
ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20



INTRODUCTION: THE PRINCIPAL AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



The past year has presented us with unprecedented challenges in the form of the national COVID-19 pandemic and its related socio-economic shockwaves. This demanded a rapid response from our College community of staff, students and partners, and I am incredibly proud of what we have achieved.

I am immensely grateful to our staff for their patience, vigilance and perseverance in keeping each other safe whilst also working incredibly hard to continue to Transform Lives and help our students to fulfill their full potential throughout such a difficult time. They have not just simply 'kept going' but have actually raised the bar in response to the challenges that 2020 has delivered,

with a steely determination to keep marching forwards and aiming ever higher.

This report shares our vision, purpose, values and the future strategic priorities to which we have committed. We have also included feedback from our students on the quality of their College experience over the past year along with our progression success and staff statistics.

We remain driven to improve and we look forward to continuing our work towards the success of our College community, Barnsley and the wider Yorkshire and Humber region.

Yiannis Koursis
Principal and Chief Executive Officer

OUR VISION, PURPOSE AND VALUES

Our students are at the heart of everything we do. Our outstanding, passionate staff are always striving for excellence and this positive culture has a real impact on the aspirations of our students.

We encourage our students, staff and external stakeholders to dream big and we are proud to say that studying at Barnsley College helps to inspire our students and transform their lives.

Our vision, purpose, values and strategic priorities help to steer the College and ensure that our focus is on helping our students to achieve the very best.

Vision

- Transforming Lives

Purpose

To ensure that all our students:

- Have a great time
- Achieve their aims
- Progress on to work or Higher Education

Our Values

- Aspirational – courage to shape a better future.
- Supportive – encouraging, compassionate and understanding.
- Caring – hearts and minds.
- Respectful – inclusive.
- Genuine – be clear, be real.



BARNSTON
SIXTH FORM

STRATEGIC FOCUS

Our strategic priorities provide a roadmap for us on the journey to achieving our vision of Transforming Lives. The priorities represent areas where our resources and time will be focused to ensure our students, staff and stakeholders get the best out of Barnsley College.

QUALITY

Delivering a beyond outstanding experience for both our students and staff and being Ofsted inspection-ready is our key focus.

Seven key themes underpin our ambition to reach outstanding and beyond, with each area driving our teaching and learning. These are English and Maths provision; Higher Education; Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG); apprenticeships; adults and the sixth form. We aim to deliver the highest quality provision for students, staff and our stakeholders to help them aspire to reach their full potential.

CURRICULUM

Students are at the heart of everything that we do here at Barnsley College, and their views are at the centre of our decision-making.

We aim to provide them with an outstanding experience, to ensure that they leave us as well-rounded individuals, ready to take the next step into Higher Education or a career.

SUSTAINABILITY

We intend to safeguard the College for the future by making sure we generate enough cash each year to continue to provide an outstanding experience for our students and staff during their time with us.

This involves investing in our buildings, facilities, staff, equipment and IT infrastructure and continuing to operate efficiently. Ultimately, we aim to future-proof our financial position and secure our sustainability.

REPUTATION

We are really proud of Barnsley and the communities we work with. We aim to continue to build strong links with students, staff, schools and businesses, reinforcing our place in the local community as an outstanding education provider.

As we strive for beyond Outstanding, our brand and reputation, as well as the quality and financial position of the College, underpin our ability to recruit students and engage with external audiences.

