

Campus Culture

Welcome Back

Catch up with the latest news and updates

Keeping You Safe

Find out about the changes and safety measures we've put in place

Living Local

Supporting local businesses we discovered in lockdown



Term Dates

7 September 2020 - Start of Autumn Term (16-18 and Adults)

14 September 2020 - Start of Autumn Term (Degree students)

23 October 2020 – Last day of Autumn Half Term (16-18 and Adults)

2 November 2020 - Return to College (16-18 and Adults)

18 December 2020 – Last Day of Autumn Term (All)

4 January 2021 - Return to College (All)

12 February 2021 – Last Day of Spring Half Term (16-18 and Adults)

22 February 2021 - Return to College (16-18 and Adults)

2 April 2021 – Last Day of Spring Term (All)

19 April 2021 - Return to College (All)

3 May 2021 - May Bank Holiday (All)

28 May 2021 – Last Day of Summer Half Term (16-18 and Adults)

7 June 2021 - Return to College (16-18 and Adults)

18 June 2021 – Last Day of Summer Term

25 June 2021 – Last Day of Summer Term (Riverside Dene Adult Provision)

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENTS AT NEWCASTLE COLLEGE.

While we aren't able to hold gatherings safely on campus right now, we're still helping people prepare for their next steps. Since restrictions on events came into force in April, we've been virtually opening our doors to give prospective learners an insight into life at Newcastle College at our regular Virtual Open Events.

Our virtual events allow visitors to browse all of our subject areas and courses at their own pace, with tutors on hand to answer any questions from students and parents.

The monthly Open Events that we are used to hosting are always a really big and exciting experience which offer the opportunity to see the campus, ask questions, and really get a feel for what it's like to come and study here. We can't hold those right now but the Virtual Open Events

allow us to recreate that feeling as closely as possible.

So if you're interested in becoming part of Newcastle College, or know someone else who might be, simply sign up to visit our next event.

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENTS:
WEDNESDAY 4 NOV
WEDNESDAY 2 DEC



Sign up here ncl-coll-virtualopenhouse2020.vfairs.com

Note from the Editor

Welcome to Newcastle College. It's so good to be able to say that. After months of changes and adapting to the 'new normal', it's great to finally be able to welcome back both current and new students and staff to campus.

Since March, whether you were a learner at Newcastle College or were at school or college elsewhere, we've been working and studying from home as we navigated

something that's never happened in our lifetime before. But the start of a new term means new beginnings, and some of those new beginnings mean that we're finally making our way back to campus.

This edition of Campus Culture celebrates both the old and new. We look back at things that have been and look forward to the future of new changes, challenges and kick-starting campus life again.

And we've certainly missed you! Throughout the year Newcastle College campus is always a hive of activity, and we're very much looking forward to getting back to that one step at a time.

Here's to a new start!

Enjoy the edition,

Your Campus Culture team

MEET BILLY AND FRIENDS

This edition's cover star is Billy the Goat! He's a resident at Moorhouse Farm in and Coffee Shop in Stannington, Morpeth, where Campus Culture designer Judith visited a lot during lockdown. You can find out more about some of the amazing local businesses we supported on page 10-11.

We really want to hear your suggestions of amazing businesses and places in our region that you've discovered over the past six months, so we can do our bit to spread the word and support local. Send your finds to NCLComms@ncl-coll.ac.uk



Spot the Goat! 🐐

Want to win a £20 Amazon voucher? We've hidden mini Billys in the pages of this edition. All you need to do is find them all and let us know how many you've found. Send your answers to NCLComms@ncl-coll.ac.uk by 8 November for your chance to win. Your first Billy is here.

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NEWCASTLE COLLEGE
STUDENTS' UNION

Newcastle College Students' Union

is here whenever you need us.

If there is an issue you are passionate about, we can help you run a campaign and make a change.

We are here to support.

