

Coleg Gwent

YOUR GUIDE TO JOINING US AS A COLEG GWENT GOVERNOR

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WELCOME TO COLEG GWENT

Coleg Gwent is one of Wales' top performing colleges and is an integral part of the communities we serve. We have nearly 40,000 enrolments on courses across five campuses, our **business training centre** and our **community venues**. We are an inclusive college and our staff work extremely hard to help each of our learners fulfil their potential.

In the Welsh Government's most recent Learner Outcomes report we were ranked first in Wales for vocational courses and joint second for all main qualification success rates combined. Our **A Levels** are above the national average, plus we have been rated 'excellent' in 17 out of 24 subject areas - so we have a lot to celebrate.

One of Wales' top performing colleges

We're the top performing college in Wales for vocational courses

- 40% of extended diploma students achieved triples distinctions – the equivalent of 3 A grades at A Level
- 66% of extended diploma students gained at least one distinction
- The pass rate at Level 1 is 94% and the pass rate at Level 2 is 94%
- 66% of extended diploma students gained at least one distinction

We're joint top in Wales for academic courses, including A Levels

In 2016/17 our A Level pass rates were above the UK and Wales averages:

- Blaenau Gwent Learning Zone - 99%
- Crosskeys Campus - 99%

As one of the largest colleges in

Wales we have big ambitions...

OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

VISION

THE College of Choice.

MISSION

Enhancing Life Chances.

Educational Excellence.

For All.

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2016 – 2019

1. Every learner will achieve their full potential
2. Every learner will experience excellent teaching and assessment
3. Every learner will receive excellent care, guidance and support
4. The college will provide excellent leadership and governance at all levels
5. The college will ensure a sustainable future

...and you could help us achieve them

OUR CAMPUSES

We are one college, but each campus is unique.

Blaenau Gwent Learning Zone



- A full range of vocational courses, from motorsport to music and everything in between
- Home to over 1,500 FE students
- The key provider in Blaenau Gwent's tertiary education system
- Achieved the best A Level results Blaenau Gwent has ever had – 99.6% in 2016 - higher than the national average

City of Newport Campus



- Offers a wide range of vocational courses
- Home to the International team who link with overseas colleges to bring students to Newport to study – they won the British Council Award for Building International Partnerships in 2015
- Includes a large team delivering English as a Second Language course
- Works in partnership with local 11-18 schools, including providing alternative curriculum opportunities to year 10 and year 11 students
- Home to around 2,500 FE students
- Plans to develop a new city centre campus in Newport (Newport Knowledge Quarter), in partnership with Newport City Council and [University of South Wales](#)

OUR CAMPUSES

We are one college, but each campus is unique.

Crosskeys Campus



- Offers a full range of vocational courses from hair and beauty to hospitality and catering
- The main provider of A Levels in the area producing excellent results across 34 subjects – with a pass rate of 99.2% in 2016
- Home to nearly 3,000 FE students
- State of the art performing arts facilities including a theatre, drama studio and a recording and editing suite
- Home to **Morels** – a commercial training restaurant serving delicious food to the public

Pontypool Campus



- Offers a range of vocational courses
- Works in partnership with the schools in Torfaen
- Home to the **Gwent Welsh for Adults Centre** offering courses for individuals, groups and employers
- Base for **The Priory**, a specialist centre for meeting the educational and social needs of young people with autistic spectrum disorders

OUR CAMPUSES

We are one college, but each campus is unique.

Usk Campus



- A rural site offering **land based, sport and public services courses**
- Includes 296 acre working farm, animal care centre and **equine centre**
- Home to the **Adult Skills Centre** – working with adults with mild to moderate learning difficulties
- Base for one of the UK's most successful **Blue Cross cat rehoming centres**

Coleg Gwent Business Royal Chambers



- The college's commercial arm offering **bespoke training**, professional qualifications and short courses for businesses and individuals
- **Apprenticeships** in engineering, motor vehicle, construction, health and care and hospitality
- Based in the heart of Newport city centre but delivering training across south Wales and in to Bristol
- Works with clients including the Celtic Manor, BAE Systems and the Royal Mint

A new campus in development to be based in Cwmbran, providing Post-16 education for Torfaen. Planned opening date, September 2020

We offer something for everyone

Full time courses

We offer hundreds of courses across 18 subject areas at 5 campuses. The majority of our full time students come to us after their GCSEs but we also attract older learners who want to retrain.

Higher education

We offer a growing profile of **university courses** at all of our campuses, so people can achieve university qualifications locally, without having to travel further afield. We have collaborative partnerships with the **University of South Wales**, **Aberystwyth University** and the **University of Worcester**.



Part time courses

People wanting to study part time have lots of options – they can study **at our campuses**, in **community venues** across our 5 local authority areas and **online**. Our courses include professional qualifications, college certificates and a selection of hobby-related classes.

Business training

Coleg Gwent Business offers professional training for business and individuals. Working closely with clients the team can tailor training to bespoke needs or provide professional short courses to meet industry regulations. Our extensive range of courses cover many business sectors and includes ILM, cyber security, site safety, first aid, food safety, NEBOSH, Microsoft Office, chainsaw and many more.

