed to attracting, retaining and developing a workforce that reflects our values and ambition. We will invest in CPD, empower staff autonomy, and develop leadership at every level, to ensure our staff are professional, skilled and aspirational for all our students.

Our Culture

We are committed to fostering a culture of inclusivity in all interactions with our students, staff and stakeholders. Our shared behaviours and professionalism will reflect our values, ensuring a safe, inclusive, respectful, and welcoming environment.

Our Environment

We are committed to creating the very best learning environment that supports every student's unique journey. To support this, we aim to provide industry-standard equipment and resources, dedicated student areas, and modern teaching and learning spaces.



NEWHAM PLACE-BASED CONTEXT

Newham is one of the UK’s youngest, most diverse, and fastest-evolving boroughs—home to a vibrant community with huge potential. With a median age of just 32.7 and over two-thirds of residents identifying as from ethnically diverse backgrounds, it’s the most diverse local authority in the country.

At Newham College, over 90% of our students reflect this rich diversity. Many benefit from free meals, bursaries, and tailored support, helping to break down barriers and make education accessible for all—so that every learner has the chance to succeed, whatever their starting point.

However, Newham continues to face challenges. The borough has high levels of economic inactivity and youth unemployment, with many residents living in low-income households. That’s why our work at Newham College is so important. We’re focused on unlocking opportunity, improving access, and supporting progression—helping every learner to move forward with confidence and purpose.

Metric	Newham	London	UK
Working-Age Population (16-64)	250,800 (71.4%)	6.24m (68.9%)	41.5m (62.9%)
Employment Rate (16-64)	71.1%	74.6%	75.1%
Unemployment Rate (16+)	5.0%	5.0%	4.4%
Economic Inactivity Rate	26.7%	20.4%	21.4%
Median Age	32.1 years	35.8 years	40.7 years

Source: ONS Annual Population Survey (via Nomis), March 2023

Source: GLA - Labour Market Indicators by Borough (2023)



COLLABORATIVE CIVIC AND ECONOMIC ROLE

As part of the Local London sub-region, Newham benefits from major regeneration and investment, including the Royal Docks Enterprise Zone, Stratford's East Bank, and the Thames Estuary Production Corridor. These developments are catalysing demand for skills in digital, green construction, health, and creative industries—areas where Newham College is focusing its LSIP-aligned provision.

Newham College acts as a civic and economic anchor institution delivering skills and progression across Newham and surrounding boroughs. It maintains strong, collaborative partnerships with:

- London Borough of Newham
- Newham Chamber of Commerce (Skills Board Chair)
- London City Institute of Technology (with Queen Mary University London)
- Barts NHS Trusts, including Newham General Hospital
- Employers in priority sectors, such as Amazon, Film London, Transport for London and the East London Business Alliance
- London Anchor Institutions' Network (LAIN)
- Greater London Authority (GLA)
- Local London Skills Providers Network (LLSPN – Co-Chair)
- Business LDN (LSIP Advisory Group Member)

These partnerships place the College at the centre of a collaborative skills ecosystem that drives innovation, inclusion, and community wealth building—both locally and across the wider London region, by working with employers to improve learner progression into great careers and higher technical study.



PLACE-BASED PRIORITIES FOR 2024–2027

Newham College’s strategic aims align with both LSIP priorities and borough-level economic recovery frameworks, including:

- Tackling a 9.2% NEET/unknown destination rate for 16–17-year-olds (DfE 2023), through a restorative practice initiatives, early intervention and additional support-based approach.
- Reaching newly arrived and ESOL learners through tailored Young ESOL and Adult ESOL programmes, designed to support language development and facilitate progression into further education and employment.
- Scaling supported internships and EHCP pathways for SEND learners.
- Expanding Level 3–5 provision in construction, digital, green, creative, and health sectors.

