

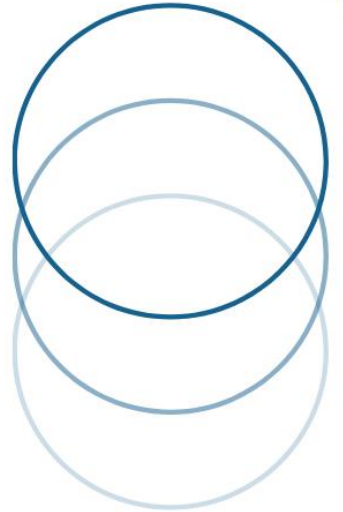


**City College
Peterborough**

Working together, learning together

2025/26

ACCOUNTABILITY AGREEMENT



Executive Summary

City College Peterborough is a people-centered organisation embedded within Peterborough City Council. We are a gateway for people of all ages and backgrounds into As a department of Peterborough City Council, we play a vital role in tackling inequality, driving economic growth, and empowering residents through adult skills, study programmes for young people, and inclusive Day Opportunities.

This agreement outlines our strategic priorities, values, and measurable outcomes over the next academic year, reinforcing our role as a key civic anchor in the city's growth and transformation.

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Statement of Purpose

This document sets out our strategic objectives and contribution to the wider skills and inclusion landscape, as required by the Department for Education (DfE) Accountability Agreement Framework. It supports transparent planning, performance monitoring, and continuous improvement.

City College Peterborough is a people-centered organisation embedded within Peterborough City Council. We are a gateway for people of all ages and backgrounds into learning, community, and opportunity. Through our delivery strands of Adult Skills, Study Programmes, and Day Opportunities for Adults with Disabilities, we support PCC's Corporate Strategy 2025–2028, contributing to inclusive economic growth, healthy and independent lives, and stronger communities.

We continue to provide learning for both social and economic wellbeing, improving the life choices, work and pay prospects of local people; working with businesses, communities and individuals; and enhancing pathways for people with complex needs.

Mission

Working together and learning together to enhance opportunities for everyone.

Vision

A vibrant and inclusive college community dedicated to lifelong learning, where quality and excellence drive everything we do.

Values

- Respect – Valuing everyone's contribution and upholding the right to challenge.
- Integrity – Fostering an open, honest environment where people can thrive.
- Inclusion – Embracing diversity and ensuring opportunities for success irrespective of background.
- Collaboration – Working together to achieve the best outcomes and remove barriers.
- Innovation – Embracing new ideas and continuous quality improvement.
- People-Centred – Prioritising people over process.

Strategic Priorities: What We Will Do and Why It Matters

1. Empower Adults through Skills and Learning

What we will do:

- Deliver adult skills provision through outreach, flexible learning and employer partnerships.
- Expand green, health and digital skills to meet economic demand.
- Provide progression pathways from tailored learning into jobs, further education and volunteering.
- Embed essential life skills including English, maths and digital confidence across all adult learning.
- Embed safeguarding and Prevent across all provision.

Why This Matters:

Skills change lives. When adults gain confidence, they unlock new opportunities for themselves, their families, and their futures.

By embedding safeguarding and Prevent awareness into adult learning, we help adults recognise risk, protect themselves and others, and contribute to a safer, more resilient society.

This work directly contributes to PCC's Economy and Inclusive Growth and Prevention and Resilience priorities.

2. Support Young People to Succeed and Progress

What we will do:

- Deliver high-quality Study Programmes focused on qualifications, life skills, and wellbeing.
- Re-engage NEET and vulnerable learners with tailored support.
- Provide enterprise, employability and volunteering experiences.
- Support transitions for care-experienced and young people with additional needs and multiple barrier to learning into adulthood.
- Embed safeguarding and Prevent across all provision.

Why this Matters:

By embedding safeguarding and Prevent in curriculum and culture, we give young people tools to navigate life safely, identify risks (including online and in relationships), and build resilience.

By embedding safeguarding and Prevent awareness into learning opportunities, we help young people recognise risk, protect themselves and others, and contribute to a safer, more resilient society.

This directly supports PCC's Children and Young People and Preparing for Adulthood priorities.

3. Champion Inclusion through Day Opportunities

What we will do:

- Deliver safe, accessible, and person-centred Day Opportunities.
- Run meaningful and creative learning activities.
- Develop inclusive enterprise initiatives (e.g. Hampton Handy Crafts, Pretty Things & College Catering).
- Work in partnership with carers and social care professionals to design individual support. Nothing about us without us!
- By embedding safeguarding and Prevent awareness, we help adults with learning disabilities and autism recognise risk, protect themselves and others, and contribute to a safer, more resilient society.

