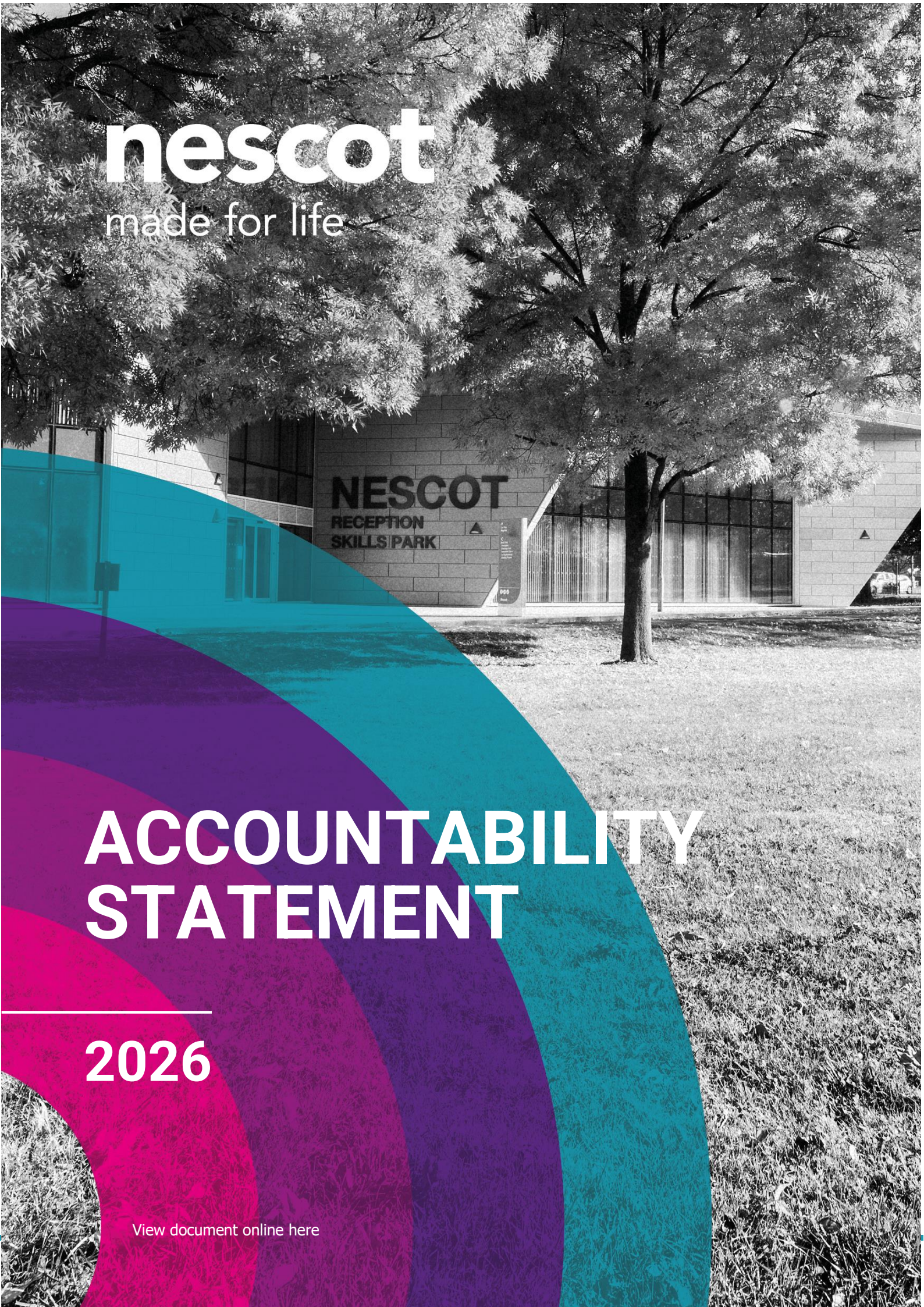


A black and white photograph of a modern building with large windows and a stone facade. A large, leafy tree stands in front of the building. The foreground is a grassy area. Overlaid on the left side of the image are three large, overlapping semi-circular shapes in teal, purple, and red. The text 'nescot' is in a large, bold, white sans-serif font, and 'made for life' is in a smaller, white sans-serif font below it.

nescot
made for life

NESCOT
RECEPTION
SKILLS PARK

ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

2026

[View document online here](#)

1. PURPOSE

Nescot's mission is "to be the college of choice enabling every learner to succeed." Our provision is designed to deliver outstanding teaching and learning, develop the skills, attitudes, and qualifications that enable learners to progress and succeed at work and in society, and to meet the economic, skills, and social needs of our communities.

