

It's official: WE'RE GOOD



REDCAR &
CLEVELAND
COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS
EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Ofsted inspectors rate Redcar & Cleveland College as effective and good

Students and staff at Redcar & Cleveland College are celebrating after Ofsted inspectors praised its effectiveness and graded it as a 'good' learning establishment.

Principal Gary Groom said he was thrilled with the inspector's report, which praised the wide range of courses available, the effectiveness of the college, and the new state-of-the-art facilities.

He said it was testament to the hard work put in by every member of staff and student during the past few years, who have worked to further improve all aspects of college life.

"We are delighted that the college has now been recognised for the large number of improvements we have made since the last inspection in 2004, when we were then graded as 'satisfactory'," said Mr Groom.

"We are now officially graded as being a good college, which is fantastic news for everyone in Redcar and Cleveland – knowing that not only is there a terrific new £26m college building in the borough, but there is also continued improvements in both success rates and student retention."

Inspectors rated the new college building and facilities, which opened in September last year, as outstanding.

Safety of students and staff was also graded as outstanding, and the inspectors also commented that students were well behaved and respectful to each other.

Over the last three years, success rates have significantly improved. Success rates for learners aged 16 to 18 are at or above national average.

"The college has made good progress since the last inspection. Strengths identified then have been maintained and areas for improvement addressed."

Chairman of Governors Dr Graham Hillier said: "This is an excellent achievement for the college. We are all extremely pleased that the inspectors recognised the many improvements that have been made since the last inspection, and saw the college as we do – a good learning establishment."

"Everyone has worked very hard and will continue to do so to ensure that our students get the best education that is possible."

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College principal vows to continue the 'good' work

The Principal of Redcar & Cleveland College has vowed to continue on the road to improvement to ensure that every student reaches their full potential.

Gary Groom said while he was delighted with the latest Ofsted report, which graded the college as 'good', he was determined to continue the trend towards even better results.

"We set out on a long journey to improvement when I arrived here four years ago and, while we are extremely pleased with our achievements so far, we still have a distance to travel and are very focussed.

"We will continue to strive for excellence in the hope that we achieve the highest grade possible at our next inspection – that of 'outstanding'."

The new £26m college was opened on Corporation Road, Redcar, in September last year, boasting first rate vocational workshops, the latest information technology, an expansive library, and a safe and spacious learning environment.

Inspectors graded the college building and facilities as outstanding and said the layout of the building, along with the CCTV security system, made everyone feel safe and relaxed.

They said the overall effectiveness of the college was good. The report said:

"The quality of provision is good, as are teaching and learning. Lessons are well planned and teachers effectively link theory to practice.

"The principal provides strong direction to raise standards.



Principal Gary Groom pictured with Student Ambassadors Samantha Lee and Darren Poole

"Quality improvement strategies are very effective. Success rates have improved year-on-year."

The college is highly responsive to the needs of students, employers, local and national priorities. The curriculum is very accessible and progression routes are increasingly well-used.

"The quality of provision is good, as are teaching and learning."

Among the college's key strengths were:

- Wide and highly responsive range of provision
- Good range of progression opportunities that raises aspirations
- Good support for students with learning and physical disabilities
- Good information advice and guidance.

Mr Groom said the college was working hard to bring out the best in

all of its students, and said there was something for everyone at the college.

He said: "It is never too late, as we have proved for some of the many young people who come to us, even part way through the year."

He said the aim of the college was to raise aspirations, but to exceed expectations every time.

"We are an extremely ambitious college, and we are striving for the very best for our students. The college is developing its enterprise training programme, which is being nationally recognised, in a bid to encourage young people to think about new enterprise," he said.

"Students are encouraged to think outside the box and to be creative. We want them to be innovative and we want employers to recognise that students at Redcar & Cleveland College are outstanding and better than the rest."

Plumber of the Year



Adam a close second in national competition.

