Name of Provider: New College Durham
UKPRN: 10004576

TEF Year Three: Additional data on part-time provision

Continuation
Higher education continuation rates for part-time students are strong at New College Durham. 83.5% of part time students continue in their studies which is 13.1% above the New College Durham TEF 3 benchmark indicator. A positive three year trend in the continuation figures is evident demonstrated by no flag for the academic year 2013/2014, a single positive flag in the 2014/2015 academic year and a double positive flag for the academic year 2015/2016. Comparitor continuation data for part-time HE students is not widely collected or available. However, a national comparator from HESA for part-time students under 30 years for 2013/2014 show a United Kingdom continuation rate of 62.7%. The data demonstrates a national continuation rate 20.8% less than that of part-time provision at New College Durham.

Employment and further study
The professional and technical nature of part-time higher education provision at New College Durham has a clear focus on delivering job related qualifications to students working in their vocational specific environment. The TEF 3 data demonstrates success with 98.2% of part-time students progressing into employment and further study clearly meeting the TEF 3 benchmark indicator. The College focuses on meeting regional employer needs and is guided by organisations like the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) which currently forecasts that 120,000 new emplyees with higher skills at level 4 and above, will be required by employers on the North East by 2020 (NELEP 2014). This includes a particular need for upskilling managers across a range of commercial sectors, a higher skills need that New College Durham part-time provision has a clear focus on.

Highly skilled employment and further study
The data available as part of the TEF 3 metrics for New College Durham defining progression of part-time students into the Office of National Statisitics (ONS) Occupational Standards Groups does produce a skewed view of outcomes due to the high number of ‘no answers obtained’ achieved by igraduate through the DHLE survey.

Programme/Year	Student Numbers Surveyed	High Skilled/Further Study	No Answer Obtained	Unemployed	Work/Other	Study
First Degree 2015/2016	96	13	74	1	7	0
First Degree 2014/2015	54	10	36	1	6	1
First Degree 2013/2014	205	28	143	3	26	5

Evidence from New College Durham internal desitnation data for higher education leavers demonstrate higher numbers of part-time graduates entering higher skilled professions, particularly in the BA (Hons) Management programme (Meeting NELEP identified needs) and graduates moving into professional teaching roles from the BA (Hons) Education Studies programme as local opportunites arise and become available.

It is important to note, that many of the part-time students who study and achieve a specialist, technical, management and professional positions do so in further ONS Standard Occuupational Groups. For example, a part-time HND in Civil Engineering graduate can progress to a Construction and Trades Supervisor for a large housing development site and earn in excess of £65,000 per anum in the North East of England. However, this occupation resides in Major Group 5 of the ONS Occupational Standards Classifications. It is frustrating for New College Durham as a provider of part-time successful qualifications which meet regional employer and skills needs to be judged on the arbitory nature of ONS Standard Occupational Groupings.