

Blackburn College Annual Report

2020 / 2021



Welcome from the Chair of the Corporation Board

Welcome to Blackburn College's Annual Report for the 2020/2021 academic year on behalf of the College's Corporation Board.

Whilst COVID-19 is still bringing new challenges to the world and significantly, within the education sector, we should be delighted with the way we have been able to make a successful return to in-person study and work. However, it is important that we remain aware and cautious about the virus and ensure that we are able to continue to work and learn in a safe and secure environment.

Even with the pandemic affecting students' study and education during the 2020/21 academic year, I am proud to report that the College has celebrated an increase in A-Level A*, A and B Grades with an overall BTEC Pass Rate of 99.7%. Our apprenticeship results also mean that we are the top College in Lancashire for apprenticeships.

Similarly, it was fantastic to be able to attend our 2020 and 2021 Graduation and watch our students celebrate their wonderful achievements. 2020 graduates have had to wait an extra year for their ceremony and with both sets of graduates having to work through the pandemic to achieve their results, they were richly deserving of their Graduation and able to celebrate their success with their peers at King George's Hall.

We have seen students start and complete the application process for applying to study at the University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford. Our new OxNet scheme will see more Blackburn College students progress to study to Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

Now that we have a larger understanding of the COVID-19 pandemic and the challenges this brings to Blackburn College, we are able to react and adapt to changing circumstances and Government guidelines to ensure that students and staff are able to continue working in a safe environment.

Through dedication, resilience and teamwork, we have been able to provide the best all-round education for our students. This is done to prepare them with the knowledge, confidence and skills they need to embark on a successful career in this ever-changing world.

Contents

About Blackburn College	4
Mission Statement	5
Our Success	6
Key Facts	7
Our Further Education Stars	8-11
Meet our Graduates	12-13
News Roundup	14-17
Comunity/Lockdown Heroes	18
Employability	19-20
Looking Ahead to 2022	21
Income and Expenditure Summary	22
Student and Staff Breakdown	23
Corporation Board	24



Welcome from the Principal and Chief Executive

As we reflect on the academic year 2020/2021, Blackburn College can be proud of how it has overcome the challenges posed with returning to study after the COVID-19 lockdown.

We have had to adapt and prepare for a return to campus for both staff and students and ensure that we all remain safe whilst on campus. It has been really pleasing to see staff and students follow the changing government guidance and come together to do what we can to stay safe.

Even with all of the challenges and adaptations students and staff had to make, Blackburn College achieved outstanding results with an overall 91% Achievement Rate across all Further Education courses, a 100% Pass Rate in many A-Level subjects and an overall 99.7% A-Level Pass Rate for the 2020/21 academic year; this included an increase in A* grades and an 8.6% increase in A grades.

This success means that students have progressed to top universities across the country such as Lancaster University, the University of Leeds and UCLan.

Last year, we saw the redevelopment of Blackburn Sixth Form which demonstrates our commitment to invest in our 16–18-year-old provision, to ensure our students have access to the highest quality Further Education, and facilities in a safe and secure environment. Blackburn Sixth Form is a place of high achievement, with a recently launched programme that will help A-Level students secure places at top universities including Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell Group universities.

Next year we hope to welcome even more students into our Blackburn College family.

Earlier in the year, Blackburn College was awarded a grant as part of the Further Education Capital Transformation Fund which will help us to redevelop our iconic Victoria Building.

The investment will help us to completely re-develop the Victoria Building as project to ensure the building and facilities support the skills needs of the local labour market and can contribute to local economic regeneration and the levelling-up of skills.

I commend this Annual Report to you and look forward to sharing successes with you in future years.

About Blackburn College

Blackburn College is the largest Further Education College in Pennine Lancashire and one of the larger providers of Higher Education for a College in England. Since 1888, people from all over Lancashire and beyond have developed their skills, retrained and moved to higher levels of study with Blackburn College's support.



Blackburn College is at the heart of the multi-racial community of Blackburn with Darwen and aims to provide social cohesion in an area of high deprivation. The College works with a range of local partnerships to contribute to the wider prosperity and regeneration of Pennine Lancashire.

The majority of students and Apprentices are from the most economically deprived local areas. Around a third of students and Apprentices are of minority ethnic heritage and almost two thirds of Further Education students enrol at the College without having achieved five GCSEs at grades 9 - 4 (A* - C), including English and Mathematics. Blackburn with Darwen is a 'Prevent' priority area and 14% of the local population have no qualifications. Millions of pounds have been invested in our world class, town centre campus which was developed collaboratively with employers and stakeholders to help future proof our curriculum and ensure our students are taught in industry-standard facilities.