STRATEGIC FOCUS

VISION:

PURPOSE:

QUALITY

Maintain Outstanding

Enhance HE provision

Boost satisfaction

Enrich teaching and learning

Expand E-learning technologies

Improve student outcomes

Support personal development

CURRICULUM

Add value

Introduce T Levels

Maximise HE

Expand apprenticeships

Enhance 14-16 provision

DEPARTMENTAL

OUR

VALUES: ASPIRATIONAL, SUPPORTIVE,

TRANSFORMING LIVES

To ensure our students:

- Have a great time
- Achieve their aims
- Progress on to work or Higher Education

SUSTAINABILITY

Grow College income

Retain and develop staff

Shock-proof finances

Future-proof infrastructure

REPUTATION

Extend employer engagement

Boost stakeholder recognition

Build external relationships

Deliver effective marketing strategy

PLANS

PEOPLE

CARING, RESPECTFUL, GENUINE

2019-20: YEAR IN REVIEW

We have achieved great things this year, some of which are really quite unique, reflecting the never-before-seen national situation. Opportunities have arisen for us amongst the many difficulties and overall, there is much to celebrate. Some of our highlights are shared on these pages.

For Barnsley College, being chosen by the Department for Education as the only South Yorkshire provider, and one of only 54 in the UK, to deliver the first wave roll-out of T Levels (Technical qualifications) was one of the most exciting highlights of the year.



These new qualifications reinforce our fantastic partnerships with employers across the South Yorkshire region, and offer strong benefits to both our students, the community and the local economy. Over the year, a committed effort has been focused on promoting and preparing to deliver these qualifications.

As a first wave provider of T Levels, we were granted additional funding from The Department for Education and Sheffield City Region LEP. This was invested in a combination of new, cutting-edge facilities and an enhanced curriculum designed to equip the next generation of employees with essential digital skills, in line with Barnsley's 'TechTown Five Year Action Plan.'

This aims to create 'More and Better Jobs' and businesses by promoting the acquisition of digital skills, promoting digital entrepreneurship and using digital technology to transform existing businesses. All actions towards addressing the national digital skills gap.

Courses added to the curriculum include apprenticeships in areas such as Digital Marketing, Cyber Security, Data Analysis, Software Development and Network Engineering.

These have been accompanied by several smaller initiatives in the digital space, including investment in a state-of-the-art Esports Arena to help prepare young people for the future digital world, and an effort to obtain the official Digital Schoolhouse status which makes us part of a collaborative effort to offer primary school pupils the chance to develop their computing skills, engaging the next generation of pupils and teachers with the Computing curriculum.

A major investment was made in the refurbishment of our SciTech campus, transforming it into a new Digital Innovation Hub.

The campus boasts cutting-edge technologies which will benefit students across all curriculum areas and prepare them for employment in an increasingly digitised world.

The new Ardagh Group Academy was officially launched in early 2019.



The exciting new addition to our Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Centre provides students with the opportunity

to develop the skills and knowledge required for a successful career within engineering and manufacturing, and is intended to create a talent pool which will not only benefit Ardagh Group, by feeding directly into its apprenticeship scheme, but also the broader local economy. Ardagh Group joins two other academies supported by Premdor (part of the Masonite Group) and AMCOGiffen.



This year, our commitment to being actively involved in the economic, social and cultural development of our community was clearly demonstrated by the appointment of our first Cultural Capital Co-ordinator.

This role embraces the concept of ‘Cultural Capital’, the accumulation of knowledge, behaviours, and skills that demonstrate cultural competence and drive social mobility. The role prioritises the delivery of cultural activities and the breaking down of cultural barriers and stereotypes.

In November 2019, over 4,500 visitors from the local community flocked into Barnsley College’s Old Mill Lane campus to gaze at Luke Jerram’s ‘Gaia’ sculpture.

Also closely aligned with our commitment to enhance and enrich the ‘Cultural Capital’ of those whom we influence, the event promoted a strong sustainability message that the College cares deeply about.

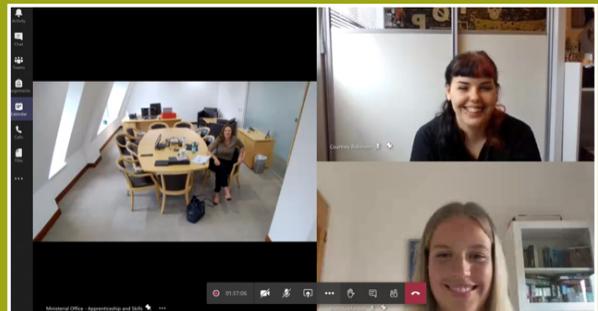


Within the six months from the beginning of the first national lockdown in April 2020, we have transitioned to remote working, introduced blended learning and digitised the majority of our core processes and events.



