



HOPWOOD HALL COLLEGE

Covid-19
Build Back Better Pledge

Our Pledge

Hopwood Hall has restless ambition to be proactive in the social and economic development of the region, working in partnership across industry sectors to provide access to the highest quality of training and skills which meet the needs of employers.

Our 2020/21 'Covid-19 Build Back Better' pledge aims to:



Train 300 new apprentices.



Commit Adult Education funding to retraining, supporting the unemployed, upskilling or to provide a pathway to employment and/or to an apprenticeship.



A guaranteed place for all eligible full time 16-18 students whose ambition is to pursue a professional or technical career through our offer of programmes.



Commit to our students gaining essential workplace skills through industry placements, preparing them for employment.



Connect to our community by committing to maintaining and growing our Rochdale Adult and Community Learning offer whether through socially distanced and/or online delivery methods.



Offer a place for all eligible adults wanting to enrol on one of our flexible, supportive and high quality full or part-time Access or Higher Education (HE) courses.

“Hopwood Hall College is proud to have continued to provide opportunity and excellence in technical and professional education, training and apprenticeships during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We do not underestimate the challenges immediately ahead but believe, by working collaboratively, that our region can recover and again thrive in the future. As we move forward to COVID 19 recovery, we would like to continue our support for the community by releasing a pledge for partners to work together to overcome the skills and employment challenges for businesses, young people and residents of Rochdale.

Let's work together to make a difference and build back better”

Nazir Afzal OBE
Chair of Governors



Our Commitment

We recognise our responsibility to both lead and proactively collaborate to serve communities and employers during the immediate Covid-19 recovery. Our campuses are readily accessible, in Rochdale town centre and Middleton in the south of the borough.

We offer a wide range of high-quality vocational programmes, technical education, Apprenticeships and Higher Education and training opportunities to learners across the Greater Manchester region and beyond.

We are working with sectors to have an in-depth understanding of the skills required post COVID. This will be focused around ensuring all individuals gain skills, knowledge, and behaviours and are prepared for employment. As such, we have the means to positively and influentially contribute to regional recovery.

We will continue to work proactively and positively with private, public and third sector organisations to develop a world-class talent base equipped for the post Covid future, by addressing adverse impacts, striving to build back better and enabling growth and prosperity for the benefit of all.

We recognise that there are young people across Greater Manchester who, as a result of COVID-19, may need access to specific skills and training in order to continue to remain in employment, or to retrain in order to access jobs in a different sector. We will work proactively to realise the ambitions of the region's young adults many of whom have been out of education since March.

We will help people at all stages of their career build the skills and personal capacity they need to respond to new technology and drive an innovative knowledge-based economy. In addition to committing to train the future workforce of the region we will support those who are made redundant or who need to retrain or upskill.

We will increase higher education opportunities and will ensure that individuals can come together through our network of community learning, personal growth and wellbeing provision. Early supporters of our pledge are shown on the following page.

If you want to work with us, be trained by us, partner with us or show support, please email [**employerservices@hopwood.ac.uk**](mailto:employerservices@hopwood.ac.uk)

Rochdale Development Agency (RDA) is the local economic development agency for Rochdale. Our role is to promote the economic well-being of the borough by delivering new economic investment, physical development and creating jobs. In order to deliver economic growth in Rochdale, the availability of a well-educated and highly trained workforce is crucial.

The RDA fully endorses Hopwood Hall College's Build Back Better pledge to continue to provide an excellent service to their students, businesses and local community. We urge businesses in Rochdale to work with Hopwood Hall College, particularly if they are planning to restructure their existing workforce in light of the economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis.

The College is in a strong position to help companies and their employees with retraining and upskilling programmes during these challenging times. It is also there to support those businesses looking to grow and expand as we move towards economic recovery. By working together, we can achieve the stated aim to Build Back Better.

John Searle

Chief Executive, Rochdale Development Agency,
Director of Economy, Rochdale Borough Council



We at Rochdale Borough Council are keen to support this pledge and the approach taken by Hopwood Hall College, who have continued to support and enable local people of all ages to learn and prepare for work.

As we move forward during what has been a challenging time for many, we need to ensure people within our communities have access to the widest range of opportunities, coupled with the right support and guidance to develop, grow and learn new skills for employment - This is such an important time for Rochdale and together, we can begin to build back better!

Gail Hopper

Director of Children's Services
Rochdale Borough Council



Hopwood Hall College has continued to support businesses and the community throughout the pandemic.

We fully support the Build Back Better pledge. As an employer, we want to play our part in reassuring our community at a time of uncertainty, that there are opportunities to retrain, complete technical and professional courses, access apprenticeships and funding to support business skills needs.

It's important businesses work together to play our part in rebuilding and strengthening the borough's economy. Collaboration is key to sustain or create more jobs for our community. Employers continue to choose Hopwood Hall College as their preferred training provider, due to the wide range of opportunities and high quality support provided.

Paul Dixon

Partner
Molesworths Bright Clegg

