# Spotlight

#### The Summer 2025 Newsletter for Chelmsford College

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# **Proud to Support Pride!**

Chelmsford College proudly returned to Essex Pride in Central Park on the 21st June, joining over 4,000 attendees in celebrating Pride Month. Coordinated by Deviee Bouri, Teaching, Learning and Skills Coach, the College stall offered free face painting, hair glitter, giveaways and information on Pride flags. Staff also connected with potential future learners while enjoying seeing current and past learners too. Principal David Warnes praised the team's efforts in raising awareness of LGBTQ+ inclusion both within College and the wider community.







#### **Green Future**

We're one of the first five colleges to adopt a national framework supporting a just transition to net zero, helping develop green skills and sustainability!

# **Building Future Careers**



At our Building a Lasting Legacy event, secondary school learners explored careers in construction! Partnering with Essex County Council and Morgan Sindall Construction, learners engaged with employers and took part in hands-on workshops to develop skills and ideas for their future.

# Learners Leading the Way in Business

We were thrilled to host our annual ENT FEST in May, putting the spotlight on our Enterprise learners. Building on the success of previous years, this year's event showcased a range of businesses developed by our learners, reflecting their creativity, dedication and expertise. ENT FEST provided a platform for learners to present their business ideas and products to staff and real-world stakeholders, including HayPigs!, Essex County Council, Howden and Essex Chambers of Commerce & Industry. Their involvement highlighted the importance of connecting education with industry. Learners also received valuable feedback from these experts, helping them gain skills essential for future entrepreneurial success. Our learners impressed with their commitment throughout the process, from conceptualising ideas to executing them professionally. Their innovative approaches and readiness to contribute meaningfully to the business world were widely commended. ENT FEST 2025 demonstrates our commitment to nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs. By encouraging practical experience, we continue to prepare learners for the business world.





#### **Careers Advice Zone**

Our Careers Advice Zone have been as busy as ever, guiding both new and returning learners towards their goals. A key highlight was the recent Post Results Service, where the team supported Year 11s who didn't receive the GCSE results they hoped for, helping them explore alternative routes to success. This year has been described as their busiest yet helping over 450 learners, and even though the official service has ended, the team continues to guide learners needing personalised support with their next steps. Looking ahead, they'll be attending three external events to speak with secondary school learners and are also planning to welcome universities into College to offer application advice to our learners, including valuable tips on personal statements, UCAS points and future opportunities. So, if you're a Chelmsford College learner considering university, keep a look out for this!



Read more of our latest news by scanning the QR code!



## **Development Week**

As the academic year drew to a close and learners headed off for the summer, our staff took part in **Professional Development Week** (PDW) from the 30th June – 4th July. The week offered staff the chance to enhance their skills while prioritising wellbeing, with a dedicated Well Fest on the Wednesday. PDW concluded with an all-staff barbecue and Awards Ceremony at St John's Church, recognising and celebrating the hard work of our College team. Professional development sessions included Developing Learner Resilience, Best Practice: Data Savvy Leadership and Mental Health First Aid Training, reflecting our commitment to equipping staff to support learners effectively in a safe and successful environment. Well Fest offered a range of activities, from Indian head massages, rock painting and friendship bracelet making, to yoga, football and an introduction to British Sign Language. We were so thankful to our staff who led these workshops and helped foster community spirit across both campuses, creating a positive, inclusive atmosphere. We look forward to future PDWs and remain committed to supporting and recognising staff.





### **Dates for the Diary**

• **Showcase:** 01/10/25

• Media & IT Stakeholder Event: 14/10/25

• **Showcase:** 12/11/25

• Chamber Roundtable Event: 28/01/26

# **Celebrating Culture**

We proudly hosted Cultural Celebration Week from the 2nd-6th June, celebrating the diversity of our community. The highlight was a lively exhibition in the Common Room, where staff and learners wore traditional clothing and national colours. Catering learners, supported by staff and Student Governor Daniel Holland, prepared global dishes such as Greek filo parcels, onion bhajis and homemade pizza. With cultural displays, flags and guizzes, the event brought people together while reinforcing our ongoing commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.



#### **Are You Looking to Apply?**

Scan the QR code to explore our variety of courses.



To learn more about our facilities, courses and more, please visit:

www.chelmsford.ac.uk Q

#### **Awarding Learner Success!**

We had an amazing evening celebrating the achievements of our learners at the 2025 Awards Event on the 24th June at St John's Church. Learners, staff, families and employers all came together to honour the incredible hard work, commitment and

talent across our College. The night was full of pride, inspiration and a few emotional moments as awards were presented for academic excellence, progress and personal growth. Many learners were recognised for overcoming challenges and showing true determination, reflecting our values of ambition, inclusion and excellence. David Warnes, our Principal and CEO, summed it up perfectly by stating "This Awards Evening is one of the highlights of our year. It allows us to come together as a community to recognise the hard work and resilience of our learners, as well as the support provided by our dedicated staff, families and stakeholders." Congratulations to all our 2025 award winners, you inspire us every day!





#### **Inclusive Impact**



Our Bespoke Independence and Inclusion Coaches were Highly Commended at the Essex Teaching Awards. Out of over 1,400 nominations, their work stood out for supporting learners with diverse needs through personalised pathways and innovative approaches. This recognition celebrates their dedication to empowering our learners by helping them develop life skills and progress confidently into their futures. Congratulations to the team, we are proud to continue being Inclusive by Design!

# **Jack Petchey**

We were proud to be back at the Jack Petchey Awards on the 8th July, celebrating 18 of our learners for their talent, determination and hard work. Held at Chelmsford Civic Theatre, the event featured inspiring performances, VIP guests and recognised the creativity and positive impact our learners bring to the College community.