These included our annual graduation event, mission-critical open events and our first ever virtual ministerial visit from Gillian Keegan MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for

Apprenticeships and Skills. This has all been done with such a degree of success and has been so well received that some of our ‘new normal’ way of working is likely to remain with us into the future beyond the Coronavirus.



Before the pandemic arrived, remote working and blended learning were in our longer-term plans. The pandemic has forced us to implement them sooner and very rapidly, but with some extremely positive results.



BARNSELY COLLEGE

CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE

The Coronavirus pandemic prompted a response from our staff and students which was truly awe-inspiring. A number of initiatives offered crucial help across the Barnsley borough, and we are extremely proud of the various ways our staff and students supported the NHS and others, demonstrating a strong sense of community spirit. A few of the many acts of kindness are shared below.



Mark Ryan, Head of Department for Service Industries, organised a donation of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) to frontline NHS staff working at Barnsley Hospital on behalf of the department.



Arran McCallum, a full-time Technician in our C-STEM department, volunteers as a Unit Manager for

the Oakwell Unit of StJohn Ambulance, an organisation which supported accident and emergency departments and NHS staff during the pandemic. Arran completed specialist COVID-19 and intensive care training and also worked at the London Nightingale hospital during a particularly busy period.



Sarah White, a Teacher from our Digital and Creative Industries department, created the 'For The Love of Scrubs

Barnsley' network of over 100 people who made medical scrubs and other clinical equipment for hospitals, hospices and GP surgeries across our region.

Jessica Lee-Henderson, our Digital and Creative Industries Programme Manager, and Technician, **Bradley Sharp**, used the College's equipment and their own expertise to produce over 600 3D visors for use by staff at Barnsley Hospital. They then joined with Barnsley Digital Media Centre, the Library @ The Lightbox and local businesses to create a network of partners who continued to produce PPE. In total, the pair made 2,500 visors which were offered to Barnsley Hospital, GP surgeries and nursing homes.



Daniel Lambert, our Catering Services Cook, helped to produce free meals in the kitchen at Barnsley Hospital, for NHS staff and patients who were fighting the virus.

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

2019/20

We are delighted to have received awards and accolades for our staff, students and Barnsley College as a whole. This recognition of the great work the College does is a boost for the whole town.

In June, we won a prestigious Association of Colleges (AoC) Beacon NOCN Group Award for Mental Health and Wellbeing.

The AoC Beacon Awards celebrate the best and most innovative practice among UK colleges each year. We are elated to have won this award as all of the College's staff work hard to ensure we create an environment that promotes positive mental health and wellbeing. This award highlights the fantastic work that our Health and Wellbeing team and our departmental tutorial teams do to support our students, and we couldn't be prouder.

The College was also a finalist in the Careers and Enterprise Company Award for Innovation in Careers and Enterprise category of the Beacon Awards.

This award celebrates outstanding examples of innovative careers leadership and practice when engaging with schools, employers and other agencies, to provide students with excellent impartial careers education, advice and guidance.

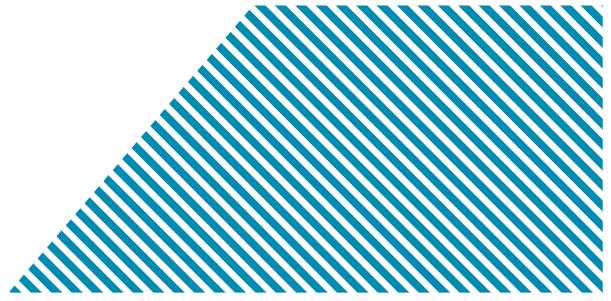
The 2019/20 Higher Education National Student Survey ranked us as the best South Yorkshire College for overall student satisfaction.