Make it here, and you're made for life.

OUR VALUES

Nurturing

Excellent

Sustainable

Compassionate

Original

Transformative



"I'm sure we all wish we had a Nescot in our local area."

Rt. Hon Anne Milton

"Nescot is truly remarkable, summed up by your head of security who said there could be no better place to study or work."

Dame Prue Leith

2. CONTEXT AND PLACE

The College

Nescot is a modern and dynamic further and higher education college based in Epsom, Surrey, supporting 6,000 learners each year across a wide range of programmes:

- 14-16 provision
- 16-19 provision (including T Levels)
- Adult skills including distance learning and SWAPs
- Support Internships
- Apprenticeships
- Commercial and full-cost courses for adults and employers
- Foundation Learning
- Higher Education
- NEET targeted activities

Our campus sits on a beautiful 60-acre site with a range of state-of the-art facilities where students are supported by industry experts. Our inspiring learning environment consists of a working farm, an Institute of Technology, immersive classrooms, science laboratories, hair & beauty salons, and Osteopathy centre, two theatres, construction & motor vehicle workshops, training kitchens & restaurant, learning resource centre and childcare nursery. The site has been delivering education and training for over 70 years and is one of the largest employers in the area.

Students at our college also have access to a wide range of facilities to complement their studies and fill time between classes. This includes a café & restaurant, sports facilities and a gym. A comprehensive student enrichment programme is offered by a dedicated student experience team, and includes trips and visits, plus a number of clubs and societies. Over the past two years students have visited Bali, Tenerife and Madagascar and we have launched the first college darts league alongside our basketball team and football academies.

Our college continues to operate with outstanding financial health, enabling us to explore further investment opportunities at our site and surrounding areas.

We are proud to be an inclusive college that supports all our learners, with an extensive range of support available to meet needs. We have a dedicated Special Educational Needs team, a safeguarding and wellbeing team and a specialist learning resource centre.

Nescot has excellent transport and travel links being located next to Ewell East train station and in the vicinity of Ewell West and Epsom stations. The college also has a large free car park and secure bike storage facilities as well as being on several bus routes. The college is a central stakeholder in the local community – working with many charities to support local initiatives including a Food Bank, the Epsom & Ewell Hub, the Sunnybank Trust, The Royal Marsden Hospital and Phab. In 2024, Nescot was proud to sign the Armed Forces Covenant and in 2025 was awarded silver in their Employer Recognition scheme. The college is also a member of the Social Recruitment Advocacy Group and Cornerstone Employer Group for Surrey.

Our relationships with employers and businesses are exceptionally strong and include major corporates, public bodies and SMEs. Every year we run a range of collaborations and projects with employers including: The Jockey Club, the NHS, Toni & Guy, Ringway, Wates, Mundy Cruises and Gatwick Airport Limited.

Our main catchment includes the Surrey districts and boroughs of Epsom & Ewell, Mole Valley, Reigate & Banstead, Elmbridge, and several South London Boroughs (Merton, Sutton, Kingston), as well as the Gatwick Diamond area.

In 2023, Nescot was inspected by Ofsted and found to be 'Good' in all areas of delivery. The college has also been assessed as holding a Silver rating against the Office For Students Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF).

The college's dedication, innovation, and impact have been further recognised through a range of prestigious awards. Highlights include Hairdressing lecturer Lisa winning the Gold Award for 'Further Education Lecturer of the Year' at the Pearson National Teaching Awards. Reanna, a hairdressing student, receiving the Association of Colleges Adult Student of the Year Award. The college winning Community Hero Award at the Central South Business Awards and receiving 'Highly Commended' for 'Large Business of the Year' at the Surrey Business Awards.



Strategic and economic context

Source: Surrey Local Skills Improvement Plan 2026-2029

Surrey boasts a dynamic economy, with over 110,000 businesses contributing more than £50 billion in Gross Value Added (GVA) annually and is one of the UK's largest regional economies. This is supported by a highly skilled workforce, leading educational and research institutions, exceptional connectivity, and world-leading clusters in a number of key sectors.

The County's global connectivity stems from its proximity to Heathrow and Gatwick airports, both pursuing major expansions. Heathrow is advancing a third runway planning application (approved for investment in January 2026, targeting permission by 2029), while Gatwick's Northern Runway project received consent in September 2025, enabling future dual-runway operations. Strong national links to London and southeast ports further enhance Surrey's appeal for investment and business growth.

