BISHOP BURTON College

Annual Report 2016 / 2017
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When I reflect on the 2016 / 17 academic year, I am able to do so with a lot of pride.

The College faces many challenges, but we continue to put our students first and have achieved a great deal over the last year.

This was the year Bishop Burton was named the national ‘Outstanding BTEC College of the Year’ for the first time. To win this prestigious accolade ahead of many other excellent colleges across the country delivering BTEC qualifications was a real feather in our cap.

It is an award, I believe, which was richly deserved and is testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff and students.

Our student success rates remain some of the highest anywhere in the country.

We also received praise from Ofsted following a full inspection in January.

In rating us ‘good’ overall, inspectors recognised Bishop Burton as a “high achieving” College and reserved special praise for our talented and enthusiastic teaching staff.

Next time around, we will be aiming for ‘outstanding’!

As the College has continued to pick up national awards and accolades, so too have our students.

Katrina Turnbull received the ‘Outstanding BTEC Public Services Student of the Year’ award at the BTEC Awards and Martina Robinson was named ‘Student of the Year’ at the Yorkshire Post’s Rural Awards.

Our student success rates remain some of the highest anywhere in the country and we continue to expand our provision in line with local, regional and national needs.

This is evident with curriculum developments in Agri-food and Health and Social Care in Lincolnshire, where a skills shortage in these sectors has been identified across the county.

Other key subject areas, such as Sport, also continue to grow whilst we remain a sector leader in our core specialisms of Agriculture, Animal Management and Equine.

As I said, the College faces many challenges and will have difficult moments, but I am confident we will rise to the task and come out stronger.

We have the team, resources, skills and desire to go from strength to strength in the coming year.

Acting Chief Executive and Principal, Bill Meredith
The College

Bishop Burton College is firmly established as one of the most successful land-based colleges in the country, with a reputation for excellence.

The College delivers Further Education (FE) and Higher Education (HE) courses in a range of vocational subjects but specialises particularly in Agriculture, Animal Management, Equine and Sport.

Located close to the market town of Beverley, and just a short distance from the cities of Hull and York, Bishop Burton is the only Centre of Vocational Excellence for both Agriculture and Equine in the country.

The College, which has undergone a £70million refurbishment of its campuses and facilities in recent years, was rated “good” overall at its last Ofsted inspection in January 2017 and was named the national “Outstanding BTEC College of the Year” later the same year.

It includes Riseholme College, in Lincolnshire, with students benefitting from the outstanding facilities available on all campuses.

The second phase of the £25million Riseholme Showground Campus opened in September 2016, including a Sports and Health Science Centre, with state-of-the-art gym and sports hall, and Agri-Tech Health and Nutrition Centre.

Bishop Burton recruits students locally, regionally and nationally. Key recruitment areas are Hull, the East Riding of Yorkshire and Greater Lincolnshire.

The College recruits nationally also, particularly for specialist FE and HE programmes. This national recruitment is aided by on-site accommodation available to students at both Bishop Burton and Riseholme.

In addition, it runs 19 separate bus routes across East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire to make sure the campuses are as accessible as possible.

The College is committed to ensuring all students take part in practical work experience, which complements the vocational provision and contributes towards 97% of FE students and 93% of HE students securing employment or progressing to a higher level of study within six months of completing their course.
Mission

Our mission is to be a leading specialist college focusing on excellence, employability and enterprise for our customers.

Vision

Our vision is to;
• Provide world-class facilities and resources for our customers and our other stakeholders.
• Foster and develop innovation and a solutions-driven response to all challenges.
• Continue to grow in a sustainable way through responsiveness to the needs of our local, regional and national employers, industries and communities.
• Be recognised for excellence in effective, innovative partnership development.

Values

Bishop Burton College is a values-driven organisation and we believe our values provide us with a sense of purpose and identity. We believe in;
• First-class / first choice vocational education.
• Respect for each other and our campus.
• A ‘can do’ attitude.
• Striving for excellence in all that we do.

Strategic Aims

The College works towards the following strategic aims;
• Provide an outstanding learning experience for all.
• Deliver provision that meets national priorities and is responsive to local and regional needs.
• Develop the capability and capacity of our staff to contribute effectively to the College’s agendas of quality, enterprise, sustainable development and innovation.
• Ensure strong financial health and organisational sustainability from effective use of estate, infrastructure and resources.
September 2016
Phase two of the Riseholme Showground Campus opens to students, including a Sports and Health Science Centre and Agri-Tech Health and Nutrition Centre.