Source: DfE 16-18 Destinations – NEET and Unknown (2023)

Source: LSIP Annual Progress Report – BusinessLDN/Local London (2024)





Newham College has a strong record of delivering an inclusive, employer-informed curriculum that responds to labour market needs and supports progression from Entry Level to Level 5 Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs). Curriculum review is embedded in the College's annual quality cycle and shaped by national, regional, and local skills priorities—drawing on data from the the Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIPs), Office for National Statistics (ONS), Greater London Authority (GLA), and employer engagement.

Recent developments include:

- Employer Co-Design (Amazon): Delivered **36** Level 3 Data Analyst Pre-Apprenticeships, aimed at supporting progression Level 4 and 5 Apprenticeships with Queen Mary University of London (QMUL). Showcasing the strength of our collaborative partnership with QMUL and the LCIoT.
- Curriculum Development: Created over **22** micro-credentials, accredited by OCN London and have been co-designed in collaboration with employers to address urgent local skills needs in the green and digital economies.
- Collaborative practice: Sharing portfolio of micro-credentials with Local London Skills Provider Network (LLSPN) made up of **23** providers, spanning FE, HE and Adult Education, to accelerate expansion of uptake amongst our local communities to benefit from achieving much sought after skills and employment opportunities.



- **Green Skills Expansion:** As a lead co-ordinating partner provider in the LSIF-funded Green Project, the College has helped to develop 11 new or improved Green Academies, with courses and resources focused on decarbonisation, retrofit, digital construction, and sustainable engineering.
- **Digital Skills Expansion:** As assisting co-ordinating partner provider with LSEC in the LSIF-funded Digital Project, the College has contributed to the development of 21 Immersive Learning Suites & Digital Labs across the Local London Skills Providers Network.
- **HTQs and Modular Delivery:** The launch of 6 HTQs and 20 flexible modular courses is supporting access to higher-level learning in priority sectors, including education, digital, health and construction.

This approach ensures that curriculum development at Newham College remains agile, inclusive, and aligned with both learner needs and employer demand.

In addition to its technical and vocational offer, Newham College delivers a strong A Level and T Level programme at NewVlc Sixth Form Centre, with pathways in Science, Mathematics, Social Sciences, Humanities and Creative Arts. These programmes support high rates of progression to university and offer an academic route that complements the College's broader vocational skills offer.

A Level provision remains central to ensuring choice, aspiration, and inclusive access to higher education for young people across Newham and the wider Local London region.

CURRICULUM AND RESOURCE INNOVATION

As Newham College continues to develop into a fully unified, multi-campus institution, we remain committed to delivering ambitious, inclusive, and locally responsive education that meets the needs of our learners, employers, and communities.

We are embedding artificial intelligence and emerging technologies into both curriculum delivery and staff development. Staff have taken part in sector-wide CPD, including the Blended Learning Consortium's AI Conference, which introduced practical ways to apply AI tools—such as Co-Pilot and immersive learning platforms like Body Swaps—to enhance teaching and build students' digital skills capability for a modern digital future.

Our programmes are complemented by the Skills Builder Universal Framework, which helps embed and assess key employability skills like communication, problem-solving, and self-management. This is delivered in collaboration with the East London Business Alliance (ELBA) and integrated across tutorial cycles to boost learner readiness for work.

To address ongoing recruitment challenges in green, digital, and technical subject areas, especially within STEM subjects, we continue to offer our Graduate Trainee Scheme, in supporting staff and external candidates to gain the Level 5 Diploma in Education and Training (DET/DTLLS). Now in its third year, this initiative supports a strong, sustainable pipeline of qualified teaching professionals, in the college and wider region.

Our goal remains clear: to ensure every learner and staff member—whatever their background or starting point—can thrive, achieve, and progress into meaningful employment, further study, or personal growth.





OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2025/26

In 2025/26, Newham College will focus on delivering the next phase of its strategic transformation, embedding the post-merger vision and preparing for the launch of the 2027–2032 Strategic Plan.