We have successfully fostered excellent relationships with local and regional partners and employers. This results in a curriculum that meets local and regional needs and provides high quality work experience for students and Apprentices. We deliver specialist, bespoke training as well as Apprenticeships, Traineeships and Professional Qualifications, all of which equip the workforce with job relevant skills that match the current employment market.

Blackburn University Centre also provides Higher Education to students, including Foundation Degrees, Honours Degrees and Higher Level Apprenticeships. Our employer engagement supports employability through enhancements to curriculum development, mentoring placements, volunteering opportunities and industry specialist speakers.

The College is a founder member of HIVE — the Blackburn with Darwen Business Leaders' Network. HIVE has already become an integral part of the area's Local Strategic Partnership, which brings together leading figures from the private, public and third sectors and is Blackburn and Darwen's largest partnership body. The College has also been a key partner in the Blackburn Business Improvement District (BID) in recent years, supporting many local improvements.

Our Mission, Our Vision, Our Values

With a turnover of almost £37 million across Further Education, Higher Education and Training, we take a lead role in transforming Pennine Lancashire into a vibrant and successful economy through education and training that enhances the skills, aspirations and potential of the local economy.

Our Mission

Transforming students' lives and our community, through excellent education, training and support.

Our Vision

Aspiring, innovating and achieving through excellence.

We aim to develop people through learning and achievement for the benefit of themselves, society and the economy. Our focus is on meeting national and regional education, skills and employability needs for individuals and the needs of employers in line with Government priorities. We deliver quality education, training, employability and work-based learning solutions to thousands of organisations and learners. These include Government-funded and commercial skills training and education, bespoke professional courses, employability services and regional training contracts.

Our Values

Excellence

We strive for excellence to realise the potential of our students and staff.

Knowledge

We promote the value of learning in fostering curious minds and to aid the acquisition of knowledge and skills.

Empowerment

We empower our learners to change their lives through education and training.

Equality

We promote equality and diversity in our teaching, training, support and customer services.

Commitment

We are committed to the education, training and support of our students and staff.

Respect

We treat everyone equally and with respect.



Outstanding Success 2020/21

A-Levels

Increase in
A-Level A*, A and
B Grades*

40.5% A-Level
high grades
achieved*

100% A-Level Pass
Rate in Science
subjects, including
Maths, Biology and
Physics*

BTEC

Overall BTEC Pass
Rate is 99.7%*

Top 3 curriculum
specialism are:
Science, Engineering
and Health and Social
Care

Apprenticeships

Top College in
Lancashire for All
Ages Apprenticeship
Success**

Top 10 College in
England for 16-18-year-
old Advanced
Apprentice Success**

Top three
Apprenticeship sector
subject areas: Childhood
studies, Hair and
Business



Higher Education course statistics

More than 50 higher
education courses
running in 2021/22;

including HNCs, Degrees with
Foundation Entry, Degrees with
Industry Year, and a range of
courses with full time and part
time options.

10% of graduates
gained a first-class
honours degree

Blackburn University
Centre is partnered with
Lancaster University, one
of the top universities in
the UK.

More than 85% of higher
education provision offered at the
College is validated by Lancaster
University.

*Blackburn College Results: August 2021

**Timely Success

Key Facts

Further Education

We believe that College's Student Support Package for School Leavers (ages 16-18) is the best in Pennine Lancashire:

- Free and Low Cost Travel Pass
- £1,000 Scholarships
- Free Breakfast
- Free Wi-Fi across the campus
- Advance Employability Programme
- Work placements
- Guaranteed progression opportunities to Blackburn University Centre

Apprenticeships

Our Apprenticeship programmes have clear progression pathways from Traineeships/ Flying Start programmes, to Intermediate, Advanced, Higher and Degree Level, meaning our Apprenticeships are:

- Rated 'Good' by Ofsted
- Top College in Lancashire for all ages Apprenticeship Success*
- Top 10 in England for 16-18-year-old Advanced Apprentice Success**

*Timely Success

** Blackburn College Results, August 2021

***2021 National Student Survey (NSS)

Higher Education

- Over 85% of our degrees are validated by UK top University, Lancaster University
- Our other awarding bodies include the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) and the University of South Wales

Blackburn University Centre has:

- Overall satisfaction higher than the national rate***
- Student satisfaction – with 'Teaching on my course' – 5% higher than the sector average***

Employers

Over 850 employers supporting Apprenticeships and industry placements, including:

- **389** providing Apprenticeships
- **202** offering work placements
- **132** offering extended industry placements
- **128** supporting students

Our employers include:



Meet our Further Education Stars

Amy Holmes

School: St Christopher's CoE High School

Studied: A-Level Maths, Physics, Extended Project and Fine Art

Achieved: A, A, A, B

Progressing to: MSc (Hons) Natural Sciences
- Lancaster University Centre

"I chose Blackburn College because I was ready to move away from a high school environment and I liked the learning atmosphere at the College. The best things about Blackburn College were the freedom around campus and the structure of the lessons.