October 2016
More than 35 organisations join forces at the ‘Foundations Live’ event at the College, in partnership with Hobson & Porter and Jewson’s, to help bridge an identified skills gap in the construction industry.

November 2016
Record numbers graduate from Bishop Burton’s part-time degree graduation ceremony at Beverley Minster.

December 2016
The College launches two new Sports degrees to help provide a workforce capable of improving people’s health and wellbeing.

January 2017
Farmers and growers from across the country flock to Bishop Burton to attend the 8th annual Agrii Conference. The College is also shortlisted in the Further Education College of the Year category in the national Times Education Supplement (TES) FE Awards.

February 2017
Ofsted declare Bishop Burton a “high achieving” College, with an overall grading of ‘good’, following a full inspection. Inspectors praise the “expert and enthusiastic” tutors in their final report.
April 2017

It is announced Bishop Burton will host the highly prestigious FEI Pony European Championships competition in August 2018.

May 2017

The College celebrates the outstanding sporting success of its students at the annual Bishop Burton Sports Awards. The same month, Agriculture and Equine students showcase their skills at the 56th annual Stockmanship competition.

June 2017

Around 1,500 attend the College’s second ever Open Farm Sunday event, giving the public the chance to “Discover the World of Farming”.

July 2017

Bishop Burton is named the ‘Outstanding BTEC College of the Year’ and Katrina Turnbull is named ‘Outstanding BTEC Public Services Student of the Year’ at the national BTEC Awards. Thousands of College students also celebrate their achievements at the annual Presentation Day and graduation events.

August 2017

The College renews its funding agreement with the Prince’s Countryside Fund, enabling the future delivery of the innovative Farm Management programme.
Bishop Burton was named the finest college delivering BTEC qualifications in the country at a highly prestigious awards ceremony.

It was announced as the winner of the ‘Outstanding College of the Year’ category at the national BTEC Awards in London.

The awards, held annually in July by accrediting body Pearson, celebrate the achievements of the finest educational institutions and students in the country and receive around 1,000 applications.

Bishop Burton – including Riseholme College – was praised for the outstanding delivery of a wide range of BTEC courses across a variety of subject areas, as well as excellent facilities and strong links with employers, which contribute to 97% of FE students securing employment or a higher level of study within six months of completing their course.

Judges were particularly impressed by the commitment of all staff to ensuring students fulfil their potential.

As well as scooping the overall award, Katrina Turnbull was also named the individual ‘Outstanding BTEC Public Services Student of the Year’.
Katrina, who studied BTEC Level 3 Public Services at Bishop Burton for two years, scored highly because of her work as a volunteer with the NSPCC, which included giving talks to primary school children to warn them about different types of abuse.

She said: “I’m thrilled to have won this award. I’ve really enjoyed my time at the College and have learned so much. This just tops it off.”

Individual award winners at the ceremony were unveiled by BBC television presenter and journalist, Steph McGovern. It followed a lunch reception with MPs from across the political spectrum.

Rod Bristow, Pearson’s President in the UK, said at the time: “The fantastic winners being celebrated at today’s awards ceremony exemplify the dedicated students across the country who have been helped to make progress in their lives and careers through BTEC and I am delighted to congratulate them on their well-earned success.”

Acting Chief Executive and Principal, Bill Meredith, said: “It was a wonderful accolade to be named Outstanding BTEC College of the Year, particularly because it recognised the success of our students.

“The award was further evidence that the talented and hard-working staff at Bishop Burton and Riseholme make a real difference to the lives of the young people who further their education with us, giving them the platform to be successful in their chosen careers.”

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Acting Chief Executive and Principal, Bill Meredith.
Ofsted

Bishop Burton was recognised as a "high achieving" College following a full Ofsted inspection at the beginning of 2017.

The College retained its overall grading of 'good' after the week-long inspection in January.

Ofsted praised the College for its impressive success rates, inspiring resources and facilities and strong links with employers and other partners, which ensure almost every student secures work or moves on to a higher level of study within months of completing their course.