Our score rose from 85% in 2018/19 to 88.39%, comfortably above the national average of 82.65%. Students reported high satisfaction levels across all areas, from teaching, learning and academic support to the learning community and student voice.

Our Marketing, Communications and PR team picked-up a Gold Award in the Communications Campaign category at The College Marketing Network's national FE First Awards 2019, an annual ceremony which rewards and celebrates the best in college marketing.

The College's #morethanacollege recruitment campaign won the Gold Award in the Communications Campaign category and the College also won the Highly Commended Award in the Innovation and Creativity category for its Umbrella Magazine.





Our Catering and Hospitality students scooped the Intercollege Challenge Cup having triumphed in the competition against Doncaster College.

Students had to create a four course menu and accompanying drinks, designed to support and encourage the development of cookery skills.



Our Barnsley Sports Academy have been crowned champions of the English Colleges Football Association Premier Men's Group C.

The team excelled throughout the season under the guidance of Barnsley College's Performance and Athlete Development Coach, Luke Forgione, winning nine of their eleven games.

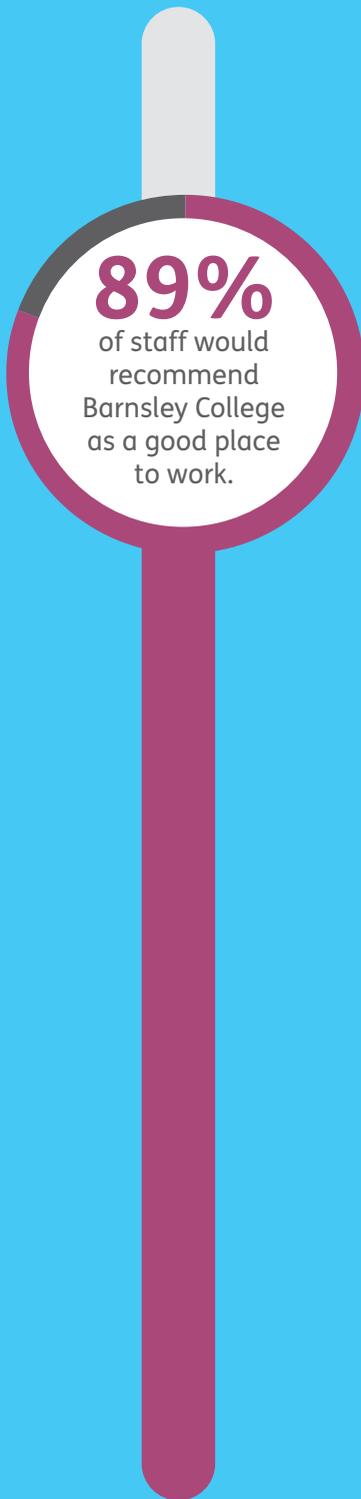


Our Barnsley Sports Academy netball team have been crowned champions of the Association of Colleges Sport Yorkshire and Humber Netball West C league.

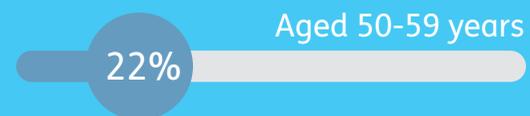
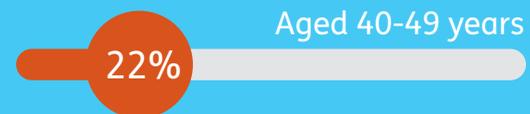
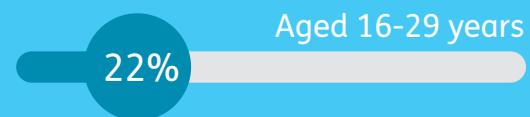
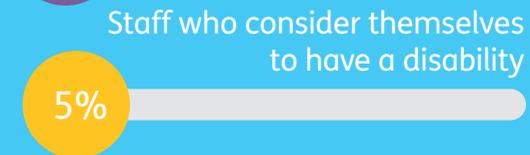
The team excelled throughout the season under the guidance of Barnsley College's Netball Coach, Amy Horsfield, winning all seven of their games and scoring 298 goals in total and competing against some of the best in the league.



