

Cirencester College

Corporation Accountability

Action plan on Skills



This Action Plan has been agreed by Cirencester Corporation in response to priorities identified by the Dept of Education, Business West and local employers and their representatives.

National Skills Priorities April 2023

Priorities	Addressed	Cirencester College Response
Construction		Construction T-levels. Archaeology Apprenticeships.
Manufacturing		Suite of Engineering T-levels
Digital & Technology		Digital, Business, Finance T-levels and Apprenticeships. IT courses for Adults. SDF Project. 'Digitalisation' built into all A-level Programmes
Health & Social Care		Health & Health Science T-levels.
Haulage & Logistics		No appropriate direct provision. Will adopt a Logistics T-level as soon as it is available.
Engineering		Suite of Engineering T-levels
Science and Mathematics		Maths and Science A-levels plus Science-based T-levels.



Business West LSIP priorities March 2023



Priorities	Gloucestershire	Swindon & Wiltshire	West of England	Cirencester College Response
Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering				Suite of Engineering T-levels
Agriculture, Agritech and Land Management				Land-based T-levels. SDF Project
Construction				Construction T-levels
Digital Industries				Digital, Business, Finance T-levels and Apprenticeships. IT courses for Adults. SDF Project. Digitalisation built into all A-level Programmes
Automotive				No capacity. Indirectly through Engineering T-levels
Health, Social Care and Life Sciences				Health & Science T-levels. Science A-levels
Creative Industries				Creative Industries T-levels 2024. Apprenticeships, A-levels

Contribution to national, regional and local priorities

The table below sets out our 2023-24 plans for helping meet the skills agenda and some measurable outcomes. This plan may be refined in the light of new technology, qualifications, funding and employer feedback.

No	What	Targets	Contribution to national, regional and local priorities
1	Develop new apprenticeships and adult skills provision (subject to funding) in LSIP priority sectors: Digital, Green-retrofit, Agri-tech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet current SDF project targets Design Adult short programmes to meet the needs of local employers. Increase apprenticeship numbers by 10% in Digital, Archaeology and other LSIP priority sectors. 	Digital is a priority at all levels. Green/Agritech is a LSIP (and LEP and LA) priority. Upskilling and supporting career switching can help address productivity issues.
2	Increase T-level numbers and pathways in LSIP priority sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20% increase in numbers on T-levels in LSIP priority areas Launch new pathways in Land and Digital in Sept 2023. 	Manufacturing (Engineering) and construction are priorities in all three areas. Agriculture etc in Gloucestershire and Swindon & Wilts, Health in Swindon & Wilts and West of England and Digital in Gloucestershire. All bar Agriculture are national priorities too.
3	Grow and embed existing T-levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase overall numbers on T-levels to 300+ (Construction, Engineering, Digital, Health & Science, Early Years, Business, Finance & Accounting, Land-based). Increase work-ready element in pre-placement part of programme to ensure students cope with placements Secure sufficient placements for all students Establish employer boards for each new T-level route Increase recruitment of female students in Construction, Digital and Engineering. 	<p>All T-levels reflect national technical skills priorities. Work readiness of young people has been identified as a significant issue in recent research, including LSIP.</p> <p>Placements and Employer involvement in curriculum design are critical to the success of T-levels and ensuring that students are 'work-ready'.</p> <p>Address national drive to improve diversity in key sectors.</p>
4	Successfully plan Wave 5 T-levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare for wave 5 T-levels in Creative (Design and Media) and Land-based part 2. 	Land-based is a priority in Gloucestershire and Swindon & Wiltshire LSIPs. Creative is a West of England Priority.
5	Enhance employability opportunities and soft-skills for all 16-18 Level 3 A-level and Applied General students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successfully develop Digication project across all A Levels. Ensure all large Level 3 Vocational courses have Intrapreneurial elements built into the curriculum Move towards sector work experience for all students who are intending to go straight into work or apprenticeships. Increase take up of Vets and Medics support Gather longitudinal data on progression of Level 2 students (including high needs) to understand employment impact. Meet Gatsby AIG Standards. 	<p>Digication is part of agreement with gFirst LEP. National and Local priority at all levels.</p> <p>Key employability skills have been identified by international research and local employers as essential for the workplace and for progression within and from it.</p> <p>Understanding what aspects of our curriculum have been most/least useful to students when they leave is crucial to being able to make further improvements.</p>

No	What	Targets	Contribution to national, regional and local priorities
6	Strongly position the College within the local and regional skills infrastructure through maintenance and development of strategic partnerships:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish productive working relationships within the LSIP with other Gloucestershire Colleges and with Wiltshire College. Explore a new relationship with RAU Maintain existing ERB relationships in Gloucestershire, Swindon & Wiltshire (including SWIOT) and Oxfordshire. 	Contribute to ensuring a coherent regional offer that meets local employer need and provides access for students across the whole area.
7	Improve awareness of skills opportunities amongst 14-16 pupils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance our careers/ guidance offer to local 'feeder' schools. Use our new skills facilities to raise aspirations amongst young people. 	National 'Gatsby Benchmarks' for careers education are not yet being met by many schools and we can particularly help with regard to technical skills.

We would like to develop target 1 above with more essential skills for adults which are a national skills priority (see point 23 in DfE Guidance April 2023). However, this depends on an increased adult funding allocation, which is not guaranteed.