This will be a year of purposeful implementation and culture building, translated into measurable progress. And underpinned by our four organisational commitments to our students, staff, culture and environment. These priorities are informed by data from the Local London LSIP, the GLA Green Skills Framework, sector-specific consultation, and our own curriculum and progression impact evidence.

We continue to grow our student cohort in key priority sector areas:

Provision	Number of Enrolments		
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
			Target
Digital	594	758	1030
Engineering & Construction (*includes rail)	2286	2362	2100
Health and Social Care	552	683	1000
Green	21	63	300
Apprentices	258	298	330
HE(L4+)	73	120	150
SEND	229	281	360

By September 2026

Objective 1 - Collaborate widely to continue, and grow, the significant contribution Newham College London makes to skills and growth across the capital:

- Contribute to the development of a Learning and Skills Alliance, focussed on addressing LSIP priorities, addressing cross cutting themes from the London Growth plan and meeting Post 16 skills challenges regionally.
- Develop sector skills advisory panels in key curriculum areas: Digital, Health, Construction/ Engineering and Green.
- Review and plan curriculum offer with strategic, local providers, stakeholders, and the London Borough of Newham (LBN) working collaboratively to tackle key skills shortages and LSIP priorities.

Objective 2 - Develop our curriculum offer to ensure that it is ambitious, inclusive, collaborative and integrated across all centres:

- Undertake a full review of our post-merger curriculum, consulting with key stakeholders and local providers.
- Reduce attrition rates to under 10%, focussing on the reduction of NEET learners by further embedding restorative practices and early intervention initiatives for students at risk in the 1st half term.
- Ensure internal progression pathways and ladders from Entry to L5 in all key curriculum areas.
- Embed sustainability qualifications into all study programmes.



Objective 3 - Complete the post-merger integration of systems, processes and policies, developing a common culture across the college:

- Integrate core college systems across all sites and campuses (Finance, IT, HR, Learner Records System).
- Further embed and develop leadership and management framework to all managers.
- Collate and align key college policies and documents.
- Align Marketing and communication approaches and assets.

Objective 4 - Play an increasing role in the development of higher-level skills and apprenticeships:

- Increase Higher Technical Qualification Pathways to 7 routes. Increase learners undertaking HTQ's to 100+.
- Increase Apprenticeship enrolments to 150 new starts.
- Develop and deliver 4 new pre-apprenticeship programmes in Health, Digital, Engineering, and Professional Services, supporting at least 80 learners per year.
- Increase bespoke Amazon pre apprenticeship delivery model to 36 learners, studying L3/4 Digital data qualifications.

Objective 5 - Continue making progress against our plan to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030:

- Deliver five new accredited green skills qualifications to at least 100 adult learners and integrate sustainability qualifications into study programmes.
- Establish an employer sector advisory group, focussed on progressing learners into green skilled jobs and careers.
- Publish a college-wide sustainability strategy aligned to the Association of Colleges Climate Action Roadmap, promoting sustainability initiatives throughout the college, and focussing on clear annual carbon reduction milestones.



Objective 6 - Make strides in the development of our IT infrastructure, ensuring that all students use industry standard equipment and software that will prepare them well for future careers:

- Replace and upgrade all IT hardware, staff and student computers at NewVlc Sixth Form Centre and transition from a Google to Microsoft environment.
- Achieve Certificates of Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus for the merged college
- Publish a college wide digital strategy, setting out the modernisation and digitisation of Newham College.

Objective 7 - Enhance our commitment to inclusion in Newham, introducing an integrated curriculum offer and a broader provision to meet the needs of a wider cohort of students:

- Introduce an integrated curriculum offer for Foundation Learning, ensuring clear progression points for students and a wider variety of vocational options.
- Increase Supported Internship pathways by 1 additional group.
- Develop and launch Social, Emotional and Mental Health provision in collaboration with LBN.
- Reduce attainment gaps between EHCP and Non- EHCP learners in mainstream curriculum.