Apprentice Adam Thompson was flushed with success after taking the runner-up spot in the regional heat of a national plumbing competition.

Redcar & Cleveland College launched the first of five regional heats for the inaugural HIP! UK Apprentice Plumber of the Year Award 2009.

The award, sponsored by Heating Engineers, Installers & Plumbers magazine (HIP!), in association with Plumbfix, is a UK-wide competition that tests Level 2 and 3 plumbing NVQ apprentices on core practical elements of their course.

Girls get plastered



Louise and Becky shine on plastering course.

Teenagers Louise Dabb and Becky Williams may be working in a typically male environment – but they have proved themselves more than capable when it comes to skimming walls.

The pair are the first ever girls to study plastering at Redcar & Cleveland College, where they are working towards their level one diploma on the full-time course.

Both girls are extremely talented, with Louise being nominated to represent the college in the plastering category in the regional heat of the UK Skillbuild competition.

College hopes for £3.5m HE centre

Redcar & Cleveland College is aiming for even greater things – with hopes of a £3.5m Higher Education centre.

The college is in talks with Teesside University and the Sir William Turner Foundation Trust about building a new centre on the Corporation Road campus, where students studying higher level qualifications can be based.

Principal Gary Groom said: "The number of Higher Education students at the college, in partnership with the university, has more than trebled in the last four years and is looking to significantly rise again in the next two or three years.

"We have a lot of new HE courses on offer for 2009/10, and our curriculum will continue to grow as the number of students coming to the college increases.

"There are a lot of university HE courses offered at this campus already, but it is getting so big that the university is talking with the college about providing a specialist centre, which will open up even greater opportunities."

Mr Groom said if the plans went ahead, it would be jointly-funded by Teesside University and the Sir William Turner Foundation Trust.



Sam turns it around



Sam makes the leap from student to staff.

Senior Contracts Administrator Sam Millward is a superb ambassador for apprenticeships after successfully completing her three-year course and landing a job at the college.

The 21-year-old left school without any qualifications at 16. However, she began a 22-week Entry To Employment (e2e) course at Redcar & Cleveland College and never looked back.

She completed an apprenticeship course and is now employed by the college, and is about to gain her qualification in the Institute of Leadership and Management.

Super model



Carpentry students show off their craft.

Proud carpentry students saw their handiwork go on public display after reproducing a scaled model of Saltburn pier.

The replica of the Victorian landmark was built from recycled materials by the talented craft students at the college, and presented to the committee of Saltburn in Bloom.

The college was asked to help out after the first model of the pier, on Marske Road, fell into disrepair. After weeks of hard work, the college officially handed the new replica over to committee member Amanda Hall.

Highlights of achievement 2007/08



100% pass rate:

- NVQ level 1 Hairdressing
- NVQ level 2 Accounting



100% success rate:

- BTEC Level 2 Administration
- Food Safety in Catering



92% pass rate:

- Level 1 Introductory Diploma in Construction



100% success rate:

- BTEC Level 3 National Award Uniformed Public Services

Students at boot camp



Students swap classroom for assault course.

Public Services students got a taste of life in the armed forces after taking part in an Army residential course. The 21 students were put through their paces during a four-day stint at Stainton Camp, near Barnard Castle.

The course challenged their mental and physical fitness by putting them through a series of tasks, including facing the enemy on a computerised firing range, assault courses and command exercises.

Student Natascha Fayleen Demeyer said: "This was a totally unforgettable experience."

Students pitch in



Football team sow the seeds for new pitches.

Young people studying sport and fitness courses at the college have the benefit of some of the best equipment and facilities in the area.