"My experience was positive and I definitely made the right choice to study here. The tutors were always friendly and passionate about their subject areas, which made learning easier and enjoyable. I'm now going to Lancaster University to continue my studies in Mathematics and Physics, leading onto a career in these areas."



Jessica Thomas

School: Darwen Vale High School

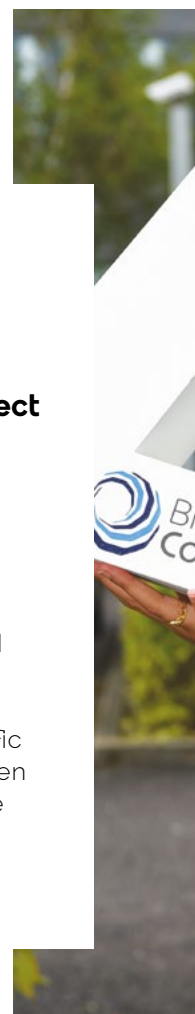
Studied: A-Level Fine Art, Physics and Extended Project

Achieved: A*, A, B

Progressing to: BSc (Hons) Civil Engineering
- University of Leeds

"I choose to study at Blackburn College after attending a Saturday art class where I had a great time with the tutor and experiencing the facilities. This was definitely a big part of me deciding that Blackburn College was where I would continue my studies.

"I've really loved the practical elements of my courses, especially Art and Physics with drawing and the scientific experiments. The mix between practical and theory kept the subjects interesting and I enjoyed this."





John Harbord

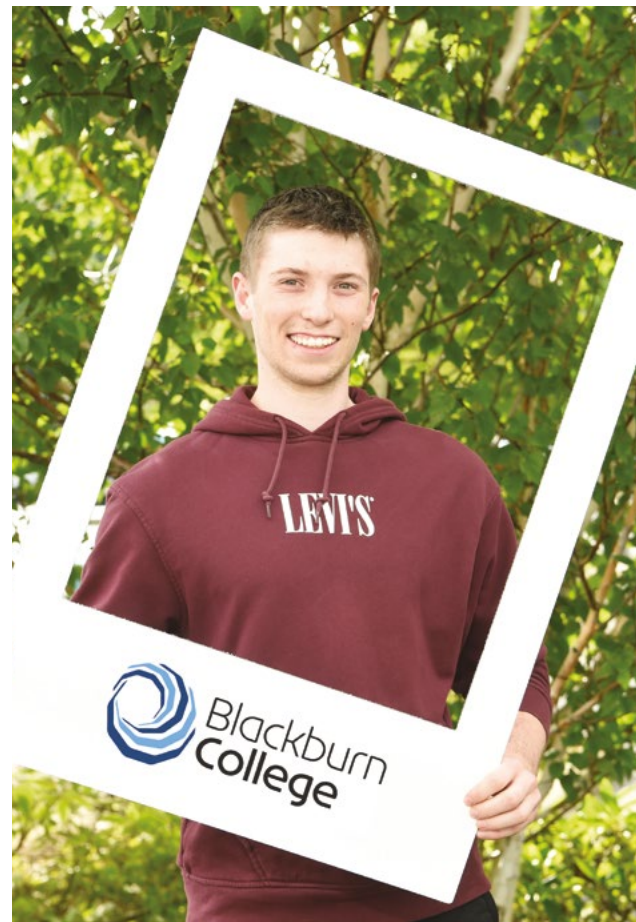
Studied: Level 3 Engineering and Maths in Context

Achieved: Triple Distinction Star and A in Maths in Context

Progressing to: Degree Apprenticeship at BAE Systems

"I chose Blackburn College as it is the closest college that offered the Engineering course I was interested in. The College was the perfect walking distance from the Mall, so there was always something to do on lunch breaks.

"I really enjoyed my project, which involved designing and prototyping a new product. The tutors were great and always helped any way they could. I am about to begin my degree apprenticeship in Engineering at BAE systems."



Shiza Iqbal

School: Our Lady & St John Catholic Arts College

Studied: Science Level 3 Extended Diploma and A-Level Maths

Achieved: Triple Distinction Star in Applied Science and A* in A-Level Maths

Progressing to: MPharm - University of Central Lancashire

"I chose to study the BTEC Applied Science as it best reflected my passion for the subject; I love the cells and anatomy of Biology as well as the atoms and molecules in Chemistry, which are all tightened together by Physics and knotted by Maths.

"I knew that I wanted to work in the NHS or within the scientific field, but I was not sure about the exact profession that I wanted to pursue which is why

I chose applied science so I could explore all the subjects even more, before making my life-changing decisions of my university course and subsequent career.