Surrey has a longstanding record of attracting international firms and nurturing innovative UK companies. This has created a collaborative ecosystem, developing foundational sectors like finance, construction, and legal services—alongside high-GVA specialisms in digital services and finance/insurance—complemented by clusters in automotive (e.g., McLaren, Toyota), space (Space South Central), and creative industries.

The Surrey Economic Growth Strategy 2025–2035 identifies a number of key opportunities. However, challenges remain, as growth has slowed with declining business numbers (especially micro-enterprises), barriers to starting/scaling businesses, talent retention issues amid high living costs, and infrastructure needs (e.g., commercial space, digital connectivity). The 1.2 million residents require better-aligned skills for business demands.

Foundational and service sectors—health and social care, hospitality, retail, and construction—are essential. Though they may not drive rapid headline growth, they employ large, more diverse workforces, deliver critical services, support community stability, enable higher-value sectors through supply chains and workforce provision, and promote inclusive employment. Balancing these with high-growth clusters ensures sustainable, equitable prosperity.

By tackling these issues through skills investment, infrastructure upgrades, business support, and collaboration, Surrey can leverage its strengths for continued productivity, innovation, and inclusive growth.

Key characteristics of Surrey

Source: Surrey Local Skills Improvement Plan 2026-2029

- High concentration of businesses in the emerging economy, such as AI, space and creative industries.
- 1 in 4 jobs are in Knowledge Intensive Industries (KIS) such as information, communications, financial services and professional, scientific and technical.
- Recent trends indicate the proportion of businesses in KIS is reducing.
- A high proportion of working age residents qualified to a degree level or above, a figure that has remained consistent in recent years. However, workplace occupations are generally lower-skilled than resident occupations, suggesting that residents often commute out of the county for top roles (to areas like London or Reading). This does bring wealth and local spend into Surrey, but it also fuels competition for talent presenting recruitment challenges and key skills gaps.
- Surrey has a relatively low inactivity rate (about 16% or 117,000 people) and one in five out of work want a job (17.2% vs 15.8% nationally), pointing to an untapped workforce.

- However, inequality remains an acute issue; residents without formal qualifications are disproportionately likely to be economically inactive (63%) than comparator areas, (CIPFA 52% and UK 55%, 2021).
- Consistent with this data, research from Metro Dynamics delivering Surrey's Economic Strategy have highlighted capability (lack of skills or the English language) and mindset (lack of resilience) as key barriers.

East Surrey

East Surrey is predominantly served by a highly skilled workforce with low unemployment rates. The demographic is heavily dominated by professionals, knowledge-intensive industries, and a large contingent of commuters traveling to central London or working directly in the wider Gatwick Diamond economic area.

Key Sectors

- Health and social care, construction and digital.
- The financial and insurance industries account for an above-average share of local jobs (especially around Reigate).

Workforce Demographics

- **High Educational Attainment:** 42.4% of the working-age population is qualified to Level 4 or above (degree level and higher), which is significantly higher than the national average.
- **Age Profile:** The working-age population is predominantly composed of older cohorts, with a high proportion of residents between 40 and 59 years old.
- **Economic Activity:** Employment rates sit at roughly 80-90% depending on the specific borough. Furthermore, East Surrey exhibits a higher rate of self-employment and freelance work than the national average.

Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution

In October 2025, the UK Government confirmed proposals for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Surrey. From 1 April 2027, the existing two-tier system, comprising Surrey County Council (SCC) and the 11 district and borough councils, will be replaced by two new unitary authorities: East Surrey Council and West Surrey Council. These new councils will assume full responsibility for delivering all local services in their respective areas.

The transition timeline is as follows:

- **May 2026 – March 2027:** The newly elected councillors will form shadow authorities, tasked with preparing budgets, systems, staffing, and other arrangements for a smooth handover.
- **From April 2027:** The new unitary councils will officially take over service delivery. Until then, the current district, borough, and county councils continue to operate with their existing councillors and responsibilities.



Key devolved elements include:

- The Adult Skills Fund (ASF), replacing elements of the former Adult Education Budget, with Surrey's allocation devolved from the 2026/27 academic year.
- Post-16 Capacity Funding (indicative allocation of approximately £7.7 million per year for 2026/27 and 2027/28) to support expanded learner places.