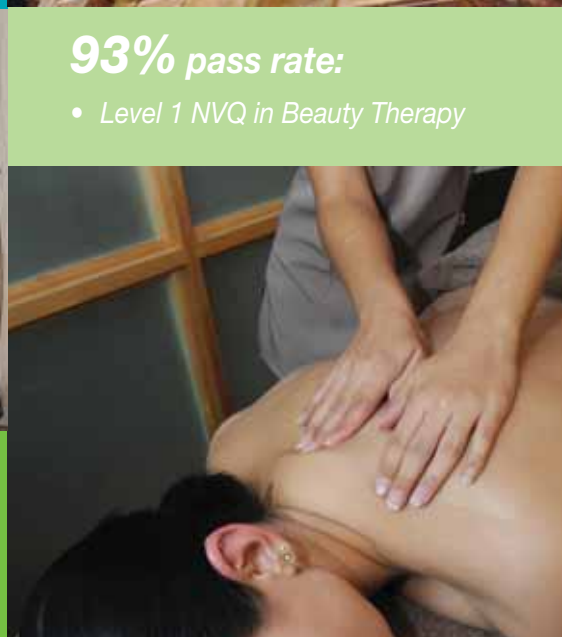
Brand new sports pitches have been developed for a variety of outdoor sports, including football, cricket, rugby and hockey, and state-of-the-art all weather, floodlit pitches will also ensure students carry on their studies, regardless of the weather.

The new college campus also boasts a hi-tech gym, which all students can use at their leisure.



93% success rate:

- BTEC National Diploma in Art & Design Level 3



93% pass rate:

- Level 1 NVQ in Beauty Therapy



95% success rate:

- NVQ Level 3 Health & Social Care
- Level 3 Certificate in Engineering



92% success rate:

- Level 1 Certificate for IT Users
- Level 2 NVQ Customer Care



Free Travel!

New College Coach Link or Local Bus Pass ... you can choose!

If you're a full-time student under the age of 19, you can travel to and from college free of charge.

NEW College Coach Link

Starting in September, we'll be offering our full-time students a free place on our college coaches, which will be running daily during term time. Depending on where you live, the coach link could make getting to and from college easier for you.

Contact us for a detailed timetable.



OR Local Bus Pass

If you decide the local bus service suits you better, you should apply for a half-price bus pass from your Local Authority*. The college will then refund you for all your bus fares relating to travel to and from college – which makes your travel free!

**Subject to Local Authority approval.*



If you need any further help or advice on travelling to college, contact Student Services on 01642 473132.

College Coach Link

Route 1



Arrive: 08.45

Depart: 17.15



Arrive: 08.45

Depart: 17.15

Route 2



Good news for school leavers

It's not too late to enrol for courses starting in September.

Don't worry if you've not fully decided what you would like to do in September, or are concerned about your GCSE results.

Come and talk to our friendly staff about the dazzling range of full-time vocational courses and apprenticeships available to you at Redcar & Cleveland College. With our fantastic new facilities and lots of support, we'll help you gain the skills you need to achieve your goal.

See our Full-time Prospectus for all courses.



New Part-time Prospectus out soon

Look out for your copy of our latest Part-time Prospectus coming through your letterbox soon.



A GOOD reason to enrol

We're offering some fantastic course fee reductions for 2009/10.

If you live within the following areas, you are eligible for our fantastic offer of **50% reduction on many course fees advertised in our Part-time Prospectus.**

Brotton, Dormanstown, Eston, Grangetown, Lazenby, Lingdale, Liverton, Loftus, Marske, New Marske, Normanby, Ormesby, Redcar, Saltburn, Skelton, South Bank.

Your area not listed? Just ask, and you may still be eligible.

Save 50% on many course fees advertised

Enrolment dates for 2009-10

Beat the rush!

We're enrolling now and throughout the summer with late nights Tuesday and Thursday until 7pm.

Main enrolment:

Saturday 22 August
10.00am – 3.00pm

Tuesday 25th August
9.00am – 8.00pm

Wednesday 26th August
9.00am – 8.00pm

Thursday 27th August
9.00am – 8.00pm

Friday 28th August
9.00am – 4.00pm

Tuesday 1st September
9.00am – 8.00pm