"I have found the course fascinating and been particularly interested in Chemistry which has led me to choose to study Pharmacy at university."



Joy Bradshaw

Studied: Science Level 3 Extended Diploma and A-Level Maths

Achieved: Triple Distinction Star in Science and A* in A-Level Maths

Progressing to: BSc (Hons) Midwifery at Middlesex University

"I first dropped out at a different college as it wasn't the experience for me but Blackburn College enabled me to study on the BTEC course that I really wanted to study.

"The best part of my course for me was my tutors' teaching style. The teachers allowed me to work independently but they were

also there to provide me with new knowledge to help me progress through my course. Their style also helped me to pick things up easily.

"I really enjoyed the course, I had to work hard but I had support from my tutors."

Myles Campbell

School: Ribblesdale Secondary School

Studied: Sport Level 3 (BTEC Star Awards winner)

Achieved: Triple Distinction Star

Progressing to: BA (Hons) Physical Education and School Sport, Edge Hill University

"I chose Blackburn College as the Sport and Leisure Centre facilities provided are unlike any other College in the area and exceeded my expectations. As I live outside of Blackburn, the bus pass was also a benefit that no other Colleges could offer.

"My tutors have really helped me achieve my grades, especially through the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I wouldn't have achieved these grades without their help: from extra resources, emails to answer any of our questions and also ensuring we are happy at College and keeping us motivated. I always knew where I was up to with my work and received feedback on all my assignments which helped me to know how well I had done or what I needed to do to improve next time."





Gracie Gaskell

School: The Hollins Technology College

Achieved: Triple Distinction Star

Progressing to: Ryanair Cabin Crew

"I have really enjoyed learning new things and discovering new interests – the College has given me a route into my dream carer as Cabin Crew."

Holly Readfern

Studied: Level 2 Apprenticeship for Hair Professionals

Achieved: Distinction

Progressing to: Graduate Designer at Mojo Hair and Beauty

"The facilities at College were really helpful in putting my hairdressing skills to practice, there was lots of equipment to use.

I was more than prepared for the End Point Assessment having had lots of support from my teachers who continued to deliver training during lockdown and worked with me on finalising my practical skills once the salon reopened."



Meet our graduates

Lamisa Ugradar

Studied: BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering - First Class Honours and STEM award

Now: Leadership Programme at Assystem Nuclear

"The support that I received was the best thing about studying at Blackburn University Centre for me. You were able to have close and supportive relationships with your tutors and they also gave us lots of help, particularly throughout the pandemic. The engineering workshop was really interesting and we got to use advanced machinery and tools. I am currently working on a leadership programme at Assystem in Blackburn which is a nuclear engineering company. I want to continue in mechanical engineering and eventually achieve chartered status to become a Chartered Engineer. I am extremely proud of myself and really excited to be awarded the STEM award. I felt honoured to receive the award."



Kenneth Cooper

Studied: BSc (Hons) Applied Psychology

"It was a massive change and a challenge going back to academic learning after all these years, but I had a fantastic tutor who provided a lot of support and I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to be on a course with. Without their support I wouldn't be where I am today so I really want to offer them my thanks."

Sarah Harwood

Studied: HNC Construction and the Built Environment

Now: Qualified Site Manager at The Casey Group

"The construction industry is male dominated and I wanted to show that a woman can work in this industry, and also be the first woman at work to do this. This has been challenging, especially with having family at home and squeezing this into two years. It really did go very quickly. I have had lots of support from Blackburn University Centre, I definitely couldn't have done it without my tutors. I am so proud of myself."



Finnuala Buckmaster

Studied: BA (Hons) Business with Management

Now: Business Manager at HITT Fitness Company

"I'm so pleased to have managed to get my degree and can't quite believe that I also won the Outstanding Achievement Award for the school of Business, Commercial and Technology. I've worked really hard so I'm delighted that it's paid off. I had my heart set on getting a degree but knew I'd need to fit it in with my other commitments. The course at Blackburn University Centre was ideal because it was part-time and I could still work too. I loved the fact that Blackburn University Centre is smaller and more personal than many universities and that they provided a lot of support."



Craig Harkness

Studied: Law LLB (Hons)

"I lost my job after working for 16 years, I couldn't find any work so I thought I would try education again, improve my skills and broaden my horizons. I thought about Law as I find Employment Law interesting, I would like to work in this field now that I have graduated."

"The best bits about studying at Blackburn University Centre were the small class sizes. You aren't just a number, you are allowed to build good rapport with your tutors who help you to develop. There is lots of time for one to ones and if you have personal issues, they are there to help you."

News Roundup 2020/21



Increases in A-Level High Grades and outstanding BTEC results at Blackburn College

Students and staff at Blackburn College celebrated as students collected their A-Level and BTEC Results with the numbers of Blackburn College students achieving high grades continuing to improve.