Objective 8 - Complete capital projects necessary for the future sustainability of the college:

- Complete new A block facility at Stratford Campus, to BREEAM Excellent standards, providing high quality spaces, to accommodate 500 additional students.
- Complete ECO Bungalow at Stratford campus to develop and deliver green and sustainable qualifications.
- Refurbish four IT suites and upgrade all lighting to energy-efficient LED at NewVlc Sixth Form Centre.
- Work with LBN and leverage external funding opportunities to replace the temporary buildings due for demolition at the NewVlc Sixth Form Centre.



Newham College is a key partner in delivering Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) priorities across East London, working in collaboration with Local London, BusinessLDN and regional employers. Our mission is to build a responsive, inclusive, and future-focused skills system that unlocks opportunity and supports local economic growth.

Our LSIP Aligned Priorities:

1. Aligning Skills with Industry Needs

We deliver high-quality training linked to labour market demand—particularly in priority sectors such as health, digital, construction, engineering, and the green economy.

2. Expanding Apprenticeships and Progression Routes

We are growing our apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship offer, including employer-led pathways like our Level 3 Data Analyst micro-credential co-designed with Amazon and Queen Mary University London. Apprenticeships are offered from Level 2–4, with green pathways under development.

3. Boosting Employer Collaboration

Employers shape our curriculum, co-deliver learning, and provide work placements—ensuring learners gain real-world skills that translate into meaningful employment.

4. Supporting an Inclusive, Flexible System

We remove barriers to learning through modular delivery, flexible modes of study micro-credentials, qualifications and tailored adult learning support. This enables underrepresented groups and adult learners to access and progress through education at their own pace, building skills and knowledge.

5. Investing in Educator Capacity

We are tackling sector-wide recruitment challenges by investing in CPD, industry placements, and fully funded Level 5 DET/DTLLS qualifications to grow our pipeline of skilled teaching professionals, through our graduate trainee programme.

6. Strengthening Regional Collaboration

We work across boroughs through partnerships such as the London City Institute of Technology, Local London Skills Provider Network, and Green Apprenticeship Advisory Panel to share intelligence, scale best practice and work collaboratively to find solutions to workforce challenges and skills gaps.

7. Using Local Intelligence to Shape Provision

Sector roundtables, employer insight and data from GLA, LSIP and ONS guide our curriculum development—ensuring relevance, responsiveness and sustainability.



DELIVERING LSIP PRIORITIES

Newham College's integrated approach supports the LSIP's ambition to create a skills system that works for learners, employers and communities—now and in the future.

Inclusive Talent Strategy

Ensuring inclusive access to skills, training, and progression opportunities for underrepresented groups—particularly SEND learners, NEET learners, adults returning to education, and recently arrived young people. This includes tailored pathways, supported internships, flexible delivery models, and strengthened wraparound support to remove barriers to sustainable employment and further study.

Inclusive Pathways to Skilled Careers

Newham College is committed to delivering inclusive, high-quality skills pathways for all learners, regardless of starting point. This includes:

- A reformed **ESOL offer**, now focused on workforce readiness through the integration of maths, digital, and employability training at four strategic delivery hubs.
- Expanded opportunities for **NEET and SEND learners**, with targeted supported internships, wraparound career support, and personalised progression planning.

These pathways reflect the College's deep commitment to social mobility and equity in education, empowering every learner to pursue meaningful, skilled careers.



OUR APPROACH TO DEVELOPING THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT



Newham College London has taken a robust, collaborative, and data-driven approach to developing this annual Accountability Statement. We have considered local, regional and national skills priorities. It reflects a unified strategic vision across our newly merged organisation, aligns with the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP), and draws on input from a wide network of civic, employer, and education stakeholders.

Engagement with LSIP and External Stakeholders

This Statement has been shaped through ongoing engagement with the Local London Employer Representative Body (ERB), led by BusinessLDN, and through direct involvement in LSIP planning groups and advisory panels.

As lead assisting provider for the LSIF-funded Green Project, Newham College has contributed to curriculum development that reflects LSIP priorities—particularly in the digital, green, health, and construction sectors.