OUR STAFF



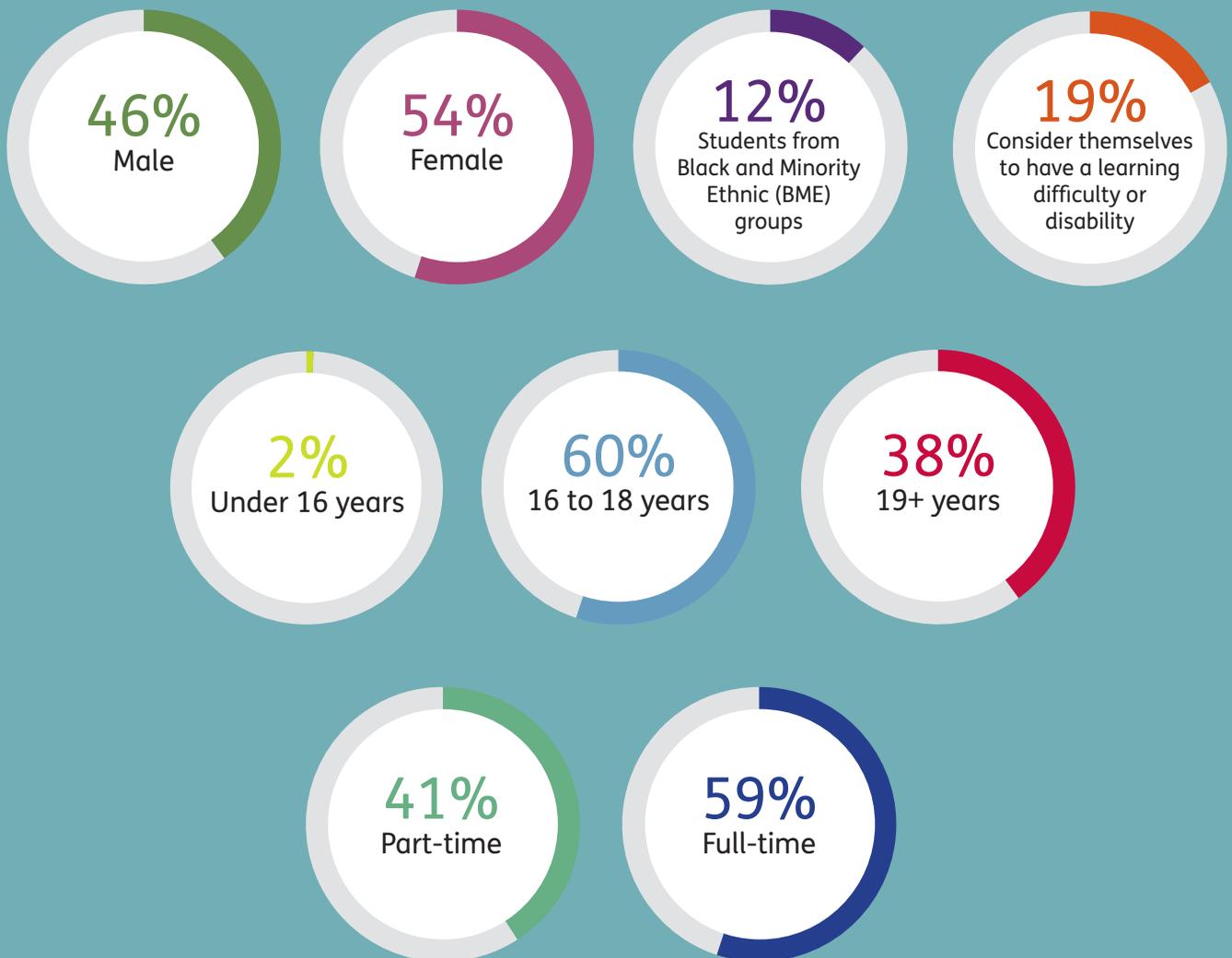
Total number of staff 732
Full-time equivalent 643



OUR STUDENTS

In 2019/20 we had 8,172* students

Our students are at the heart of everything we do and our wide range of provision ensures there is a study programme for everyone. The following pages give information on the types of course levels our students take, as well as details of their diversity and success rates.