In rating Bishop Burton 'good' in all aspects of the inspection criteria, Ofsted specifically highlighted the "positive culture of learning and respect" and "expert and enthusiastic" tutors as key factors in the high volume of students who succeed.

The inspectors raised a number of areas the College can improve on in order to be classed as 'outstanding', including offering additional qualifications to more able learners, which it is working towards.

Acting Chief Executive and Principal, Bill Meredith, said: "I'm pleased that Ofsted recognised the College’s key strengths in this largely very positive report.

"In particular, I’m delighted that inspectors highlighted the positive culture towards teaching and learning that exists throughout the College, as well as the professionalism and enthusiasm of our excellent teaching staff.

"The focus now is on implementing an improvement plan to try and ensure we go one better next time around and achieve an overall grading of 'outstanding'"
Effectiveness of Leadership and Management

Governors and the senior leadership team have implemented an ambitious plan to provide exceptional facilities for training and research. All staff promote a positive culture of learning and respect that motivates learners to achieve.

Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Teachers use outstanding resources and carefully prepared activities to enable the large majority of learners and apprentices to gain academic and vocational skills successfully. The majority of teachers are expert and enthusiastic in their subjects and lead lively and interesting sessions.

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare

Teachers provide very high levels of care and support to their learners through a well-designed programme of tutorials. Learners benefit from their teachers’ relentless focus on what they need to do to progress and the skills and attitudes they should develop to make them more employable.

Outcomes for Learners

The very great majority of learners secure a positive next step when they leave the College, moving either into Further Education or employment related directly to their qualifications. An increasing number of learners move into the College’s expanding Higher Education programme.

Types of Provision

Managers have developed programmes effectively to enable learners to study vocational qualifications that help them progress in their chosen career, whether in Further Education, employment or training. Strong links with industry partners, particularly in the agricultural and land management sectors and in sport, provide learners with clear progression routes linked to their chosen vocations.

Adult Learning Programmes

The majority of teachers use their good vocational expertise to plan lessons so that learners develop the skills and knowledge they require to be successful in their chosen career.

Apprenticeships

Apprentices develop very good practical skills that they apply well at work. Assessors involve employers fully in the planning of programmes and reviews of progress to ensure that apprentices develop good skills for their job roles.
Student Success

Agriculture

It was a fantastic year for Agriculture student Martina Robinson, after she bagged not one, but two prestigious awards for her outstanding achievements while studying at the College.

In July, Martina was awarded the Top Student of the Year prize at the annual Further Education Presentation Day. This award is given to the student who has made the most progress or triumphed over adversity to achieve their qualification.

During her seven years at College, Martina has progressed through Level 1, 2 and 3 Agriculture courses, gaining numerous distinctions along the way, and has now started a degree programme. This is all despite suffering from dystonic cerebral palsy, which results in Martina having around 45 seizures every evening, leaving her severely fatigued.

But if that wasn’t enough, she was also recognised nationally when she was named “Student of the Year” at another high-profile ceremony.

Judges were blown away by Martina’s academic achievements whilst battling against a highly debilitating condition.

Martina was joined at the awards ceremony, held at The Pavilions of Harrogate, by her mum Sandra and representatives from the College.

Animal Management

Shay Kelly set a precedent this year by achieving a grade of 100% in his Advanced Dog Training practical assessment - something which was commended by both the University of Hull and the external examiner.

Throughout his coursework, Shay has demonstrated strong characteristics of an excellent HE student – open-minded to new information, the ability to critically analyse and evaluate information, and an intellectual curiosity.

While studying, Shay also founded the Facebook group ‘Canine Enrichment’ – a social media page which aims to educate and inform dog owners so that they can improve the lives of their animals.

In August 2017, he started ‘Shay’s Dog Blog’ with the same purpose and since then he has been posting entertaining and educational videos demonstrating the high level of complex behaviours that can be achieved when using force-free training with pet dogs. It has now become one of the most viewed dog training blogs in the UK.
Students from the College came to the rescue – superhero style – after stepping in to keep young ones entertained at this year’s Comic Con 2017.

Further Education students studying Design and Childcare at the College descended on Hull City Hall in March to host a range of superhero activities including animation workshops, comic book art classes, superhero mask crafts and face painting masterclasses.