Rutherford Ground Floor
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nclcollstudentunion@ncl-coll.ac.uk



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FRIDAY 8.00am - 4.00pm

NON TERM TIMES 8.00am - 4.00pm

CONTACT: REPRO@NCL-COLL.AC.UK

THIS TERM'S NEWS

Farewell to the Class of 2020

This year has brought change to all of our lives and students of all ages have spent most of last term at home. Those of us leaving school, college or university and preparing for the next step have seen proms, graduations and gatherings cancelled, meaning we've had to celebrate a little differently.

We wanted to take this opportunity to celebrate our Class of 2020 and say farewell to those students who are now beginning the next stage of their journey at university or work. **We'll miss you!**

FAREWELL FROM OUR STUDENTS' UNION PRESIDENT CAMERON HARTLEY

"Newcastle College students deserve the highest standards of teaching and a college that never turns their back on them; a college that isn't just a course and qualification but one that sees individuality and nurtures it. My time here has given me the opportunity and privilege to meet students and staff from right across the board and I can confidently say the staff at Newcastle College strive to make this happen.

"The College has changed the lives of so many people and continues to do so, including mine. It gave me a second chance at education and allowed me to take that journey in an environment of acceptance and open-mindedness. I started college after redoing a year of school – bored, disengaged and disliking a big part of me. Now looking back, I was entering a new chapter with an education that was personal, delivered in a way that I could understand and be a willing part of.

"Newcastle College started and saw me through the most valuable and fundamental journey. I learned to accept I was gay and then I learned that there's nothing wrong with that. From that I learned who I really am and that allowed my confidence to prosper. The equal, open-minded, none judgemental heart that the College leads with, is extremely important in allowing our students to truly grow into themselves. I am extremely grateful for this and for my journey, my growth and my progress on a personal level. I hold the most gratitude for Stephen Ferrel, Connie Wilson and Paula Miller. They have seen me throughout college and provided opportunities and taught me valuable skills and lessons without ever knowing.

"This is what coming to college can mean to students. The FE sector is not just education; it is a second chance, a flicker of hope when mainstream education has left students behind, a place that can bring back joy and spark to students, no matter their age or the type of person they were before they walked through the college doors."

A LETTER TO OUR GRADUATES

Congratulations to all Newcastle College University Centre graduates!

We at Newcastle College University Centre and NCG want to take a moment to recognise your achievements and remind you that completing your degree is a significant Moment that we hope you celebrate.

The hard work that you've invested over the years has led you to this moment and will stand you in good stead as you prepare take your next steps in further study or as you start a career.

This year, you have impressed all of us here at the University Centre with the way you have adapted to change and continued to work hard to complete your studies away from campus. We are proud of the commitment and enthusiasm that you've shown and you should be very proud too.

For those of you for whom this represents the end of your time at Newcastle College University Centre, we look forward to seeing your future successes in your chosen field.

For those of you who have returned to study further with us to top-up to honours or study at post-graduate level, we are so thrilled to welcome you back.

To all of the Class of 2020 - Critical skills for the 21st Century are problem solving, adaptability, collaboration, leadership, creativity and innovation. As you navigated through the academic year during Covid-19 you demonstrated all of these. We have no doubt that our future is in safe hands with the graduates of Newcastle College University Centre.

Student Fundraising



A student from Newcastle College has ran and walked the distance of a marathon in a bid to raise money for a national children's charity.

Lauren Scobie, 17, from Forest Hall in Newcastle, has spent a week taking on the 2.6 Challenge, which challenged participants to complete a virtual London Marathon after it was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

As Miss Teen Newcastle 2020, Lauren used the challenge to raise funds for Together for Short Lives, the charity that is supported by the Miss Teen Great Britain Pageant.

Together for Short Lives helps to fund hospice care for children's wards up and down the country and each year the Miss Teen GB contestants and winners spend time helping to raise vital funds for it.

Last year Lauren, who studies Fashion Make-up at Newcastle College, raised almost £3,000 for the cause but with the cancellation of events across the country in

2020, she has struggled to match her own efforts.

"I raised just over £100 for the marathon," says Lauren. "Usually the Miss Teen GB finalists raise thousands but it's been difficult with a lot of our usual fundraising events being cancelled.