We are also a lead partner in the Local London Skills Provider Network, where we work collaboratively with other institutions to test and align skills strategies and data across the sub-region.

Collaboration with Local Providers

In line with our Local Needs Duty, we are working closely with a wide range of partners across and beyond the statutory FE sector, including:

- Coordinated curriculum planning with colleges such as Barking & Dagenham, Tower Hamlets, and Waltham Forest through the Local London Provider Forum.

OUR APPROACH TO DEVELOPING THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

Data-Informed Priorities

Our priorities and target outcomes are underpinned by triangulated analysis of national, regional, and local data sources, including:

- Local, regional and national policies, plans and directives.
- ONS and DfE data on learner progression, NEET rates, and qualification shortfalls.
- ONS and GLA labour market and population forecasts for Newham and the Local London area.
- LSIP employer surveys and sector roadmaps.
- Internal curriculum reviews and learner destination data across both legacy institutions.
- Feedback from our Ofsted Monitoring Visit (February 2025), which recognised significant progress in teaching and leadership.

This evidence base has helped us to identify growth sectors, target underrepresented groups, and respond to local participation barriers, ensuring our curriculum offer and wider strategy meet the needs of both learners and the economy.

- Delivery of Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) and micro-credentials with Queen Mary University of London via the London City Institute of Technology.
- Collaboration with schools and sixth forms on transition outreach and curriculum alignment, particularly in relation to T Level routes and sector-focused A Level pathways.
- Ongoing partnership working with the London Borough of Newham, to deliver adult skills, and foundation and SEND learning provision, through joint initiatives and strategic dialogue.

This coordinated approach helps reduce duplication, strengthen progression routes, and ensure local provision is better aligned to employer needs. Examples include co-delivered supported internships, modular micro-credentials, and shared CPD opportunities for teaching staff.



MEETING THE LOCAL NEEDS DUTY

Newham College's commitment to the Local Needs Duty reflects its broader mission to create equitable, high-impact pathways for all learners—powering local prosperity, inclusion, and employer success across the borough.

Examples include:

- Active participation in region-wide planning with BusinessLDN, Local London, LLSPN, The College is actively increasing its influence on regional skills policy through its chairship of the Newham Chamber of Commerce Skills Board and participation in the London Chamber's Fostering Skills, Innovation and Entrepreneurship board—ensuring student and employer needs are reflected in policy and funding decisions.
- Our specialist Rail Engineering offer has supported 230 learners this year, into rail sector jobs and careers.
- Newham College has launched two supported internship programmes in partnership with Newham General Hospital and the John Lewis Partnership, offering places for young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). These internships include wraparound employment support, real-world experience, and post-programme progression through the College's Pathways to Employment initiative. The Newham General programme is well-established and expanding, while the John Lewis Partnership continue to support the college's inclusive learning programme.
- Aligning the ESOL curriculum to focus on employability, maths, and digital skills, delivered at four hubs to better prepare adult learners for the workforce.
- Expanding inclusive pathways through the Pathways to Employment programme, enabling EHCP learners and others with high needs to continue their progression with bespoke literacy, numeracy, and careers support.
- Expanding adult and higher education pathways by supporting diverse adult learners—from entry-level to Level 5—across ESOL, employability, professional upskilling, and career-transition programmes, ensuring clear progression into technical and higher-level qualifications.

Our strategic planning, curriculum design, and community engagement are fully aligned with the expectations of the Local Needs Duty. Through the LSIP and LSIF, the College is working to ensure that provision across the borough is both inclusive and employer responsive.



CORPORATION STATEMENT

On behalf of Newham College London, it is hereby confirmed that the college plan as set out above reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the Corporation on 21/05/2025


The plan is available on the college's website and can be accessed from the following link:

Governance - Newham College

Paul Jackson
Chair of Corporation



Jamie Purser
Principal and Chief Executive



Dated: 21/05/2025

Supporting Documentation and Links