This year, more than 1,500 people attended the event, with some even dressing up as their favourite comic book character.

The students hosted a wide range of creative activities aimed at children; helping them to not only showcase what they’ve learned in the classroom, but also to achieve an additional qualification alongside their studies – a volunteering award. They were fantastic ambassadors for the College and great role models for the young people who attended the two-day event.

Design and Childcare

Construction

Apprentice bricklayer Harry Atkinson was chosen as runner-up in the Best Apprentice category of the Jewson Young Tradesperson of the Year 2017 awards.

Harry, who successfully completed his Level 1 Diploma in Bricklaying at Bishop Burton College, was nominated for the award after being spotted by Hobson & Porter at the Foundations Live event in 2016.

As part of his apprenticeship, Harry has been given the opportunity to work on a number of building sites, including Hull’s Dry Dock development and Selby College, and has been praised for his attitude and commitment to his work, as well as a professionalism which belies his age.

The awards were judged by a panel of industry experts and winners were announced at an exclusive awards event at the Custard Factory in Birmingham.

Harry has now started his Advanced Apprenticeship and is well on his way to becoming a CITB-qualified construction professional.
Equine

Bishop Burton student Victoria Turner celebrated after placing at the Horse of the Year show.

The 17-year-old, from Skirlaugh, who is studying a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Horse Management, secured fourth place at the prestigious equestrian event after successfully qualifying at one of five regional ‘Search for a Star’ competitions.

The Horse of the Year show is one of the most prestigious events in the equestrian calendar, having been a fixture for more than 50 years. Hosted at Birmingham’s National Exhibition Centre (NEC), the competition attracts some of the finest riders from across the world.

As part of the competition, Victoria got to ride in the Top Spec Arena and the International Arena and, at all times, had to display strong horsemanship, including completing a set show featuring two fences. When the time came, she and her horse did not disappoint, clearing both fences with ease and taking home a very respectable fourth place in the grand final.

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Floristry

Six Bishop Burton Floristry degree students realised every florist’s dream by becoming champions at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

The students, who were in the final year of their BA Floristry Design programme, triumphed at the 2017 show after completing a dazzling floral arrangement.

Crowned ‘Future Florists of the Year’, the team was also awarded a highly-coveted Silver Gilt award, just one point away from the ultimate Chelsea Flower Show accolade – the Gold ‘Best in Show’.

Up against four other floristry schools from around the world, the team was tasked with devising a floral arrangement that incorporated an Indian tuk tuk vehicle. The design needed to be portable; meaning that it couldn’t prevent the vehicle from moving once constructed. The design also had to complement the bright yellow body of the vehicle.

Using exotic and unusual flora, including vivid yellow Calla lilies, Water lilies and Bishop’s Balls, the students crafted an intricate design that wove its way around the body of the car. Using fibre glass effectively to create additional body panels, the team created a three-dimensional design that felt organic to the shape of the vehicle.

The students were commended on their unusual design, which intentionally stepped away from the vehicle’s Indian routes. The judges also commented on the students’ use of flora, which weren’t typical floral choices. The use of aloe vera, bear grass and rhipsalis, they felt, brought a natural, living feel to the overall design, allowing it to become part of vehicle rather than simply adorn it.

The team, who range in age from 20 – 45, graduated in the summer and have since gone on to secure successful careers in the floristry industry.
Food

A team of the College’s cookery students made it through to the semi-finals of a national chef challenge.

The team of Level 2 Professional Cookery students, made up of Michael Johnson, Harry Peck and Amelia Kime, competed against 19 other teams from across the country in the Country Range Student Chef Challenge. The semi-finalists were required to design a culinary three-course spectacle around the theme of ‘healthy gourmet fine dining’.

Since September, the team worked conscientiously to construct a menu that allowed them to showcase all the skills they have learned over the duration of the course. Although the team didn’t progress to the next stage, the competition proved to be a memorable experience for them and one which opened up a range of work experience opportunities.

Sport

Sport Coaching student Andy Norfolk captained the College’s Degree Football Team to its most successful season on record, winning Tier 3 of the BUCS League to secure promotion.

It means Bishop Burton now competes at its highest ever level of football against some of the biggest educational institutions in the country. Top scorer Andy ended the season being named ‘Sports Personality of the Year’ at the annual Bishop Burton College Sports Awards.