Blackburn College students achieved a 100% A-Level pass rate in science subjects including Maths, Further Maths, Biology, Physics and in other popular A-Level student choices including Accounting, Law and Psychology.

Meanwhile the College celebrated that 41.4% of A-Levels are graded A* to B in a year when students have had to contend with periods of home and remote learning due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Blackburn College's success means students are set to progress to top universities across the country including Lancaster University, The University of Manchester, and the University of Leeds as well as students choosing to study locally at the College's own University Centre.

The 2020/21 student cohort are progressing to a range of subject areas including: Civil Engineering, Maths and Physics, Pharmacy and more. Some students are also progressing to Degree Apprenticeships.

Blackburn Sixth Form

£1m redeveloped Blackburn Sixth Form officially opened to coincide with Colleges Week

The College officially opened its £1m redeveloped Sixth Form to coincide with Colleges Week.

The ribbon was cut on the new Blackburn Sixth Form by Chair of the Corporation Board Lillian Croston alongside Dr Fazal Dad, Principal and Chief Executive.

Guests including College governors, staff and students, along with members of local schools and industry partners, attended the event to mark the start of national Colleges Week.

Blackburn Sixth Form is home to 300 A-Level students studying a wide range of A-Level courses along with students studying on a range of complementary vocational qualifications. The opening of the new centre coincides with the numbers of A-Level students doubling compared to 2020/21 enrolments.

The redevelopment of the former St Paul's Centre has seen the creation of new social spaces, drop-off facilities, and study areas and an expansion of the number of purpose-built classrooms. It is also home to scientific laboratories, a student hub, computing suites and a café.



National Success for Blackburn College Students

Two Blackburn College students were successful in the national BTEC Awards.

Myles Campbell, 18, and Declan Rigby, 17, both scooped podium finishes in the Sport and Engineering categories respectively. The awards ceremony was held online and broadcast on YouTube in July.

Clitheroe resident Myles Campbell's hard-work and dedication was recognised with a silver award in the BTEC Sports Learner of the Year category.

Myles was praised for his positive attitude towards the practical elements of his Level 3 BTEC Sport course and how he embraced his work experience.

Meanwhile, former Walton-le-Dale High School pupil Declan, was recognised in the Engineering Student of the Year category. Declan returned to Blackburn College in September to complete the second year of his Engineering Extended Diploma.

Blackburn College is the driving force behind new £1.3m renewable energy motor vehicle project

The college is leading the Lancashire Automotive Skills Accelerator Project funded by the Department for Education, as part of The Skills Accelerator Strategic Development Fund.

The project, which was officially launched at Blackburn College, will create low-carbon skills centres across Lancashire, providing significant investment in cutting-edge technologies and upskilling teachers to ensure that courses meet the needs of employers and the industry.

The skills centres will support the Government's commitment to withdrawing the sale of new petrol or diesel cars in 2030 as part of the UK's net-zero targets.



More than 600 students celebrate their success at Blackburn University Centre's graduation

Hundreds of students donned gowns and gowns as they turned out for Blackburn University Centre's 2020 and 2021 graduation ceremonies.

Around 600 students turned out to celebrate their successes at three graduation ceremonies held at King George's Hall.

Two ceremonies were held for students graduating in 2021, while a special graduation ceremony was held for students from 2020 as their graduation was postponed due to Covid-19.

Drummers began the procession which started at the University Centre, led by college university partners from Lancaster University, the University of Central Lancashire and the University of South Wales.

The College's Leadership Team and Corporation Board were also in attendance along with the Mayor of Blackburn, Councillor Derek Hardman, and Mayoress Colette Hardman.





Success for Blackburn College in National Student Survey (NSS)

Blackburn College students have once again confirmed their satisfaction with their Higher Education courses at Blackburn University Centre, despite plummeting national figures.

The Covid-19 pandemic has seen national reductions in student satisfaction with their universities throughout England, whilst Blackburn University Centre continues to be recognised for Overall Student Satisfaction and in all the categories used to assess the Student Experience.

Students have rated their Satisfaction with "the Teaching on my course" 5% higher than the sector average and the College's results exceed the national rate in the categories of "Teaching, Learning Opportunities, Assessment and Feedback, Academic Support and Organisation and Management" - all categories used to assess the student experience.



Blackburn College Delighted to Welcome Minister for Apprenticeships and Skills

Blackburn College welcomed Minister for Apprenticeships and Skills Gillian Keegan for a virtual meeting.

Gillian met with the College's Principal and Chief Executive Dr Fazal Dad, Director of Business Development and External Engagement, Nicola Clayton and Head of Marketing, Ben Taylor.