Consequently, Surrey is treated as if it were a devolved area for skills planning purposes. The Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP), developed jointly by the designated Employer Representative Body (ERB) (Surrey Chambers of Commerce) and SCC as the interim strategic authority, aligns with and integrates existing Surrey initiatives. These include Get Surrey Working, Skills Bootcamps, Business Surrey, the Skills, Training and Employment Portal (STEP Surrey), Surrey Careers Hub, Jobcentre Plus programmes, and others.

The Adult Skills Fund has been commissioned this year, incorporating LSIP findings to ensure skills provision responds effectively to local employer needs and supports economic growth.

This reorganisation and devolution framework aims to create more streamlined, accountable local government while enhancing Surrey's ability to tailor skills investment to its high-value economy for local impact.

3. APPROACH TO DEVELOPING THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

The annual Accountability Statement is a live reflection of the Nescot Strategic Plan 2025-28.

The new Strategic Plan builds on the college's achievements over the past three years in the context of the changing political landscape (both locally and nationally). It has been informed by the Governing Body, College Leadership Team (CLT), staff and students alongside the following external factors:

- Increase in demographics for the 16-18 market (until a decline from 2029/30)
- Priorities of the Labour Government, Skills England and the Greater London Mayoral Authority
- Increases in costs – National Insurance, National Minimum Wage etc
- Surrey County Council's plans for devolution
- The Surrey Economic Growth Strategy 2025–2035
- National strategies including the UK Modern Industrial Strategy, SEND reforms and the post-16 white paper

During the last three years, the college has focused on building stronger foundations around quality, customer experience and wellbeing. Nescot is now on a trajectory for growth in student numbers and plans investment in its campus and estate.

Timeline for finalising the Accountability Statement:

Strategic away day with Governors	February 2026
Strategic discussions	June 2026
CLT review and sign off	July 2026
Sign off with Governing Body	July 2026

4. CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL, REGIONAL, LOCAL PRIORITIES

Nescot is committed to ensuring it contributes effectively to meeting the skills needs of employers in the local, regional and national economy through the range of programmes we teach, the content and planning of our curriculum and our engagement and collaboration with employers, the community and stakeholders – including civic, charitable and other educational partners.

SurreyFE

SurreyFE, serves as the unifying representative for Further Education in Surrey, advocating on behalf of Activate Learning (Farnham College, Merrist Wood College, Guildford College), Brooklands Technical College (BTC), East Surrey College (ESC), and North-East Surrey College of Technology (Nescot).

Established in 2023 as a collaborative umbrella organisation, SurreyFE promotes a coordinated "whole Surrey" approach to skills, education, and training, by sharing good practice, removing duplication and providing opportunities across the region.

In partnership with Surrey County Council, SurreyFE is actively supporting the devolution of adult education functions—including the Adult Skills Fund—for the 2026/27 academic year, while aligning provision with the LSIP. This collaboration drives inclusive economic growth through a focus on prevention, early intervention, and accessible pathways into education, skills development, and employment, particularly for young people and adults at risk of becoming Not in Employment Education or Training (NEET.)

Inclusion remains a core principle across all SurreyFE initiatives, ensuring opportunities for all learners while contributing to Surrey's broader economic resilience and productivity.

List of SurreyFE activities in 2025/2026

Source: Local Needs Duty SurreyFE Update on Activities 25/26

Governance

- New joint Governor Induction is now up and running, with the first session taking place in January 2026 and further sessions in May 2026 to welcome new governors from all SurreyFE college boards. The focus areas are:
 - The FE Landscape: Understanding the sector, its offerings, funding & finance, and curriculum & quality.
 - Essential FE Governance: Mandatory requirements and best practices every governor must know.
 - Governor Excellence: Practical tips for effective governance.
- Second joint Governor's Conference set for July 2026 as part of the Annual SurreyFE Teaching and Learning Conference, hosted by Brooklands Technical College. This will build on last year's conference hosted by Nescot in July 2025 and will explore the theme of inclusion from a governance perspective.
- New Governor's page on the SurreyFE website is already attracting new expressions of interest for governor recruitment.
- The Governance Professionals at the four Colleges meet at least twice a term to develop joint activities, and to share effective governance practice at their colleges.

Strategic Leadership

- Monthly meetings with Principals/CEOs
 - Including regular updates with Surrey County Council to focus on skills and devolution as part of the County Deal.
- Sharing of responsibilities to represent FE on key Surrey Boards/groups e.g. LSIP, Surrey County Council Groups.
- Led creation of new FE/HE Surrey Skills Alliance with Surrey universities, ALPs, Surrey County Council and Surrey Chambers of Commerce with ToR agreed in April 2026 and collaborative activity for 26/27 to be planned.

