



## NORTH WEST KENT COLLEGE

### Key Facts

- North West Kent College runs from two campuses; Dartford and Gravesend.
- The College runs a wide variety of academic and vocational courses for over 3,500 full-time students.
- The Dartford Campus caters for Access to Higher Education, Art, Design, Photography and Multimedia, Business Studies, A Levels, Media Studies, Performing and Technical Arts and Professional Care.
- The Gravesend Campus caters for Construction and Building Services, Engineering, Hotel and Catering, Management Studies, Motor Vehicle, Refrigeration, Retail Studies and Travel and Tourism.

### Locations and Facilities

North West Kent College has two main campuses, one in Dartford and one in Gravesend. Both have their own specialties but Computing and Administration, Hair Dressing and Beauty Therapy, Secretarial Studies and Sport and Public Services are all run from both campuses.

- Both Campuses have on-site refectories.
- There are well equipped Technology suites at both campuses, providing students with access to extensive information systems and resources.
- Both Dartford and Gravesend have a Learning Resource Centre providing books, magazines, videos, audio, CD-ROM and other learning materials. The LRC also has private study spaces and a shop.

### Body Matters

- Body Matters consists of a multi-purpose sports hall, a fitness suite and a swimming pool providing a wide range of recreational activities at reduced rates for students.

### Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy Services

- Hairdressing salons and Beauty Therapy salons are located at both the Dartford and Gravesend campuses. All services are provided by students under the supervision of lecturers.

### Gordon's Restaurant

- Gordon's restaurant is located in the Hospitality Centre at the Gravesend Campus and is a fully operational restaurant open to students and the public.
- All services are provided by the students as part of their training while under the supervision of lecturers.

### Nurseries

- The College has full day care facilities at both the Oakfield Lane Campus and the Dering Way Campus.



## Faculties and Departments

North West Kent College offers a variety of courses at various levels. Students can study the following: BA (Hons), Foundation Degrees, HND/HNCs and Certificate in Education courses.

### The National Sea Training Centre

- The NSTC at North West Kent College is responsible for Maritime Education and Training.
- NSTC has gained a grade 1 for its teaching provision as a result of high quality teaching and learning and intensive links and partnerships with industry.
- Students can achieve internationally recognised STCW 95 accredited qualifications.
- Courses include: Telecommunications and Radar, Maritime Open Learning, Ship and Port Management, Refrigeration and Airconditioning and Health and Safety.

### The Learning Shop

- The Learning Shop is a partnership between Lend Lease the developers of Bluewater, North West Kent College and Job Centre Plus.
- The Learning Shop provides an information facility to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) which is aimed at businesses with less than 250 employees.
- The resource incorporates: advice on corporate training, guidance on funding availability, development of business and training plans, organisation of specific training programmes for staff development, development of accredited NVQ related programmes to enhance employability and management enhancement qualifications.

### The Miskin Theatre

- The Dartford campus is home to the highly acclaimed Miskin Theatre
- It has an auditorium, studio theatre, dance studio, and recording studio.



Technical Theatre Skills.

- The Miskin has an excellent reputation for its variety of productions - comedy, dance, drama, magic, mime, music and puppetry - and it presents some of the most exciting contemporary performance works in the South East of England.
- Courses available at the Miskin include; Acting, Dance, Performance, Music as well

## Learning Support

- Learning Support Centres provide free support to students who need to improve their English, Maths, IT Skills or Key Skills. There is also additional support for students with specific disabilities or learning difficulties.

## Advice Centres

- Professional members of staff are available at both campuses to advise students on the right course for them, further and higher education and general careers advice.

## Student Facts and Figures

The College currently has 9,600 students studying at both campuses and the Learning Shop. 3,600 of these students study full-time and the remaining 6,000 study part-time.

## Links with Business and the Community

The College continues to place high importance on educational and business connections in and around the Thames Gateway area, where many of the 120,000 new homes to be built and 180,000 new jobs to be created over the next 20 years will be along the southern bank of the Thames from Greenwich eastwards through Dartford and Gravesham to Swale.

The college, through its Centre of Vocational Excellence in Accounting and Financial Services has developed a portfolio with sharply focused short courses which are aimed at the small business sector. A half day course held at the innovation centre based at the Bridge in Dartford will soon be underway.

The Learning shop, run in conjunction with Lend Lease the Developers of Bluewater and Job Centre Plus offers an interface between the College and local businesses. It brings together the excellence of private sector creativity, innovation and the highest standards and quality of Further Education and workforce development.

## Future Activities and Highlights

North West Kent College has just been given the green light to undertake a £45 million pound regeneration project of its two main campuses. The project will see one of the most radical changes in its history to provide facilities fit for purpose.

Gravesend will get new engineering, computing, maritime studies, motor vehicle, travel and tourism areas and other vocational study areas. Dartford campus will house a modern performing arts centre to cope with a boost in student numbers, and house a relocation of Miskin Theatre.

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) has agreed to finance the project as more students than ever before are attending on a full and part-time courses, 9,600 in total. Work is due to start in autumn 2007 and be completed in phases by 2010.

Sport England have agreed to fund a third of refurbishment costs for the pool at Dartford as external funding is now needed to keep it on its present site.

Further information can be found at: [www.nwkcollege.ac.uk](http://www.nwkcollege.ac.uk)