Our **Apprenticeships** team are also part of Coleg Gwent Business.

OUR OFFER

Apprenticeships

Coleg Gwent is part of a larger consortium of colleges and training providers, B-wbl, which offers high quality work based courses. We focus on the construction, motor vehicle, engineering, health and hospitality sectors.



Gwent Welsh for Adults Centre

Through the Gwent Adults Community Learning Partnership the Welsh for Adults Centre offers hundreds of Welsh courses at community venues across south east Wales, as well as at its base at Pontypool Campus. Courses range from complete beginner to advanced, and the centre also runs social events, summer schools and family activities.

Adult community learning

We deliver an extensive choice of courses in the local communities in Newport, Caerphilly, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen and Monmouthshire. Our courses are uniquely designed to accommodate busy lifestyles and work or family commitments.

The range of courses we offer is as

diverse as our local communities

OUR GOVERNING BODY

Coleg Gwent Further Education Corporation is our governing body (also referred to as 'The Board'). The Board is made up of voluntary, unpaid members drawn from the public sector, local business, the community and College staff and students.

Who are we?

We have 16 Board members including the Principal/Chief Executive, two members of staff and two students. We recruit governors on the basis of providing The Board with the necessary range of skills and experience to oversee the running of the college. Each of us brings our own expertise and insight to the role.

What is our role?

The Board meets monthly under the leadership of the Chair and our key responsibilities are:

- To determine the educational character and mission of the college
- To oversee the college's activities
- To ensure the effective and efficient use of resources
- To ensure the financial sustainability of the college
- To approve the annual operating budget
- The appointment, appraisal, suspension and determination of the pay and conditions of service of senior post holders
- Dismissal of senior post holders
- Setting a framework for the pay and conditions of service of all other staff
- Reviewing and approving the Strategic Plan
- Ensuring arrangements are in place to advise the Principal on the planning, coordination and development of the academic work of the college

Our committees

The Board operates a number of committees who work together to meet our objectives:

The **Audit Committee** meets termly and is responsible for internal control, risk management and the monitoring of compliance with statutory internal and external audit requirements.

The **Search Committee** meets termly and deals with governor recruitment and development as well as monitoring the skills profile of The Board.

The **Remuneration Committee** meets annually to consider the performance, pay and conditions of service for the senior post holders (the Principal, Vice Principals and Governance Officer).

Other committees include those related to disciplinary matters and ad-hoc working groups to address specific issues.

We hold termly strategic seminars where members explore key strategic issues and debate longer term plans in more depth.

WHY JOIN US?

We're a successful and purposeful college

As well as achieving excellent pass rates, our students frequently take part in skills competitions with exceptional levels of success. Some recent successes include:

- Gold and Silver in the UK Skills beauty competition
- Gold in the fitness instructor Skills Competition Wales final
- Gold in the accountancy Skills Competition Wales final
- Gold and silver in the Inclusive Skills Carpentry competition
- SPARKS UK Electrical Apprentice of the Year

Governors play a key role in supporting this success.

Our work is rewarding

Having such an influence on the lives and futures of others is incredibly challenging but hugely rewarding. It's extremely satisfying hearing stories from previous students who have gone on to achieve their goals having laid the foundations for their success at Coleg Gwent. The Board is always keen to celebrate successful outcomes and Governors enjoy attending events such as our annual awards evenings. As a Governor you'll also be making a positive contribution to the communities we serve.

You'll broaden your experience

Not only will the college benefit from your input as a governor – you'll have the opportunity to extend your networks, acquire new skills and gain experience which will contribute to your own personal development.

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

We look for talented, dedicated and enthusiastic individuals to join our Board. As a governor, you'd be expected to:

- Comply with the Statutory Instrument and Articles of Government and other statutory documents
- Attend monthly Board meetings (usually a Tuesday evening)
- Read papers you're provided with and prepare for meetings
- Attend termly strategic seminars
- Contribute to any committee on which you serve (meetings are usually termly)
- Support all decisions taken by the Board on the basis of 'collective responsibility'
- Apply your skills and expertise for the benefit of the Corporation
- Always act in the best interests of the Corporation
- Participate in governor development/awareness opportunities
- Take an interest in wider college life and where possible, attend college events
- Abide by the Code of Conduct for Corporation and Committee Members and the Code of Good Governance for Colleges in Wales

DO YOU FIT THE BILL?

We aim for our board to be as diverse as our college population and welcome interest from all walks of life, therefore we don't have a definitive profile, but we are looking for some key characteristics:

- A strong interest in further education and training and a determination to improve student success
- A knowledge of the local area and its economic, social and political character
- An ability to understand complex matters relating to public education and training policy, college planning and college performance
- A sense of ambition for Coleg Gwent
- An ability to form effective working relationships with fellow governors and with students, staff and stakeholders
- An ability to scrutinise, challenge and actively support the work of the senior staff of the college
- An ability to contribute to a learning governing body through example
- A desire to work hard as a volunteer governor for the benefit of Coleg Gwent
- A willingness to act honestly, openly and with integrity

What's next?

If you're interested in being part of a successful, rewarding and diverse college, please contact:

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For more information visit our website: www.coleggwent.ac.uk