New delivery projects

- Funded by Surrey County Council to create a Construction Development and Delivery Plan in response to construction sector skills shortage crisis tied directly to South East Construction Technical Excellence College activity placing Surrey at the heart of new pilots by June 2026.
 - Activity will see the launch of 3 key county-wide SurreyFE programmes 'Ready to Learn', 'Ready to Work', and 'Ready to Teach' in 26/27.
- Currently in scope for mobilisation in 26/27 - Funding offered by Surrey County Council to deliver a Surrey wide 'Teacher Industry Exchange' programme alongside Construction Development and Delivery Plan.

Thematic Peer Groups

- Community of Practice for teaching & learning including:
 - New English & Maths group who are collaborating on a CPD event in June 2026 focussed on early support in first 6 weeks and sharing models of best practice.
 - Immersive technologies for teaching & learning.
- Safeguarding Group focussed on working collaboratively and with Surrey Education Safeguarding Forum to develop best practice processes, consideration of knife crime prevention and delivery of its second annual joint CPD in summer 2026.
- HR and recruitment and exploration of how SurreyFE can work better with recruitment agencies through construction as the first sector.
- Marketing – responsible for brand development, usage of social media accounts for stakeholder engagement, use of SurreyFE website to promote brand and encourage government recruitment. Achieved two thought leadership pieces including with FE Week on SurreyFE and its approach to NEET prevention.
- Chief Operating Officer's group focussed on procurement, joint bidding opportunities and Business Development.

Competitions for learners in March 2026

- Construction – led by East Surrey College with winners invited to the 'South East Construction Technical Excellence College' launch at the House of Lords on 30th April 2026. Competition attracted new sponsorship by supplier Tilgear providing toolkits for all winners totalling circa £1,600.
- Creative Digital – led by Activate Learning with increase to the number of teams taking part and employer engagement.
- Hair and Beauty – led by Brooklands Technical College with new category of massage included.
- SEN with a 'Bake Off' theme for 2026 taking place May 2026 with new judges and employers – led by NESCOL

Teaching & Learning Conference: Theme of Inclusion

- 3rd annual joint Teaching & Learning conference is in June 2026 focussing on inclusion. New format to include a SurreyFE CEOs Q&A panel alongside Director for Education and Lifelong Learning from Surrey County Council chaired by SurreyFE Strategic Lead. Guest speakers include Fatima Whitbread – former Javelin World Champion and Olympic medallist – speaking as a Care Ambassador with lived experience of the care system; and Kat Thorne of 'The Morning Gamechanger' to support teachers with wellbeing at the end of the day.
- Alongside the main event, for the second year, our Governors will host their own conference, focusing on key topics that are current, relevant, and vital to strengthening governance across the sector.

Surrey FE, HE and Independent Training Providers (ITP) Alliance

An Alliance has been created bringing together a representative of 6th form education, the four Surrey FE colleges and three Universities in Surrey, together with SCC and other business orientated stakeholders, presenting a unique opportunity to deliver actions arising from the LSIP including identifying career pathways from Entry Level up to and including Level 8.

The Alliance will participate with sector specific industry representatives for each of the 8 priority sectors within the Industrial Strategy. The Alliance is a self-constituted body and has set itself responsibilities focussing (amongst other things) on relevant LSIP areas as below:

- **Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP).** Supporting the formulation of the Surrey LSIP by providing specialist advice on the component covering further and higher education and skills provision from entry level to Level 8.
- **Adults, Apprenticeships, SWAPs and Skills Bootcamps.** Offering informed input into planning and delivery of adult programmes, apprenticeships and skills bootcamps across the county.
- **Inclusion.** Championing opportunities for prevention of NEET, programmes for young people and adults who are vulnerable and or have additional learning needs, across Surrey.
- **Lifelong Learning Entitlement (LLE).** Supporting system readiness and maximising Surrey's benefit from the national rollout of the LLE.

Surrey & Sussex Institute of Technology (IoT)

The Sussex and Surrey IoT includes Nescot, Chichester College Group (CCG) and the Universities of Sussex and Brighton & Chichester. The IoT enhances higher level skills training, with a state-of-the-art hub and specialist satellites for delivery at locations across the region.