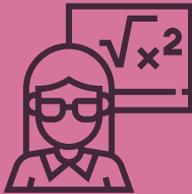


*Figures based on individual students.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY...

96%

said the teaching on their course is good.



96%

said the College has a positive learning culture.



98%

said they were learning in a safe environment.

94%

said the support from teachers during online learning was 'very good'.



95%



said they would recommend Barnsley College to a friend.



96%

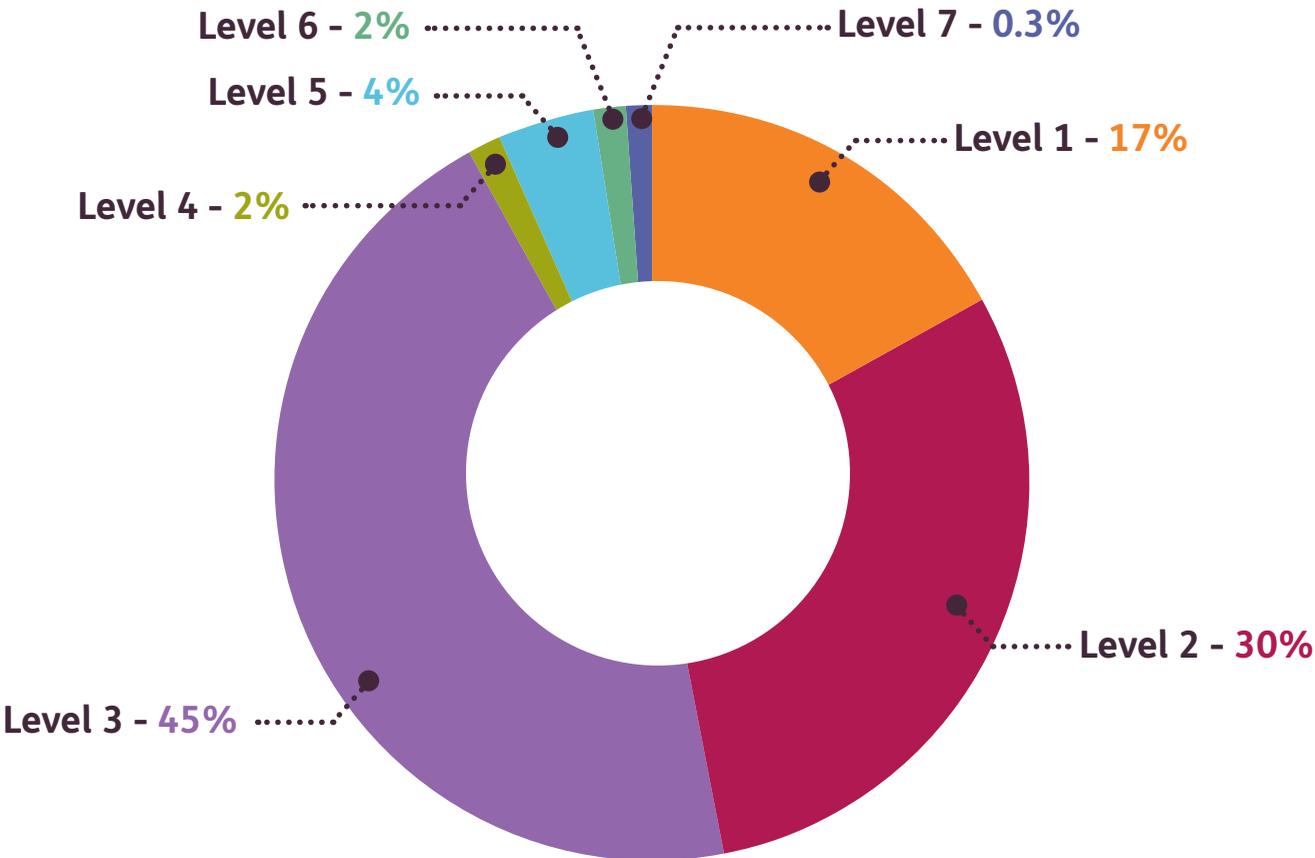
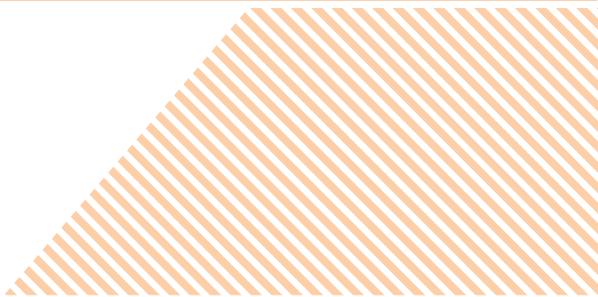
said the assessment of their work was fair.