Why This Matters:

This work changes lives. Safety, wellbeing and inclusion underpin everything we do. By embedding safeguarding practices and giving supported people a voice in their own care, we reduce risk and foster empowerment.

This supports PCC's Independence and Resilience and Health and Care Integration goals while creating a city where everyone is safe, seen and supported.

4. Strengthen Our College as a Hub for Community and Regeneration

What we will do:

- Deliver outreach learning in the city's most deprived wards.
- Use our campuses as civic hubs that bring people together.

- Promote intergenerational learning and civic pride.
- Collaborate with local partners to meet shared goals.

Why This Matters:

A safe, trusted college at the heart of its community is vital, not just for Safeguarding and Prevent but also for fostering social cohesion, economic regeneration, and a sense of belonging. By providing outreach learning in the city's most deprived wards, we offer opportunities for personal growth, employability, and community involvement. This helps bridge social divides, unlock untapped potential, and create pathways to success for individuals who may otherwise be overlooked.

As a civic hub, our campuses become more than just places for learning they act as beacons of community spirit, bringing people together across generations and backgrounds.

This aligns with PCC's local growth plans and resilience goals.

5. Invest in People and Culture

What we will do:

- Champion a people-centred culture.
- Provide high-quality CPD, coaching and leadership pathways.
- Embed Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in all we do.
- Prioritise Safeguarding and Prevent at City College Peterborough
- Deliver values-led governance and develop leaders at every level.

Why This Matters:

People thrive in safe, supportive, and inclusive environments. Investing in safeguarding knowledge, confidence, and culture is just the foundation—it's about creating a space where all individuals, from frontline staff to leadership, feel empowered to act with responsibility, compassion, and a sense of belonging. Beyond simply preventing harm, we aim to foster an environment where well-being is at the core of everything we do, encouraging open dialogue, support, and the development of positive relationships at every level.

By embedding safeguarding as a core part of our people-centred culture, we are creating a holistic approach that prioritizes mental health, emotional safety, and resilience. This approach not only responds to the needs of those at risk but also builds a culture of care, where each individual is supported in reaching their full potential.

This investment goes hand in hand with our commitment to fostering a workplace where equality, diversity, and inclusion are not just buzzwords but tangible values that guide every decision and action. It creates an environment where everyone, regardless of background, feels seen, heard, and respected, promoting a sense of security and belonging that is key to individual and collective success.

In doing so, we are shaping a modern, ethical public service that aligns with PCC's Sustainable Future Council ambitions, one that promotes a culture of vigilance, responsibility, trust, and shared accountability.

It is this culture that will drive our success and ensure we continue to serve our communities with integrity and care, both now and in the future.

City College Peterborough, working together and learning together.

National and Regional Alignment

Our strategy directly aligns with CPCA's regional objectives and the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP), which prioritise:

- Driving inclusive economic growth by increasing adult participation in skills and training.
- Addressing critical sector needs in digital, green, health, life sciences, and social care.
- Embedding “impact skills” such as employability, teamwork, communication, and time management.
- Supporting individuals from disadvantaged or underrepresented backgrounds into sustainable careers.
- Strengthening cross-sector collaboration to build a coherent local skills ecosystem.

We maintain an active role in supporting delivery of devolved Adult Education Budget (AEB) contracts with CPCA, and align curriculum development with LSIP findings and annual reviews.

Our work supports core Department for Education (DfE) and broader governmental priorities, including:

- Supporting the "Getting Britain Working" strategy by helping economically inactive adults return to the labour market.
- Delivering essential skills programmes to improve adult confidence in maths, English and digital use.
- Supporting the Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE) through pathways into flexible learning and higher-level skills.
- Expanding provision in sectors with national labour shortages such as health, social care, and digital technologies.
- Embedding safeguarding, Prevent, and wellbeing throughout our learner journey in line with Ofsted and DfE expectations.

These commitments are also reflected in our improved focus on impact skills and progression, supported by KPI measures, curriculum mapping, and learner destination tracking.

Measuring Progress

We maintain a robust performance and quality assurance framework:

- Annual Accountability Framework
- Self-Assessment Reports and Quality Improvement Plans
- "What We're Doing and Why" roadmaps per service strand
- Monthly Leadership Meetings to review risks and KPIs
- Advisory Board for independent oversight
- PCC Scrutiny
- Staff interactions and "Our Conversations"
- Learner and Service User Voice to guide decisions

This agreement has been signed off by the Executive Director of Place and Economy – Peterborough City Council