The IoT at Nescot was one of the first spaces to open in 2024 and specialises in digital technologies. Students and staff have full access to the facilities, equipment, and infrastructure. Curriculum teams are making active use of the technology to develop innovative content that supports and enhances their core activities.

Nescot & the University of Brighton

The University of Brighton and North East Surrey College of Technology (Nescot) announced a major new partnership in May 2026 that will create further opportunities for people of all ages to learn, train and progress into high-quality careers across the region.

The five-year agreement will see the college and university work together to strengthen local skills, support employers and make it easier for students to move from college into university study.

Main Features and Benefits:

- **Expanded Educational Pathways:** The partnership creates clear routes for students to progress from further education at Nescot to higher education opportunities with the University of Brighton, making university-level study more accessible.
- **Local Delivery of University-Level Courses:** Students can study University of Brighton-validated degree programmes at Nescot, enabling them to gain higher education qualifications locally without the need to relocate.
- **Industry Support:** The partnership is informed by industry needs, ensuring that courses and programmes are aligned with current workforce requirements and enhance students' employability.
- **Shared Strategic Initiatives:** Both institutions collaborate on strategic projects, sharing expertise and resources to drive innovation and improve educational outcomes.



Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

Nescot has a strong relationship with the borough council supporting the delivery of their strategic priorities. The college has regular meetings with senior officers and members to drive new collaboration and innovation. Nescot is a key partner in the Epsom and Ewell Hub. The hub supports people who are unemployed and in receipt of Universal Credit, into employment. The hub has given several hundred people access to training, community delivered ESOL programmes, apprenticeships and jobs. A number of community projects are also supported by Nescot – in particular the Mayor's Charities and making the college site/assets available for polling stations and public health requirements.

Nescot is also a member of the Epsom Town Centre Business Improvement District (Go Epsom) – supporting the needs of the local economy and its businesses.

Community Safety and Joint Action Group (JAG) Activity

Over the past 12 months, Nescot has continued to play an active role in multi-agency work to improve community safety in and around the campus through the Joint Action Group (JAG). Working closely with Surrey Police, Surrey County Council, Epsom & Ewell Borough Council, British Transport Police and local community partners, the college has contributed to and was identified as a pilot area in the delivery of the Clear-Hold-Build initiative. This collaborative approach has focused on targeted enforcement activity to address anti-social behaviour, followed by sustained partnership working to prevent its re-emergence and build long-term community resilience. As a result, there has been improved information-sharing, more coordinated responses to incidents, increased visible presence at key times, and stronger relationships with neighbouring schools and local residents. This work has supported a safer environment for students, staff and the wider community, and Nescot remains committed to ongoing engagement and continuation of this work. As the Clear-Hold-Build pilot comes to an end, Nescot will continue to lead on the employability strand, and has been invited to join the Community Safety Partnership led by the Local Authority to continue this work.



Partners and Stakeholders

Alongside the partners above, the College has a wide range of partners and stakeholders who are a key part of our community and development. These include (not exhaustive):

Employer Partners	Large: Gatwick Airport Limited, Atkins Realis, Wates, Morgan Sindall, Ringway, The Jockey Club, Holiday Inn, Surrey Care Association, Aramark, Chiltern Nurseries and Mundy Cruises. Small: Buxton Construction, Hill Group, Smith & Byford, Epsom Playhouse. Micro: Current Phase, Hale Hair Boutique, The Cutting Rooms.
Business Representative Groups	Surrey Chambers of Commerce, Sussex Chambers of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses, Gatwick Diamond Business, Surrey Cornerstone Employers Group.
Civic Partners	Surrey County Council, the NHS, Job Centre Plus, DWP, Local & regional Police and blue light services, Military.
Community Groups	Macmillan, The Children's Trust, Stripey Stork, Royal Marsden Cancer Charity, Sight for Surrey.
Education and Training Partners	SurreyFE, Sussex & Surrey Institute of Technology Consortium, University of Brighton, University of Sussex, University of Chichester, Royal Holloway, Royal Society for Blind Children, Bourne Education Trust, City & Guilds, Pearson.

5. INCLUSIVE MAINSTREAM FUND

Nescots allocation from the Inclusive Mainstream Fund is primarily directed toward extensive Continuous Professional Development (CPD), ensuring that inclusive practice is embedded in every classroom and corridor. By investing in this training, the college equips teachers and support staff with the skills for expert adaptive teaching and support and the ability to spot emerging needs. This focus on evidence-based training, which aligns with the new national SEND training programme, enables staff to meet student needs through high-quality, universal strategies.