During the visit Gillian got to meet Apprentices from a range of businesses and sectors including: Adam Beardsworth an Electrical Installation Apprentice and Asma Molvi Early Years

Educator Apprentice, both employed by Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council; Katie Topping Early Years Apprentice with QEGS nursery; Emily Biggin and Nathaniel Craven Institute of Leadership and Management Apprentices at Standfast and Barracks, a fabric printing company based in Lancaster.

Minister for Apprenticeships and Skills Gillian Keegan said: "It was great to visit Blackburn College and speak to some of their talented apprentices. It was fantastic to hear their excitement for where their apprenticeship will take them and why they decided to start their journey."

Community / Lockdown Heroes



Blackburn College Lockdown Hero Megan Supports Elderly and Vulnerable

Blackburn College student Megan Hunter has been supporting the elderly and vulnerable members of the community for almost a year in her spare time.

Megan, who studied the College's Professional Cookery Level 3 course, has been volunteering with community group Friends of Infirmary Area since June 2020, which is led by Hannah Goldthorpe.

Using her Catering and Hospitality skills, the former Our Lady and St John Catholic College student has been preparing, cooking and delivering meals to those who have needed support throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and the multiple national lockdowns.

Megan, 18, said: "I decided to start volunteering with Friends of Infirmary Area last summer because during the first Coronavirus lockdown I was stuck at home a lot so I thought why not do some volunteering and give back to the community."

Blackburn College ESOL Learner Daljeet is Lockdown Community Hero

Inspirational Blackburn College student Daljeet Sachdeva has been volunteering and giving back to the community during lockdown.

Originally from Afghanistan, Daljeet is an Asylum Seeker who currently studies the College's English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) course. In her spare time, she has been doing amazing voluntary work for charity YMCA Blackburn.

Through YMCA, Daljeet has been distributing food parcels, organising and hosting educational activity Zoom calls for children, keeping the community informed via the YMCA platforms, giving talks in schools and leading an International Women's Day online event.

Daljeet, 21, said: "When I arrived in Blackburn I felt quite helpless because it was a new place for me and there was no one in the town who could help me with my paperwork. I went to YMCA for help and after a while they asked me if I would like to join as a volunteer – I went home to think about it and said yes the next day. I have learned new things and I feel YMCA is the best place – I have been volunteering there for two years."

"I always remember my Dad's advice – he would say 'Daljeet, no matter how cruel the world is, always try to do good work and help everyone'."



Employability



Students receive volunteering opportunities at the British Textile Biennial

Blackburn College students were given the opportunity to get involved with a major textile festival taking place in Lancashire.

Creative Arts students received a talk from Uzma Raziq, Community Liaison Manager at The Super Slow Way about opportunities on offer for them to volunteer at the 2021 Textiles Biennial.

Several arts and entertainment venues across Lancashire hosted exhibitions for the Textiles Biennial, and Blackburn College students were able to sign up for volunteering positions after a Q&A with Uzma.

Uzma said: "We have a range of volunteer opportunities for students as part of the British Textile Biennial. Volunteers are vital for us to be able to hold the biennial, but it is also a great opportunity for students to be able to develop a range of skills that will help them in future careers, including networking and confidence building."



Blackburn College Launches New Advance Employment Programme

The College launched its new Advance Employment Programme for 16-18-year-old learners.

The Advance Employment Programme is designed to facilitate the improvement of professional skills - ensuring learners are prepared for work and further study and to ensure they develop the attributes needed to excel in their career.

The programme is endorsed by top employers including East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust, Electricity North West and PM+M Accountants. Skills learned through the programme will help people shape future employment and career goals through four key areas: Career Focussed, Progression Ready, Engaged with Employers and Excelling in Development of Skills, Knowledge, Behaviours and Attitudes.



College Construction Learners Play Key Role in Patrick Grant Project

Construction students from Blackburn College took part in the Homegrown Hometown Patrick Grant project on Higher Audley Street.

Learners from the College's Level 2 Fitted Interiors and Foundation Learning Construction courses used their skills to build wooden fencing that has formed the perimeter around a flax field. The fencing was installed by Blackburn College tutor Craig Parkinson.

The learners installed 40 metres of wooden fencing, fitted two gates, dug holes and installed 20 posts with concrete. They also bashed in 112 wooden posts before fixing approximately 200 metres of wire stock fencing to the posts to make a secure enclosure.

The purpose of the project is to take a piece of waste ground in Blackburn, clear it, plough it, plant and grow flax, woad and indigo. This will then be harvested, weaved and dyed in order to make jeans for the British Textile Biennial.



Health and Social Care Students Enjoy Careers Talk From Sector Employers

Students from Blackburn College's Health and Social Care courses enjoyed careers insights from the sector's top Employers in Lancashire.