He believes the success on the playing field, along with the skills he has developed on his degree, have set him up perfectly for a career in the industry he loves. Andy is now looking at completing his football coaching badges and UEFA B qualification.

Fashion

This year’s BA (Hons) Multi-Disciplinary Design students put teamwork into practice when they worked together to develop a range of design ideas for this year’s RSA Student Design Awards.

The team came up with creative solutions to two of life’s challenges – ‘Agile Ageing’ and ‘Inclusive Living’.

The Fashion students also followed the RSA brief and designed garments using ‘smart textiles’ to improve wellbeing and the quality of people’s lives.

This was certainly a challenge for the student group and some interesting creative ideas emerged – inflatable swimwear, garments designed to prevent sweating, inflatable head protection and garments that proved shelter for the homeless were just some of the solutions the students creatively developed.
Presentation and Graduation Days

The traditional Presentation Day and Graduation ceremonies in the summer were among the most high-profile and successful in the College’s proud history.

Former rower Sir Steve Redgrave – one of Britain’s greatest ever Olympians – told students at the Bishop Burton Presentation Day to grasp the opportunities ahead of them and fulfil their potential.

In the same week the College was named ‘Outstanding BTEC College of the Year’, more than 2,000 students received certificates in recognition of successfully completing their Further Education courses.

Prize-winning students who particularly excelled in their studies also received trophies and plaques to mark their achievements.

Special guest Sir Steve – who won gold medals at five consecutive Olympic Games between 1984 to 2000 to cement his place in history as one of the country’s finest ever athletes – told them all they were at the start of an exciting journey and had been given the perfect platform to succeed.

He said: “It is about the hard work you put in and that drive. It is about passion and desire. The more you put in, the more you get out. “To all of the successful students here today – some of you are still continuing with your studies, whilst some of you are going out into what some people call the big, bad world.

“What I would say to you is this – dig deep and focus on what you want to
do. Make sure you achieve what you want to achieve."

Student Association President Tyler Price, delivering a vote of thanks at both the Bishop Burton Presentation Day and Graduation ceremony, said: “I speak for all my fellow students when I thank the Principal and staff, our friends and loved ones for their encouragement over our time here at the College – we wouldn’t be here without you.

“We have been well prepared to tackle what is in front of us and today is testament to what is possible when we put our minds to it.”

“Please stay in touch and I wish you all the very best for the future”

Sir Steve Redgrave

Student Association President, Tyler Price
Student Voice

In order to ensure students at Bishop Burton and Riseholme receive the best possible experience, the College carries out our regular surveys of students at all levels on different programmes.

These surveys are carried out at key points throughout the academic year, including entry and induction, on-programme and exit. Students are asked questions about all aspects of their individual course, as well as life at the College in general. The results are invaluable and staff use these to inform and influence decisions and strategies to help improve the student experience.

99% of students said;

“ I know how I should behave as a student of the College.”

“ I feel safe at College.”

“ I am aware of my own responsibilities for working safely.”
98% of students said:

“I know what targets I need to achieve on my course.”

“My tutors know their subject well.”

“I am encouraged to use technology and online services to aid my learning.”

“The importance of punctuality and good attendance has been made clear to me.”

“I understand the College Values.”

“I am aware of the British Values.”

“I was made aware of the importance of health and safety.”

“The College and its facilities are kept clean and tidy.”

97% of students said:

“My tutors encourage me to work hard and achieve my best.”

“The importance of attending my English and Maths classes has been made clear to me.”

“I know who to tell if I am bullied or I see someone being bullied.”

“I feel safe on campus.”

“I receive the support I need to complete my practical work.”

“The staff have been friendly and helpful.”

“The College takes equality and diversity seriously.”
Student Recruitment

Student recruitment was again strong for the year.

The College continued to recruit to all levels locally, regionally and nationally, aided by 19 bus routes operated throughout East Yorkshire and Lincolnshire and on-site accommodation at both the Bishop Burton and Riseholme campuses.

Core areas such as Agriculture and Animal Management again saw positive recruitment and new provision, including in Sport and Health and Social Care, was launched at the Showground Campus in a bid to address skills gaps identified in those sectors in Lincolnshire.
Enrolment Map

Riseholme enrolment

Bishop Burton enrolment

Higher Education enrolment
Student Destinations

Student destination data remained excellent, maintaining the previous year’s record high.