Nescot is further utilising resources to recruit and deploy staff specifically focused on strengthening student transitions to and from post-16 settings, engaging with parents and carers, and enhancing overall student experience and welfare. Recognising that young people with SEND are significantly more likely to become NEET,

the college aims to co-design tailored transition packages with schools, students, and their families, and conduct “support first” home visits to engage directly with students when they do not attend college. These interventions will ensure that the most vulnerable learners receive the proactive support required to remain successfully engaged in education.

To make certain the offer remains responsive and consistent, Nescot is investing in improving data collection and sharing in preparation for the adoption of standardised digital Individual Support Plans (ISPs), ensuring that critical information regarding barriers to learning and required reasonable adjustments is shared seamlessly before, during, and after their time at the college.

Informing the Curriculum Planning Process

Nescot’s curriculum is informed by up-to-date national and regional strategy, including the Industrial Strategy, Surrey Skills Devolution and the Skills Roadmap for London. Focus remains on delivering the skills required by both the local community and our regional stakeholders.

Each curriculum area has an Employer Engagement Panel who also provide insights, support and challenge to curriculum managers and senior staff. Along with presenting the shape of the provision, student numbers and the financial income and viability, managers also provide justification for their curriculum (curriculum intent) using destination and progression data, alignment to LSIP/Local Authority priority areas and market intelligence on job market growth. Managers are also questioned on innovation, curriculum efficiency, employability and occupational transferable skills development. Planning is data-led and evidenced based. Curriculum managers have access to a dedicated curriculum planning site with a rich source of data and resources, including datasets sourced from the LSIP, local providers’ offer, strategic papers published by DfE.

In addition, our student experience, enrichment and careers teams deliver a diverse and rich tutorial programme, tailored to the needs of each student group.

Further information on our curriculum offer and careers programme can be found on our [website](#).

6. LOCAL NEEDS DUTY

The core ambition of the Surrey LSIP 2026-29 is to position Surrey as a leading, high-growth economy, enabled by a dynamic, employer-led skills system that supports innovation, productivity and opportunity.

Key outcomes desired:

- Key sectors and employers have access to the workforce and skills they need to grow.
- All residents are able to develop the confidence and skills they need to access employment opportunities.

As a key contributor to the Surrey LSIP, Nescot meets its local needs duty now and for the next three years. It continues to deliver on its mission “to be the college of choice enabling every learner to succeed.”

Statement of Support from Surrey County Council for SurreyFE Colleges' Accountability Statements (Local Needs Duty)

The Council works in close partnership with SurreyFE and its constituent colleges to align further education provision to the current and future needs of Surrey's economy and communities. This collaboration is central to delivering the ambitions set out in Surrey's Economic Growth Strategy 2025–2035, including driving inclusive growth, improving productivity, and ensuring that residents have access to high-quality skills opportunities.

Surrey is one of the UK's most economically significant regions, with a diverse and high performing economy spanning key sectors such as advanced manufacturing, digital and creative industries, clean energy, construction, health and social care, and early years provision. The Council recognises the critical role that SurreyFE colleges play in developing the skilled workforce required to sustain and grow these sectors, and in responding to employer demand through high-quality technical and vocational education.

Through well-established partnership working—including delivery of Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) priorities and a joined-up approach on NEET prevention—SurreyFE colleges have demonstrated a clear commitment to aligning provision with local labour market needs. The Council supports this collaborative, system-wide approach, with a view to ensuring that provision is both responsive and forward-looking.

This partnership approach continues to evolve. The Council welcomes the development of a new FE/HE Alliance group across Surrey, which brings together further and higher education partners to strengthen progression pathways, align provision more effectively to employer demand, and respond collectively to LSIP priorities. This represents an important step in creating a more integrated and coherent post-16 skills system across the county.

The Council also recognises the significant collaborative work underway in priority sectors, particularly construction. SurreyFE colleges, working with the Council and industry partners, are helping to respond to acute skills shortages through coordinated planning, including recent construction-focused analysis and action planning. This work is critical to supporting the delivery of housing, infrastructure, and wider economic growth ambitions in Surrey. The Council supports SurreyFE's new Ready to Work, Ready to Teach and Ready to Learn programmes to be mobilised for 26/27 as core delivery pillars to expand capacity, improve progression and widen participation.

