

Outstanding Inspection Results

Including extracts from Estyn (Her Majesty's Inspectorate for education and training in Wales) Inspection Reports 2007



Deeside College
Coleg Glannau Dyfrdwy



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“Deeside College has undergone significant change over the past few years, led by a strong and dedicated senior management team, who are committed to continuous improvement and exceedingly high standards. The hard work and commitment of all our staff have transformed Deeside College into one of the best colleges in the UK”.

Paul Williams

Chair of Governors, Deeside College

“Deeside College is an outstanding education success story, not just in North East Wales, but for the whole of Wales and beyond. It is a pleasure to record my congratulations on its latest success in being one of the first colleges in the whole of the UK to have such an unqualified endorsement of its work-based learning and further education provision. Now that we have received the Webb Report on the future of FE in Wales it is ever more imperative for all our FE colleges to study how Deeside College carries out its vocational education mission so very successfully.”



Rhodri Morgan AM

First Minister, Welsh Assembly Government

INSPECTION GRADES 2007

	Further Education	Work Based Learning
Student Success	Grade 1	Grade 1
Teaching, Training & Assessment	Grade 1	Grade 1
Curriculum & Learning Experiences	Grade 1	Grade 1
Support for Students	Grade 1	Grade 1
Leadership & Management	Grade 1	Grade 1
Management of Quality	Grade 1	Grade 1
Management of Resources	Grade 1	Grade 1

Inspection Grade Descriptions

Grade 1	Good with outstanding features
Grade 2	Good features and no important shortcomings
Grade 3	Good features outweigh shortcomings
Grade 4	Some good features, but shortcomings in important areas
Grade 5	Many important shortcomings

“I am thrilled to learn of the grades achieved by Deeside College following their recent Estyn inspections. Deeside College ranks as one of the best colleges in the UK and, from my recent visit, it is clear to me that the College puts the learner at the centre of its thinking and focus.”

Steve Marshall

Director of the Department for Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills





“Everyone in our Deeside College team is very proud of this magnificent achievement. I would like to thank our enthusiastic and hardworking students and staff at Deeside College for their contributions to this very notable success. Our grade 1 inspection results demonstrate how Deeside College is totally committed to providing outstanding education and training for students and employers across North East Wales and beyond. The key to our success lies with our commitment to truly open and honest communication across all levels of the organisation, uncompromising expectations of high standards and an unfaltering focus on student performance.”

David Jones

Principal and Chief Executive, Deeside College

WHAT MAKES DEESIDE COLLEGE SO OUTSTANDING?

Estyn Inspectors highlighted many outstanding features including:

- Outstanding student achievements
- High quality teaching, training and assessment
- High standards of student behaviour, courtesy and respect
- Outstanding care, guidance and support for students
- Strong, inclusive and inspired leadership
- Comprehensive, rigorous, inclusive quality improvement systems
- Excellent learning resources





OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

"The rates at which learners complete and attain qualifications are outstanding. They make good or very good progress on their courses, their behaviour is exemplary, and they attend regularly."

"The majority of learners are very well motivated. They attend regularly, are punctual and work very well in class. They develop the ability to work independently and carry out their own research for their assignment work."

"Deeside College's excellent inspection ratings for the achievements of both its Further Education and Work Based Learners are without doubt helping to support the economy in North Wales. Learner achievement clearly has a high priority across Deeside College, which supports individuals to fulfil their potential and move on successfully into employment or further/higher education. I am particularly pleased about the achievements of work based learners, which adds real value to individual employees, and increases the competitiveness of the businesses they work in."

Ieuan Wyn Jones AM

Deputy First Minister and Minister for the Economy & Transport, Welsh Assembly Government



HIGH QUALITY TEACHING, TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT

"The quality of teaching, training and assessment is very good."

"They (teachers) have very high expectations of their learners and demand high standards of behaviour, courtesy and respect."

