



Information about The City of Portsmouth College

The Governing Body of Portsmouth College has agreed to merge with Highbury College, on 1st August 2021, to create a new merged college, The City of Portsmouth College.

The proposed merger will create a single merged institution, operating under the leadership of a single senior management team. This merger would offer a unique opportunity to bring together two great complementary colleges to enhance the quality and choice of courses for the learners in and around the city of Portsmouth under one institution with a single, clear identity.

Further details regarding the merger can be found in the consultation document on our website:

<https://www.portsmouth-college.ac.uk/consultation/>

Information about Tangier Road Campus

We are a Campus which is filled with positive energy and which has a unique structure of the day: 9.55 am – 4 pm, in two blocks, for all lessons and no trapped time for students. Record numbers of level 3 students were successful in their courses last summer and 49% of them achieved A* - B grades or their equivalent. Numbers of students progressing on to Russell Group and other top 30 universities have also increased significantly between 2011 and 2021.

Portsmouth College was graded 'good' in all areas by Ofsted in March 2017. In a glowing report inspectors said that the College was an institution where students *'flourish, become more confident, enjoy their studies and make good progress.'*

A Culture of Innovation

Portsmouth College has continually sought to innovate over the last thirteen years. This has been most obvious in the unique 'Curious and Creative Learning' project which has seen all students, teachers and student-facing support staff receive an iPad. These are being used to transform learning, teaching and assessment at the College. The project has now seen us awarded Apple Distinguished School Status in 2019, one of only two UK Colleges to be recognised in this way by Apple.

The devices provide teachers with the technology to make lessons ever more interesting, up to date and engaging. They give students the chance to develop the independent research and digital literacy skills that are vital to their success at College and in the world beyond, and which are much valued by leading universities and employers. The project continues to genuinely transform the way everyone works on this campus. We have also embraced the need to develop the employability skills of our learners, to help them progress successfully to further study and employment. The 'E6 Programme' provides all students with the opportunity either to undertake work experience, volunteering placements, enterprise programmes, get

more exercise and work on their personal development. These programmes help students prepare for progression to either university or the world of work by developing their key employability skills. The enterprise programme sees interested students given the chance to develop their own small business ideas and put these into practice. Work experience is being arranged for students with a wide range of employers across the city. Students are also able to volunteer to help in a range of settings, giving something back to their local community with the energy and enthusiasm of youth.

The Sports Academy runs not only the traditional team sports in areas like football, hockey, netball and basketball, but also a range of exercise classes and individual participation sports such as Zumba, futsal, table-tennis and gym sessions. The 'E6 Programme' is designed to equip students with the wider soft skills they need to succeed at university and in work. The programme also complements our work with local employers, through the provision of a growing range of apprenticeship standards. These are allowing students to 'earn while they learn'; spending four days a week at work and one day a week getting sector-specific qualifications on campus.

This culture of innovation enabled Portsmouth College to win an Association of Colleges Beacon Award for the use of Technology in FE, 2017/18, effectively meaning we are one of the best colleges using hand-held technology with our students in the country! We were also shortlisted for the Times Educational Supplement Awards in the 'Best Teaching and Learning Initiative' and 'Outstanding Use of Technology'. We have also recently won the Sixth Form College Association Award for Community Impact in 2020 for our 'Flying Start' programme of online resources to help year 11s study in advance of college and while they were unable to attend school during lockdown. We were also awarded 3rd place in the National Association of Student Services Managers Inspirational Project of the Year for our student services work in 2019/20