Once again, 97% of Further Education students and 93% of Higher Education students secured employment or a higher level of study within six months of finishing their course – higher than many local, regional and national competitors and much more positive than the national average.

The College’s outstanding industry partnerships and employer links played a significant part, giving students additional routes into work at the end of their course.

The practical nature of the College’s vocational courses helped fully prepare students for the world of work and many gained employment through work experience placements secured during their studies.

Acting Chief Executive and Principal, Bill Meredith said “The destination data for the 2016 / 17 academic year was extremely positive. Myself and all the staff at the College are delighted that more students than ever before are able to pursue their chosen career, or progress to a higher level of study at the end of their course”.

“All the staff and the students put in a tremendous amount of work to make this happen and they deserve a great deal of credit for achievements such as this.”

Acting Chief Executive and Principal, Bill Meredith.
97% of Further Education students secured employment or a higher level of study within six months of finishing their course.
The College has continued to operate highly successful sports academies across both its Further and Higher Education provision, which has seen continued growth in student numbers.

The Bishop Burton performance sports academies enjoyed unrivalled achievements throughout the year. In rugby union, the College Higher Education Academy performed in the British Universities League Premier Division, while the Women’s Academy were Association of Colleges (AoC) Sport Cup winners, Sevens Winners and finalists at the world famous Rosslyn Park.

In football, the Higher Education Academy won their British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) Football League with a 100% record, allowing the College to perform at their highest level in University Football, with the under 18 squad finishing the highest ever in Bishop Burton’s history in the English Colleges National Premiership, putting it in the top 5% of institutions nationally.

The College’s Equine Academy reached the BUCS Regional Championships, the Under 19 Men’s Rugby Union Academy reached the National Finals, representing Yorkshire, whilst there was a significant number of individual successes, including students achieving regional and national honours such as England Students Rugby Union, two netballers reaching the Super League National Talent Squad and four being selected for the England Performance Programme. Students also progressed from the College to receive professional contracts with the City of Hull Academy and Coventry Wasps Rugby Union.

Individual student successes didn’t stop there, with a total of 38 students achieving regional or national honours in their chosen sport. The College also had students on the England Women’s RFU on the Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence (AASE) programme, which recognises talented athletes with national potential. Whilst attaining high-level success, the College also had more participants in team sports than ever before, with 81% of all students taking part in physical activity, according to Sport England data returns.

Alongside this, the College continued to work in partnership to support local, regional and national club academies and sporting governing bodies on site.
In July 2014, the College became the official host site of the Hull City Tigers Academy and this partnership continued to go from strength to strength in the 2016 / 17 academic year, with several academy players breaking into the first team and with the academy once again securing its Category 2 Premier League status.

The College welcomed Newcastle Falcon’s first team squad for a residential camp in their pre-season alongside Championship club Yorkshire Carnegie, welcomed England Rugby League u16s and, as part of their preparations for the World Cup, hosted Women’s Rugby Union squad for a week-long camp.

Bishop Burton continued partnerships with Archery GB, Pentathlon GB, Yorkshire Jets, Hull Rugby Union and England Rugby, of which the College is one of only five Women’s Centres of Excellence.

"The College also had more participants in team sports than ever before"

As part of the College’s innovative approach to sporting partnerships, it continued to play a crucial role in the City of Hull Rugby League Academy – the collaboration between Hull FC and Hull Kingston Rovers rugby league clubs. The College hosts the new collaborative academy and, in doing so, has become the central focus point for the development of rugby league in the area.

Along with this, the College’s own Rugby League Academy has grown and was awarded Category 3 Academy Status – equivalent of the National Championship, while continuing its support for the local grassroots game through its skills centres.

In rugby union, the College continues its work with Yorkshire Carnegie, whose academy holds the RFU academy licence for Yorkshire. As part of this, Bishop Burton was in the AASE League for Boys in 2016 / 17. The College also worked with Loughborough Lightening and Leeds Rhino’s netball at both the Bishop Burton and Riseholme College Showground sites.
Bishop Burton College continued to make a hugely significant contribution to the local, regional and national economy throughout the 2016 / 17 academic year.