The learners completed activities and discussed potential job pathways including nursing with the guest speakers. The College was delighted to welcome Samantha Sherrington, Head of Community Nursing, Joanne Hartley RGN BSc (Hons) Public Health, Assistant Matron for District Nursing, and Rebecca Stanworth, Practice Based Educator for Community and Intermediate Care Provision.

Blackburn College tutor Kimberley Wells said: "This was such a fantastic opportunity for our learners to discover working opportunities and receive precious and valuable advice from industry specialists. I would like to personally thank Samantha, Jane and Carole for giving up some of their time to share their experiences and tips with our students."

Looking Ahead to 2022

Plans for redeveloped Victoria Building and launch of the OxNet programme.

Blackburn College's historic Victoria Building will undergo a redevelopment in 2022 using a Government grant.

This investment forms part of the Government's £1.5bn Further Education Capital Transformation Fund and Blackburn College is one of 16 institutions across the UK to receive a share of the funding.

The college's Victoria Building will be completely re-developed as part of a project to ensure the building and facilities support the skills needs of the local labour market and can contribute to local economic regeneration and the levelling-up of skills.

Principal and Chief Executive, Dr Fazal Dad, said: "Blackburn College is delighted with the allocation through phase two of the Further Education Capital Transformation Fund to re-develop the College's iconic Victoria Building, which first opened as Blackburn Technical School.

"The College is excited and the investment is extremely welcomed to support the College's outstanding student performance."

The College's exciting plans include the complete refurbishment of the listed building and the redevelopment of the current creative arts studios.

The redeveloped building will also include a training suite for adults and spaces for employers and community education including dedicated facilities for ESOL (English Speakers of Other Languages) students.

In the technical area of study, Motor Vehicle are embarking on a new £1.3m motor vehicle project which will bridge the skills gap in low-carbon vehicle mechanics. We are leading the Lancashire Automotive Skills Accelerator Project funded by the Department for Education, as part of The Skills Accelerator Strategic Development Fund. Our Regional Automotive Technology Hub (RATH) will focus on Electric and Hybrid vehicle maintenance, service and repair. We are dedicated in developing our offering and meeting the skills needed for future industries.

Blackburn Sixth Form students will now benefit from a new partnership between Blackburn Sixth Form and the University of Oxford, the University of Cambridge and other Russell Group universities with the launch of the OxNet programme.

Blackburn College will become a central hub for the prestigious programme which will help provide students with information and advice for applying to Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

The OxNet programme is an intensive 12-month academic programme for year 12 pupils living in the North West, North East and London, which leads to a residential at Pembroke College at the University of Oxford. The course involves a mixture of study days, essays, series, Easter conferences, summer schools and talks.

Income and Expenditure Summary

2020/21

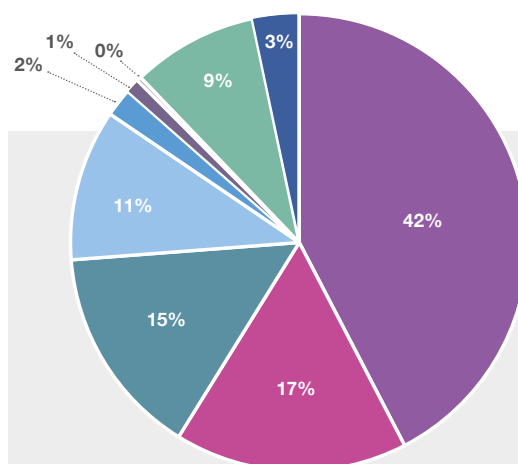
Income by Type

	£'000s
Funding Body Grants Further Education	19,487
Funding Body Grant ESFA Condition Fund	823
Funding Body Grants Higher Education	589
Tuition Fees & Education Contracts Further Education	450
Apprenticeships	1,761
Tuition Fees & Education Contracts Higher Education	9,834
Research Grants & Contracts	768
Commercial Income	894
Capital Grant Releases	1,016
Other Income	1,102
Total Income	36,724

What we spent our money on in 2020/21

	£'000s
Teaching Departments	14,725
Teaching Support Services	5,721
Administration & Central Services	5,194
Operational & Maintenance	3,720
Examination Fees	695
Commercial Staffing	351
Subcontracting, Pension Charges & Apprenticeship Levy	109
Depreciation	3,086
Interest & Other Finance Costs	1,147
Total	35,563

What we spent our money on in 2020/21 as a percentage



- Teaching Departments
- Teaching Support Services
- Administration & Central Services
- Operational & Maintenance
- Examination Fees
- Commercial Staffing
- Subcontracting, Pension Charges & Apprenticeship Levy
- Depreciation
- Interest & Other Finance Costs