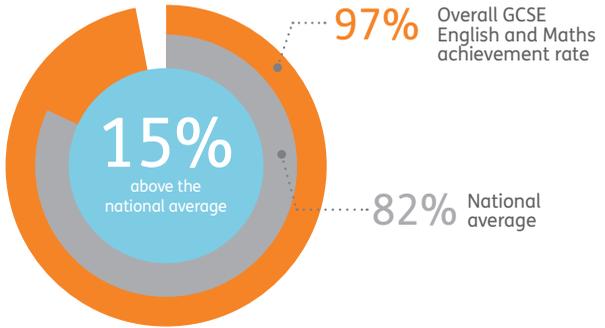
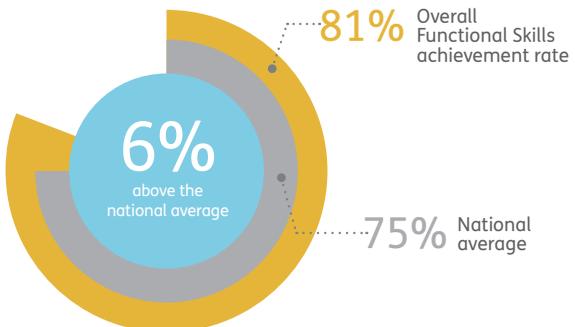
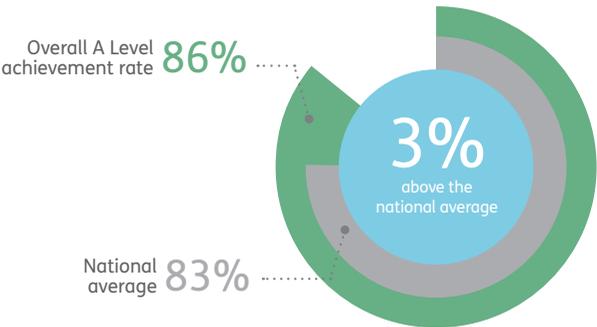
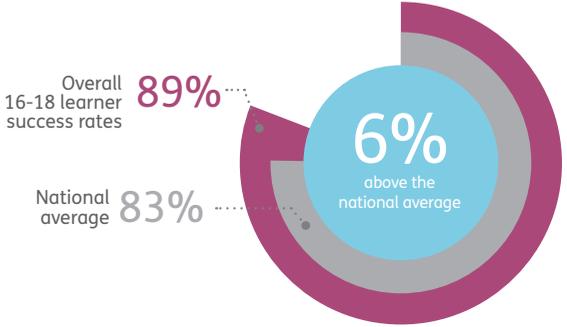
90%