With the College maintaining an all-time high of 95% of Further Education and Higher Education students combined securing work or a higher level of study at the end of their course, more than ever are contributing to the economy as a result.

Impact analysis has indicated that, with the College maintaining this record high for the last two years, the expected lifetime productivity of our students remains at around £401million.

The College also remains one of the largest hubs in the area, attracting more than 4,000 students and spending £9.7million with suppliers, with £6million of that regionally.

The Local and Regional Economy

The College has continued to support almost 450 apprentices, employed with 290 mainly rural employers, and excellent apprenticeship success rates were maintained for 2016 / 17. The total expected lifetime productivity of all our apprentices was £54.5million – an increase of £2million on the previous year.

The College is committed to getting the unemployed back into work and has worked with 81 businesses in the last year to provide additional opportunities for employment. Jobcentre Plus activity has provided training for 101 unemployed people in the area of health and social care. This has enabled 55 people to return to work.

The National Economy

Student recruitment nationally is aided by the College’s specialist provision, Higher Education programmes and residential accommodation. The College remains one of the largest specialist providers of its kind in the country, with the total expected lifetime productivity of students remaining at an estimated £401million.
Apprentices

The year has seen a further increase in the number of employers and students engaged in activities with the College. Our apprenticeship provision now has 290 employers supporting 450 learners through training. Agriculture holds the largest volume.

The College has an excellent track record of delivering apprenticeship provision, with a five-year trend of outstanding outcomes for apprenticeship learners. Our achievement rates and timely success for learners both exceed national averages. The College is also pleased to report that 100% of apprentices continued into successful employment.

As individuals, the College’s apprentices achieved much more on a local, regional and national level, including Equine apprentice Jessica Omar winning the City & Guilds Medal of Excellence and Agriculture apprentice Liam Goddard winning Young Stockperson of the Year 2016 at Smithfield Show.

Key Stats

£401m
Estimated expected Lifetime Productivity Gain for all our 2016 / 17 Further Education and Higher Education students.

£54.5m
Expected Lifetime Productivity Gain for all our 2016 / 17 apprentices.

£1m
The saving made to the taxpayer by the 55 people returning to work through the Jobcentre Plus initiative.

Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Priorities

The College has continued to deliver provision within the LEP priorities. Precision technology in agriculture and food continues to be a major focus for the College. Bishop Burton engaged with industry throughout the cause of the academic year and further developed learning materials to support the delivery of precision technology. As a result, the College has committed to developing cutting-edge new courses in precision technology.

Employer Engagement and Satisfaction

The College offers flexible delivery models which are often delivered in partnership with employers. This enables delivery at a distance and utilises the expertise in the workplace to enhance the learning experience. Our employer satisfaction rating in 2016 / 17 was extremely high at 9.5 out of 10 – the highest of any land-based college in the country.
Bishop Burton People

It is the talented, dedicated staff at Bishop Burton – along with its students – who make it the College it is.

The College’s many achievements have only been made possible by the people who work there and go out of their way to make it such a special place.

They are the ones who bring the College Values to life and Bishop Burton therefore has an extremely robust recruitment process to ensure employees not only have the required skills, but also the passion and commitment needed to become a part of the team.

This process – and the College’s commitment to its staff – has been instrumental in it twice achieving Investors in People Gold accreditation, which is held by only 2% of companies in the UK in recognition of excellence in engaging, supporting and developing employees.

Diversity and Inclusion

The College is committed to having a diverse workforce, with diverse skills and perspectives.

Bishop Burton takes this responsibility extremely seriously and regularly reviews and revises the ways in which the College is promoted as an attractive place to work to a diverse range of people.
Communications

Staff communication is key at Bishop Burton and the College uses a number of different methods to ensure everyone receives relevant information in a timely and easily accessible format.

These communications channels include weekly staff bulletins, with all departments and campuses, are acknowledged for their ‘can do’ attitude, striving for excellence in all that they do, showing respect for each other and the College, as well as their dedication to delivering first-class, first choice vocational education.

Team awards are also given out at the traditional festive staff party. These include the team that has shown exceptional demonstration of the College Values, the Equality and Diversity Team of the Year and academic course teams with 100% success rates.

Staff Training and Development

An important part of Bishop Burton’s culture and ethos is its commitment to the continued development of its staff.