"Teachers assess learners' work regularly and give them good feedback on their progress and how to improve their work."

"All learners develop good occupational skills."

"We feel lucky to be students at one of the UK's best colleges. The teachers are very friendly and supportive and the managers, including the Principal, listen to what we say, and take action to improve our lives as students."

Yvonne Watson and Craig Gilmartin

Student Association Presidents

VERY EFFECTIVE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CURRICULUM

“The college plans and manages the curriculum very effectively.”

“The college has excellent links with employers and local businesses.”

“The college’s promotion of sustainability and environmental issues is outstanding.”

“The college has a very broad, interesting and innovative programme of enrichment and enhancement activities.”

“Work-based learning has a high status within the college.”

"On behalf of Flintshire County Council, I would like to congratulate Deeside College on its remarkable success. We are delighted with the high quality and standards of all the services that Deeside College provide for us, be it through the work with local primary and high schools, the 14-19 Network, or in support of the development of our workforce at the County Council. We are very pleased to have such a successful college in Flintshire".

Councillor Aaron Shotton

Leader of Flintshire County Council



OUTSTANDING CARE, GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

“The quality of care, guidance and support is outstanding. Learners feel valued and supported throughout their time at the college.”

“All full-time learners have regular individual tutorials in which their personal tutor sets them challenging targets...”

“The college places a high priority on the wellbeing of its learners. Health and safety procedures are systematic and comprehensive...”

"We fully endorse the Estyn inspection findings; Deeside College is an outstanding provider of education and training. The excellent support provided for learners ensures each individual fulfils their potential. This vital and caring service for the communities of Flintshire in turn provides a very positive impact on the local economy when learners progress into employment."

David Hanson MP & Mark Tami MP

STRONG, INCLUSIVE AND INSPIRED LEADERSHIP

“College managers provide strong, inclusive and inspired leadership.”

“Communication within the college is outstanding. Decision making is transparent and managers make sure that they keep staff fully informed of all developments.”

“The arrangements for performance management are very good.”

“The principal and managers are outstanding role models in the successful promotion of a culture of continuous improvement within the work-based learning provision.”

“Deeside College is a fine example of a highly successful Further Education institution which has excellent engagement with its local employers. Its recent positive inspection highlights the strong, inclusive and inspired leadership that takes place at the college and I hope its good work will continue long into the future.”

John Griffiths AM

Deputy Minister for Skills, Welsh Assembly Government



COMPREHENSIVE, RIGOROUS, INCLUSIVE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT SYSTEMS

“The arrangements for evaluating and improving quality and standards at the college are outstanding.”

“All teachers, leaders and managers show a passion for excellence...”

“Quality improvement systems are comprehensive, rigorous, inclusive and open and they involve all staff.”

“All functional areas of the college are included in the annual quality cycle.”

“This is a tremendous result for the college and also for the major partners of the college. It is really pleasing to see that the system of green, amber and red, adopted by the college team from Airbus UK to improve standards, has delivered such excellent results. Congratulations to all in the college.”

Brian Fleet

Senior Vice President, Centre of Excellence - Wing & Pylon
Airbus UK



EXCELLENT LEARNING RESOURCES

“The quality of education and training, and leadership and management is outstanding. The college provides very good value for money.”

“The college has well-qualified and experienced staff to support the effective delivery of its provision.”

“Overall, accommodation is very good and, in many areas, provides learners with an outstanding learning environment...”

“The provider has well-qualified staff to deliver the wide range of work-based training programmes it offers.”

“We are proud to be associated with Deeside College which, through excellent leadership and management of its resources, is providing outstanding and effective education and training which benefits people across the local community and the local economy.”

Carl Sargeant AM and Sandy Mewies AM



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A full copy of Deeside
College's Estyn inspection
report can be found at
www.deeside.ac.uk or
[www.estyn.gov.uk/
inspection_reports.asp](http://www.estyn.gov.uk/inspection_reports.asp)