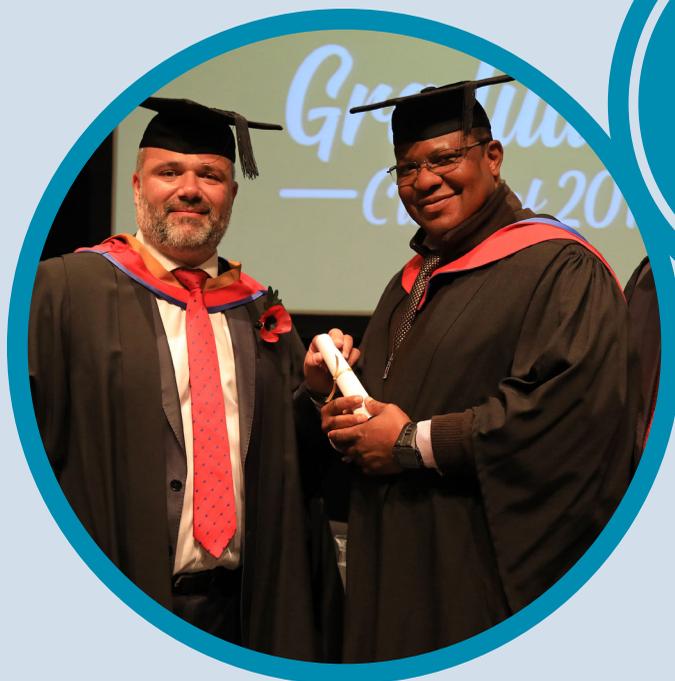
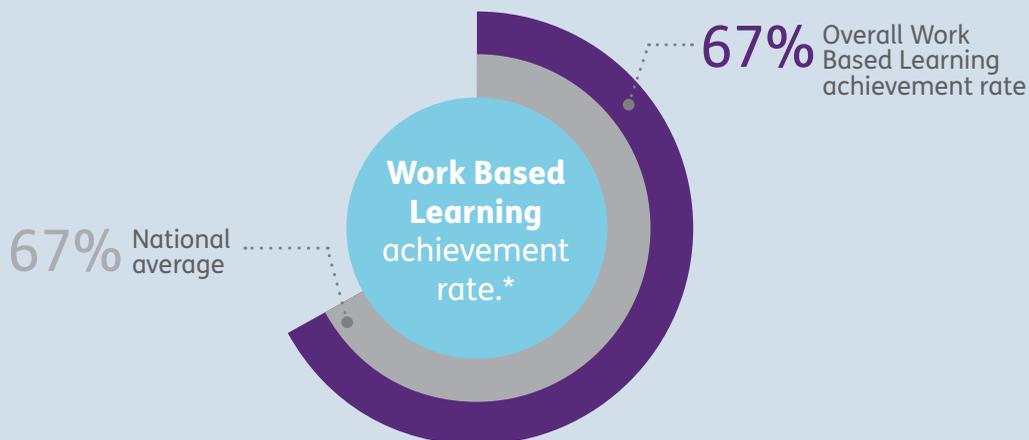
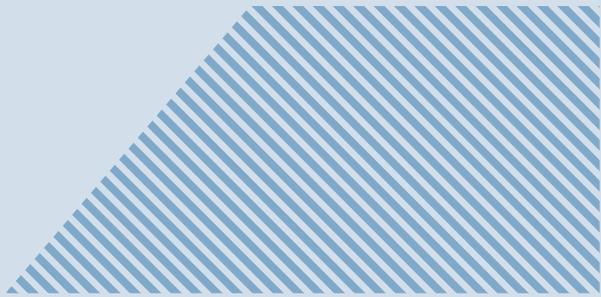
said the online learning was 'very good'.

SUBJECT AREAS



SUCCESS RATES





IN 2020
100% of our degree students achieved a 2:2 or higher, and 43% were awarded a **First Class Degree.**

*The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in performance which does not reflect our previous results. Our students are keeping pace with the national average, which is also hit hard. We are confident of an uplift in line with the UK's economic recovery.

