its learning

AT THE HEART OF EDUCATION

Creating a technological learning environment

Hopwood Hall College

The College, which has a strong track record in innovation and development, was shortlisted in 2015 for a prestigious AoC Beacon Award in the JISC sponsored category for the effective use of Technology in FE.

An investment programme in excess of £30 million over the last few years has seen the complete remodelling of the Rochdale site and a new Technology Centre at Middleton.

Middleton & Rochdale
2 Campuses

9,000 Students

Over 3 years
£1.4m Savings

2017 BLC Learning Impact Award
Winners

Overview

- Hopwood Hall is a further education vocational college with campuses in both Rochdale and Middleton
- Strong track record in innovation and development
- Shortlisted in 2015 for a prestigious AoC Beacon Award

2011
Year Implemented itslearning

"*itslearning is central to our strategy. Listening to our learners is often the key to success and that's exactly what we did before choosing itslearning. Student's ambition and increasingly sophisticated demands are reflected by the itslearning approach which sets a very high standard that our college will match.*"

Deiric O'Tuathail
Principal, Hopwood Hall College

The Challenge

In order to keep its technologies and teaching methods at the leading edge, Hopwood Hall was seeking a partnership with a provider of a cloud-based Learning Platform capable of supporting its teachers and students across a huge range of courses and levels, from Accounting to Uniformed Public Services, Art & Design to Plastering.

Why itslearning?

The College wanted an intuitive Learning Platform; an infrastructure that students would easily grasp and engage with. The range of tools available in itslearning and how easily tutors and students can access video content and not just flat content, added to making itslearning the attractive choice.

e-Learning in action

itslearning was implemented in 2011. Hopwood Hall College, through a dedicated team comprising a Head of eLearning, a Learning Platform co-ordinator, eLearning coaches and a content development team, now delivers a comprehensive programme which includes:

- College induction delivered to all learners through an interactive online module;

- College information, training and learner engagement accessible through the student Virtual Common Rooms;

- Online curriculum learning and assessment delivery.

An eLearning planned entitlement of:

Level 1 learners have 3 hours per week
Level 2 learners have 2 hours per week
Level 3 learners have 3 hours per week

Across curriculum areas Hopwood Hall have achieved a balance of developing, procuring and using open source and creative content, giving learners a varied and rich e-Learning experience.

Summary of achievements

The collaboration between the College and itslearning has increased students success rate by 10 percentage points, propelling it into the top quartile of the UK FE sector.

By May 2015 the College was established as having the strongest performance in the Greater Manchester area and it now sits in third place nationally for vocational performance at Key Stage 5.

The move to e-Learning delivery has achieved a **£1.4 million saving** over three years on curriculum delivery costs, contributing to their achievement of significant financial surpluses and demonstrating their responsiveness to change.