All employees have their own personal development plan, which is aligned to the College’s strategic aims to ensure everyone is working towards the same clear goals.

Staff training takes place internally and with external organisations and is specifically tailored to the needs of the individual and their particular role. On average, Bishop Burton staff attend 16 training sessions each academic year.

Celebrating Staff Success

The success of all staff at the College is incredibly important.

Each year, Bishop Burton officially recognises its ‘Values Champions’. These individuals, representing all departments and campuses, are acknowledged for their ‘can do’ attitude, striving for excellence in all that they do, showing respect for each other and the College, as well as their dedication to delivering first-class, first choice vocational education.

Team awards are also given out at the traditional festive staff party. These include the team that has shown exceptional demonstration of the College Values, the Equality and Diversity Team of the Year and academic course teams with 100% success rates.
Governance

It is the Corporation’s responsibility to bring independent judgement to bear on issues of strategy, performance, resources and standards of conduct at the College.

Governors receive regular updates on the overall performance of the College and the Corporation’s business is conducted through regular full meetings and statutory committees.

Message from the Chair

The College has achieved a great deal this year and credit must go to all the students and staff for the part they have all played in these successes.

To be named the ‘Outstanding BTEC College of the Year 2017’ was a wonderful achievement and one which, quite rightly, reflects Bishop Burton’s position as one of the leading land-based colleges in the country.

The overall rating of ‘good’ the College received from Ofsted after the full inspection in January was a creditable outcome and I know the team are determined to improve on this the next time around.

As ever, it is the students who are the heart of everything at Bishop Burton and they have achieved so much over this year, both individually and collectively.

There have been numerous individual awards and the College has also managed to maintain its record high of 97% of Further Education students securing work or a higher level of study within six months of leaving their course, which was achieved for the first time the previous year.

This is what the College is all about – giving students the platform to launch exciting and rewarding careers in their chosen areas of work.

As we move into the New Year, we do so with a change of leadership at the College. Inevitably, this will bring its own challenges after so many years under the previous regime, but it also gives us the opportunity to move forward with fresh impetus.

I am very confident that there is a great deal for the College to look forward to in the coming year and, indeed, for decades to come.

The staff, students, infrastructure and facilities are all there for Bishop Burton to really kick-on and build on what has already been achieved.

It is certainly an exciting time for the College as we move forward together.

Judy Richmond, Chair, Bishop Burton College Corporation
Finance

The College’s financial statements for the year ended 31st July 2017 again show a position of overall financial strength.

This is consistent with the College’s Strategic Aim to “ensure strong financial health and organisational sustainability from effective use of estate, infrastructure and resources”.

Income, as expected, has levelled off in what is an increasingly difficult financial environment for the college sector. Whilst most Further Education colleges are dependent on government grant funding, Bishop Burton has continued to diversify its income streams to reduce this dependency. Once again, this has proven successful this year. In particular, the pressure on funding body grants has been addressed by increasing fee and other income. This includes hosting a number of prestigious external events resulting in economic benefits being brought to the College and surrounding area. In addition, the further development of key partnerships, particularly in sport, has resulted in income generating activities from the use of College facilities.

The College has a robust and comprehensive financial planning process. This has resulted in the continuing control of costs, particularly staff costs at 47% of total income – significantly below the benchmark of 65% for the sector. During the year operating costs were reduced as the College benefitted from the more efficient use of its resources.

Key to controlling costs is obtaining best value across all College procurement, using local suppliers wherever possible.

As a result, the College again hit its financial targets and achieved a surplus of £950k (before FRS 102 adjustment).

This consistent success in achieving its annual surplus target has again been noted by the College auditor, RSM, and is not typical within the sector.

The College is committed to a process of continuous improvement. All the surpluses are therefore reinvested in the College, which has resulted in significant improvements to its facilities. Over £30million has been spent over the past five years, funded from annual surpluses, grants and loans. This includes the new Riseholme Showground Campus, in Lincolnshire.

As a result of our financial planning and reinvestment, the College continues to show a strong balance sheet with fixed assets of £82million and net assets of £40million.

During the year the College’s overall financial health score has improved from ‘satisfactory’ to ‘good’.

Total Income 2016/17
Full Year £24.7m
“All staff promote a positive culture of learning and respect that motivates learners to achieve.”

Ofsted, 2017