"Together for Short Lives is a fantastic charity and does such great things for families of children with life limiting illnesses, so raising funds for them right now is more important than ever."

Lauren will head to Blackpool in October to represent Newcastle and compete for the title of Miss Teen Great Britain in the pageant final.

You can help Lauren raise more funds for Together for Short Lives by donating to her at her JustGiving page.

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/missteennewcastle2020

THERE'S STILL TIME TO SWITCH ENROL NOW.

Head to ncl-coll.ac.uk/school-leavers/switch-event to find the right course for you

Meet the World's First Alpha Female Photographer, Newcastle College Student Lily Dawson-Punshon



Meet Lily Dawson-Punshon, the Newcastle College student who has been named as the world's first Alpha Female photographer in the Sony World Photography Awards 2020.

The 19-year-old from Gateshead beat competition from amateur and professional photographers across the globe to claim the prize after being encouraged to submit the photo as part of a college assignment.

"To be shortlisted for the Alpha Female Award was quite possibly the proudest moment in my life so far," says Lily. "It's absolutely astonishing to me that I would

even be considered, but actually winning it has really made me feel like any of my dreams can become a reality. Surreal is the only word I can use. I feel euphoric!"

Sony's World Photography Awards has been one of the biggest and most prestigious annual competitions for photographers across the world since it was established 13 years ago. It recognises the best

contemporary photography in the world and aims to help established photographers take the next step in their career while promoting undiscovered talent.

Just two years ago, Lily couldn't have imagined her photographs would soon feature in a list of Sony World winners. Always home-schooled, Lily honed her talent by photographing her hometown before deciding to pursue her passion professionally. She enrolled at Newcastle College in 2018, with the hope that it would provide her with the chance to develop her skills and have more opportunity, but she never expected it to lead to a global award.

She continues: "I had heard incredible things about the creative industry facilities at Newcastle College, as well as the amazing opportunities they could provide me with.

"The College was so understanding and adaptable when they discovered I had no prior formal education. The lecturers really made sure I felt comfortable and that I was working at the right level, so I knew straight away that it would be the right choice for me.

"I have absolutely loved the course and the structure it has provided me with. The best project I've worked on is the one in which I produced my Sony shot. The entire project was based around the photography studio and I was able to experiment with lighting and post-production.

"Funnily enough, I almost forgot to submit the photo into the Sony

Photography Awards, so I'm really thankful to my lecturers at Newcastle College for supporting and encouraging me to enter. I wouldn't be here without them!"

This year's Sony Photography Awards imagery celebrates individual ways of seeing the world and includes the brand new Alpha Female Award, a category introduced to celebrate the strength of the female photographer. The photo that won Lily the title of Alpha Female formed part of her second-year coursework and is an untitled recreation of Johannes Vermeer's *The Girl with the Pearl Earring*.

"I've replaced the pearl earring with an earphone," says Lily. "It represents the progression of society and technology and how much the human race has evolved in such a short space of time.

"I was initially inspired by the work of a degree student at Newcastle College University Centre, which explored the style of historical portraiture with the attire being made from used car parts. I wanted to explore this further and show an appreciation for what we have evolved from and what we're now able to do with modern resources and technology."

Lily's image is currently being showcased at <https://www.worldphoto.org/exhibition/sony-world-photography-awards-on-screen> and will be exhibited in London's Somerset House as part of the Sony World Photography Awards 2020 Exhibition once it is deemed safe to go ahead.

Speaking to us in the summer holidays, Lauren continued "In September I'll be starting a Fashion Photography degree at Leeds Art University. I think my time at Newcastle College and my experience with Sony has taught me that I need to take more chances and participate in opportunities that I might not have before.

"I really don't know where this is going to take me but I'm very excited for the journey."



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WELCOME TO NEWCASTLE COLLEGE!

Whether you are brand new to Newcastle College, or returning after an unusual few months away, I'm so pleased to welcome you back to campus. A lot has happened in the world since we temporarily closed our doors in March and 2020 will certainly be a year to remember for many reasons.

