

Local Skills Improvement Fund 2023-2025



National programme that aims to support:

- transformational activities that respond to the priorities in the LSIP;
- collaborative activity between providers;
- investment in new facilities and courses which meet local skills needs;
- excellence in college leadership, governance and teaching.

c£4.5m awarded to Lancashire's Colleges for three collaborative, pan-Lancashire projects



**Funded by
UK Government**

1. Skills for Sustainability

- Engaging local employers (construction, energy, transport sector)
- Raising awareness of opportunities / risks posed by move to net-zero and more sustainable practices
- Developing workforce development and skills plans
- Signposting to existing provision where appropriate, helping to navigate the system
- Developing new provision to meet needs
- Investing in more demonstrator and training facilities
- Staff CPD – new technologies

Preston College, Blackburn College, Lancaster & Morecambe College, Nelson & Colne College Group

2. Digital, Cyber and AI Employability Skills

- Engaging local employers (all sectors)
- Raising awareness of the efficiencies and opportunities that greater digitisation brings
- Helping them to identify the specific digital skills they need and to develop workforce development and skills plans
- Signposting to existing provision where appropriate, helping to navigate the system
- Developing new sector/role-specific digital content as part of the wider curriculum; 'digital employability skills'
- Staff CPD – new technologies

Burnley College, Blackburn College, Preston College. Runshaw College, West Lancashire College

3. Farm to Fork

- Encouraging employers to work more closely with schools / colleges to offer work experience, tasters, industry days, etc.
- Innovative opportunities e.g. competitions, allotments, college kitchens to raise awareness, develop and grow aspirations
- Expanding the curriculum offer, working with employers to develop new, short courses for workforce career progression
- Focusing on sustainable practices, embedding this into the curriculum and developing new, short courses
- Investing in new/upgraded training facilities including sustainable practice demonstrators.

Blackburn College, Myerscough College, Blackpool & The Fylde College, Lancaster & Morecambe College, Runshaw College, West Lancashire College

KPIs (March 2025)

- new courses developed / existing courses significantly enhanced in consultation with employers
 - 25 at level 3 (or equivalent)
 - 7 at level 4 (or equivalent)
 - 5 at level 5 (or equivalent)
- 550 learner starts on the above courses
- 3300 learners utilising new, industry-standard facilities/equipment to study
- 50 employers provide placements to teaching staff
- 370 teachers benefit from CPD
- Min £800K savings through collaboration across colleges

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