In addition, Surrey County Council has invited SurreyFE to co-create and lead the delivery of a county-wide FE Teacher Industry Exchange programme, focused on construction. This programme will support teaching staff to engage directly with industry, ensuring that curriculum delivery reflects current practices, technologies, and employer expectations. This initiative aligns with LSIP priorities and represents a significant opportunity to strengthen the quality and industry relevance of technical education across Surrey.

The Council also recognises the increasing demand for technical education pathways across the county, alongside rising expectations from employers for industry-relevant skills and facilities. In this context, the Accountability Statements provide an important mechanism for articulating how each college contributes to meeting local, regional, and national skills priorities, while continuing to work collectively as part of the SurreyFE partnership.

Surrey County Council remains fully committed to working with SurreyFE colleges, employers, and wider partners to support a coherent and high-performing skills system. This commitment underpins the County Council's approach to discharging its devolved adult education functions and associated funding, not least the Adult Skills Fund. We look forward to continuing this partnership to ensure that Surrey's skills system is responsive, inclusive, and aligned with the needs of both learners and the economy.

Surrey County Council



Matt Furniss

Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Economic Growth

7. STRATEGIC PLAN TARGETS 2025-28

The college Strategic plan 2025-28 is built around four pillars:

PROFILE	This pillar puts specific resource into building our profile to drive student numbers and awareness of our offer and credentials in the area.
PRODUCT	This pillar sets out what we deliver at the college and how we deliver it. It enables us to take bolder decisions around our curriculum offer, diversification, use of technology and our partners.
PLACE	This pillar sets out how we utilise and invest in our campus and its resources. It is also intrinsically linked to how we ensure financial sustainability as a business and longer-term investment in our campus.
PEOPLE	This pillar recognises that Nescot's greatest asset is its people. Nescot aspires to be an employer of choice that champions professional development and wellbeing. The college aims to enable and empower greater innovation amongst its staff to drive industry/employer links, enable business efficiencies and to embed a culture of excellence.

To achieve the outcomes set out in our Strategic plan and Surrey LSIP, Nescot will:

PROFILE	1. Growth - destination of choice for young people and adults 2. Strong values driven brand 3. Employer partner of choice to meet training/skills needs	Launch new Apprenticeships in key sectors, including units and foundation apprenticeship offers (September 2026) Introduce skills bootcamps with key delivery partners (January 2027) Successfully deliver the Surrey NEETs pilot scheme (December 2026)
PRODUCT	1. Excellence in quality of education – recognised internally and externally 2. Greater innovation in curriculum delivery and progression pathways 3. Dynamic response to trends and learner needs	Publish the inclusion strategy and a progress update plan (December 2026) Update curriculum strategy and action plan in line with curriculum reform as further information is published (April 2027) Achievement rates above national averages (July 2027)
PLACE	1. Completion of masterplan for the future development of the campus - aligned with plans for investment and growth 2. Modernise IT core infrastructure 3. Make a step change in our approach to sustainability to save money and protect our environment	Implementation of the masterplan and strategy with an on-going review of investment options (July 2027) Implement IT roadmap and launch the refresh strategy (July 2027) Deploying our refreshed procurement strategy - supporting local business (July 2027) Replacing our mini-buses with EV vehicles (July 2027)

PEOPLE	1. Championing Brand 'Nescot' as a great place to work and progress your career attracting new talent into teaching 2. Further investment in staff wellbeing, CPD and enrichment 3. Development of staff to take up internal career opportunities	Achieve an 80% response rate from staff survey "I would recommend Nescot as a place to work" (July 2027) Achieve and sustain staff sickness levels below published AoC benchmarks (July 2027) Achieve and sustain staff turnover level below published AoC benchmarks (July 2027)
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8. CORPORATION / GOVERNING BODY STATEMENT

This Accountability Statement was reviewed and approved by Nescot's College Leadership Team and Governing Body in June 2026. The Corporation confirms this document fulfils the statutory Local Needs Duty.	
Signed by (chair of Governors): <i>J Williams</i> Name: Jeremy Williams Date: 23/07/2026	Signed by (ELT): <i>DT</i> Name: Dan Thornton Date: 23/07/2026

9. HYPERLINK TO PUBLISHED ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

<https://www.nescot.ac.uk/policies>

10. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

- Surrey Local Skills Improvement Plan 2026-2029
- The Surrey Economic Growth Strategy 2025–2035
- Post-16 Education & Skills white paper
- SEND reforms paper
- Surrey County Council Skills Plans for devolution
- Greater London Authority and London Mayor strategic papers
- Uk Modern Industrial Strategy



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