Our campus is always so busy and vibrant that it has been strange to see it so quiet lately. I've really been looking forward to seeing everybody back here again and while things will be different for a little while longer, welcoming you back to campus feels like a huge step in the right direction!

It's important that we take that step in the safest way possible and you'll notice that we've been busy making lots of changes, mainly to the way that we all move around campus. There's more detail on these later on in this edition but these changes are to keep you and everybody else safe, so please remember to follow them.

I know that being back on campus may be exciting for some of you and perhaps a little daunting for others, which I think would be true at the

beginning of any new academic year! Remember that as a Newcastle College student, you're part of a community. Here, we offer everybody the chance to learn, we provide opportunities and new experiences and importantly, we offer you all of the support you need to succeed.

You may be spending a little less time on campus over the next few months, but you will still benefit from our fantastic facilities, learn from tutors with lots of experience and you'll still get opportunities to work with employers and industry experts. And if you do need any support, our award-winning Student Support Team will be on hand to help you get the best out of your time here.

Scott Bullock
Principal, Newcastle College



SAFETY ON CAMPUS

Feeling a little worried about returning to campus? Are all of the changes a little confusing? Don't worry, we've got you. Remember, these changes aren't designed to make things difficult, just to keep everybody as safe as possible. So here's your simple guide to keeping safe on campus.

Arriving on Campus

You'll see some barriers and some one-way signs, please stick to these as you head towards your class. If it says no entry, don't enter!

Face Coverings

Face coverings are required in all communal areas of buildings on campus, unless you are exempt. (You can ask for a sticker if you are).

You can remove face coverings when in classrooms or when eating and drinking in designated areas. Please do not leave face coverings on desks and always remember to wash your hands or use hand sanitiser before putting a face mask on or taking it off.

One Way Systems

The biggest changes are our one-way systems. Most buildings have one door to enter and one door to exit and staircases will be either up-only, down only, or for smaller buildings, keep left. Look for arrows and follow them! In smaller corridors, you might see a give-way sign so that you can allow others pass before you carry on walking.

Lifts

We know we have some tall buildings on campus but for your safety, our lifts are restricted to one person at a time. To avoid queues, please use the stairs whenever possible and give priority use of the lifts to those of us who are unable to use the stairs. Just think of how fit you'll be! If you are using the lifts, please respect the one person at a time rule, unless a carer is accompanying you.

Keep Your Distance!

We know it's easy to forget but we should all still be trying to keep 2 metres apart whenever it's possible. We've spaced desks out and you'll see reminders to keep your distance around campus.

Keep it Clean!

We've increased cleaning everywhere on campus and you'll also find wipes and disinfectant in classrooms so that you can wipe down your own work areas before and after class.

Remember to wash your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds

(remember the Happy Birthday rule) and you'll also find sanitiser stations in entrances and busy areas if you need a top-up!

No Smoking

We've closed our smoking shelters and there'll be no smoking anywhere on campus. We're trying to keep you safe and healthy after all.

Wrap up Warm!

Windows in your classroom will stay open at all times to keep all of our campus ventilated, so bringing an extra layer could be a good idea.



Still a bit unsure of what to expect? Check out a visit to campus here.



TIPS FOR ONLINE LEARNING



REMOTE LEARNING 101

Part of your timetable will now include remote learning so that you can limit the number of people we have on campus at once.

This means that some of your lessons will be at home. Remote learning could look like a pre-recorded lesson that you need to watch and complete some work from, or it could be a video call with your entire class.

If you're new to remote learning, or just feel like you do better when you're face to face with your teacher, we've put together some tips to help you get to grips with it.

PROS OF REMOTE LEARNING

Remember that there are definitely some pros to remote learning. You

can stay in your comfy clothes and when it's cold and raining outside, you don't need to leave the house. Ideal when we're approaching winter!

MAKE THE CONNECTION!