Expenditure by Type

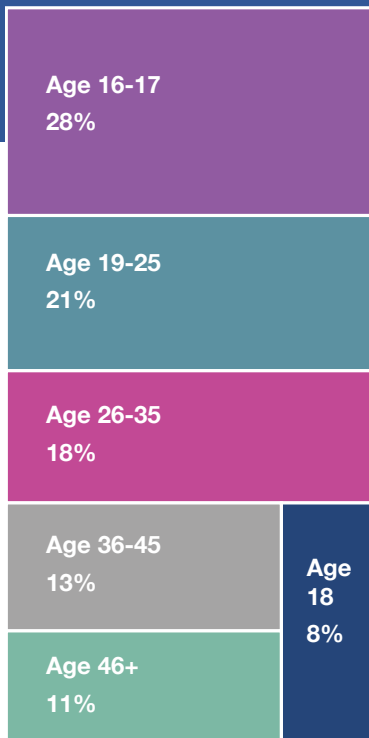
	£'000s
Staff Costs	23,538
Other Operating Expenses	8,792
Depreciation	3,086
Interest & Other Finance Costs	1,147
Total Expenditure	35,563

Capital Investment

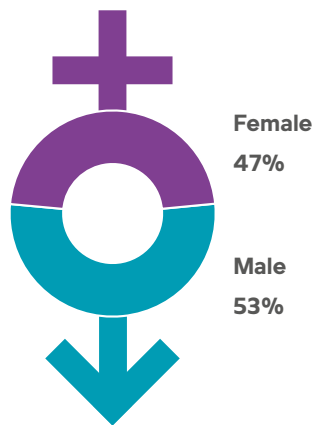
During the year we spent a further £1,042,000 on capital investments to support the improvement of resources and buildings for our students.

Student Population by Gender, Ethnicity and Age

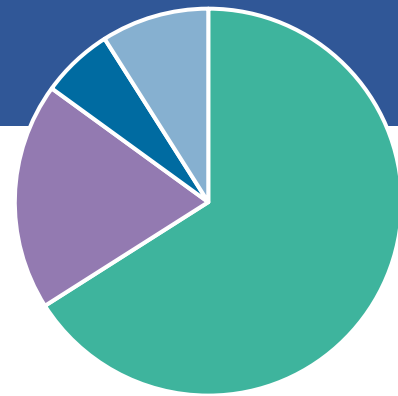
Age



Gender



Ethnicity



White	66%
Pakistani	19%
Indian	6%
Other Ethnic Minority	9%

Mode of Study



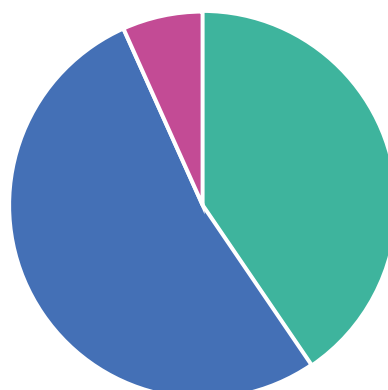
Students with a Learning Difficulty/Disability



Staff Breakdown

766 people employed by the College in 2020/21

Academic	40.4%
Business Support	52.7%
Management	6.7%



Corporation Board

Corporation Board Member	Committee Membership
Lilian Croston – Chair of the Corporation Board	Remuneration, Learning and Quality, Chair of Governance Panel, Student Voice Governor Champion: Teaching, Learning and Assessment
Paul Levelt – Vice Chair of the Corporation Board	Chair of Policy and Resources, Governance Panel, Chair of Remuneration
Dr Fazal Dad – Principal and Chief Executive	Policy and Resources, Learning and Quality, Governance Panel
Professor Waqar Ahmed (to 12/07/2021)	Policy and Resources
Mark Allanson	Chair of Learning and Quality, Governance Panel, Governor Champion – Careers and Employability
Kerry Baron (from 11/10/2020)	HE Student Governor, Learning and Quality
Geoff Disley (to 31/03/2021)	Learning and Quality
Paul Fleming	Student Voice, Audit Committee
Ram Gupta (from 12/03/2021)	Learning and Quality
Catherine Hill OBE	Student Voice, Learning and Quality, Governor Champion: Safeguarding and SEND
Chris Johnson	Chair of Audit
Michael Lee	Policy and Resources
Kathryn Lord	Policy and Resources
Mark Moren (from 17/05/2021)	Learning and Quality
Paul Morris	Governor Champion: Health, Safety and Staff Welfare, Policy and Resources
Shru Morris (to 15/01/2021)	Audit
Glenys Pashley- Crawford	Learning and Quality
Arif Patel	Policy and Resources, Governor Champion: Equality and Diversity
Roger Spensley	Policy and Resources, Remuneration
Brooklyn Spiers (from 11/10/2020)	FE Student Governor, Audit
Taiyab Sufi (from 02/07/2021)	Audit

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