Technology is great and it's what has allowed us to take some of our learning online and keep you safe, but it can also be troublesome. Tech issues can be disruptive to lessons so be prepared and make sure you're all set up before your lessons. That means making sure your internet connection is stable, you're plugged in or charged up and you can log-in to everything you need to be logged into. If you have issues with your technology, or you don't have the equipment, let your tutor know. We're here to make sure that you can always learn and help you succeed, so we'll find a way to help.

BE PREPARED

Remember that you're still in class, your lesson is just being delivered a little differently. You're learning exactly the same things that you would be if you were on campus and your teacher will expect you to show up on time and ready to learn. That means don't roll out of bed and switch on your computer. Get up and have breakfast, make sure you're set up and connected with everything you need beside you before your lessons begin.

CREATE A STUDY SPACE

You won't be able to concentrate on your lessons if you're in the middle of a busy house or if you have the television on in the background. Set yourself up somewhere quiet and comfortable, where you have good internet connection and can see and hear everything on your screen. You may

want to use earphones if you have trouble blocking out everything around you and remember to turn your phone off too!

ASK QUESTIONS!

If you struggle with remote learning because you can't have a conversation in the same way you would in the classroom, make sure you write everything down that you'd like to ask about your lesson. If you don't get a chance to ask during the class, you can send your questions to your teacher, or even arrange a call to talk it over. You won't be at home all of the time, you'll still be spending plenty of time with your teachers on campus too, so take those opportunities to speak to your teachers about anything you need to. You can always ask for help if you're struggling.

COMMUNICATE

There will be a few different tools you may use during your online classes, including Microsoft Teams or Moodle. These are a great way to keep in touch with your teachers and your classmates while you're at home.

STRUGGLING WITH REMOTE LEARNING?

If you need a little extra support while you're learning from home, let your tutor know and they can make sure you get the support you need.

<https://www.ncl-coll.ac.uk/the-college/remote-learning/get-online>

Have you got your own tips for making the most of the new normal? Share them on social media with #NCLAtHome – we'd love to hear yours too!

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YOUR GUIDE TO CLEARING

You might have been seeing some adverts or people in the media talking about something called Clearing recently. Whether you're looking to study a degree or aren't there just yet, it's good to know what Clearing actually means and what options it can give you either now or in the future.

SO, WHAT IS CLEARING?

Once Universities and Colleges have given out all of their conditional and unconditional offers, they may have spaces available on their courses if they're not yet at capacity. This means that, even after Results Day, there are options for students to switch their university place, even if they have got higher grades than expected.

But most of the time, Clearing is used by students who haven't quite got the results they were expecting. This is your opportunity to find a course that's right for you. You might find a different course at your first-choice university, the course you originally wanted but at a different university, or you might start all over again and choose something completely different..

DO ALL UNIVERSITIES TAKE PART IN CLEARING?

Most universities in the UK will have some form of Clearing offer. Throughout the summer they will be advertising the places they have available, the grades you need and how to apply.

The busiest time to apply through Clearing is after Results Day, as most students will have their actual grades at that point..

DOES NEWCASTLE COLLEGE UNIVERSITY CENTRE OFFER COURSES THROUGH CLEARING?

Yes it does! There are over 70 courses to choose from, ranging from Aviation to Sport and Exercise. Entry requirements start for 48 UCAS points, which means there's plenty of choice for any student looking to take their next step.

WHAT IF I DON'T GET THE RESULTS I WAS EXPECTING?

First of all, don't panic. There's lots of options available to you depending on what you'd like to do next.

YOU MAY STILL BE ACCEPTED

Depending on your results, you might still be accepted into your university of choice, especially if you were super close to your expected grades. If you still have your heart set on your first choice, give them a call before you call any other university. There'll be so many people in your position wondering the same thoughts as you, so make sure you speak to your first choice to see where you stand..

TAKE A LOOK AT CLEARING

You might be surprised as to how many universities offer courses through Clearing. Even your first choice might have a slightly different course to what you were wanting to study and has a place. Or, if you were wanting to go to a particular city, many cities have multiple universities, so make sure you take a look at what other places in the same postcode have on offer. Take a look at UCAS Clearing and see what your options are - we're offering over 70 courses in Clearing in a wide range of subject areas from art and design to engineering, music to sport so there's plenty of choice.

RESIT YOUR EXAMS

You may have the option to resit your exams to try to get the grades you need. You may have to resit a year of study, but by resitting your exams it might mean you can get the results you need for your first choice, especially if there isn't another course or other university that you're as passionate about. .

CONSIDER AN APPRENTICESHIP

If you're thinking of possible options outside of studying a degree, why not take a look at apprenticeships. Apprenticeships allow you to earn money while you learn, train for free and get that head start in your career. You can undertake an apprenticeship in many areas, from business, to digital, engineering and hospitality, as well as construction, sport and science. At Newcastle College we offer a huge range of apprenticeships, so make sure you speak to us if this is an option for you.

There's lots of information on the Newcastle College website about Clearing – if you'd like to know more, head to [ncl-coll.ac.uk](https://www.ncl-coll.ac.uk)

SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES DURING LOCKDOWN



To say it's been a bit of an odd year is an understatement. We've spent more time indoors and in our local area than ever before. But with the lockdown came the opportunity to really get to know our region and supporting local businesses has never been more important. We want to help by sharing some of our favourites with you and we want to hear yours too. This edition covers some of the tastiest food finds!

GREAT BRITISH CUPCAKERY [@gbcupcakery](#)

I bought their Postal Treat Boxes throughout lockdown and they were so good! Each week you had 4 different types of bakes – brownies, blondies, cookies, rocky roads...the list goes on. It was exactly what I needed as a lockdown pick me up. I've always loved Great British



Cupcakery so to be able to still support this lovely local business in a difficult time was great, and very tasty too!

Nicola Chapman

RISE AND TYNE [@riseandtyne](#)

Freshly baked cookies are my ultimate treat and I discovered County Durham based Rise and Tyne via a friend's Instagram, when she shared her delivery of 'Biscoff Scotch Eggs' (Lindt ball truffles wrapped in cookie dough, covered in Biscoff spread and topped with

crushed Biscoff biscuits). Amazing. A few days later a box of eight stuffed, melt-in-the-middle cookies and two gigantic slabs of Biscoff Rocky Road slid through my letterbox. They were absolutely delicious and I'm now making my way through their entire menu!

Charlotte Horsfield



H&J BROWN VEG BOX DELIVERY

This is a local Durham business which supplies fruit and vegetable boxes (including milk and eggs) and deliver straight to your door. They're full of goodness and feel-good as every box



is a surprise – you don't know what you will uncover week to week. I've loved getting these deliveries in lockdown.

Jade Gourley

FAT HIPPO, DURHAM [@fathippofood](#)



This independent burger restaurant supplies good old-fashioned filling food and it's the same great quality but in a takeaway. You can book a time slot, pay online and collect with an

easy to use online system and a contactless service during lockdown. In Durham you can enjoy your meal in front of the cathedral on the green. They also provided a van service traveling to local areas to feed the masses!

Jade Gourley

GRAINGER MARKET DELIVERY

[@grainger.delivery](#)

At the beginning of lockdown I was so pleased to see that the Grainger Market in Newcastle was now offering even more opportunities for delivery. I picked a fruit and vegetable box filled with lots of healthy goodies to keep my fridge stocked, as well as some flour when there was none to be had anywhere. I also opted for some mini quiches and rocky road from The French Oven – tres bien!

Nicola Chapman



MOORHOUSE FARM SHOP, STANNINGTON

[@moorhousefarmshop](#)

During lockdown, Moorhouse Farm and Coffee shop has been fantastic, ensuring hand washing facilities were available on entry to the

shop and restricted numbers inside to keep all of their customers safe. The shop is filled with the most delicious homegrown, homemade and locally sourced food. We have loved supporting our local food shop and visiting their gorgeous goats.

Judith Riches



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A DEGREE WITH A DIFFERENCE

CLEARING IS OPEN BUT BE QUICK!

We have over 70 degree courses available to study this October.

Applications close 16th October 2020.

Find out more and apply at ncl-coll.ac.uk/higher-education

