



College mergers in England 2017 & 2018

(as at 3 August 2018)

College mergers January to June 2017

- RNN Group and Dearne Valley College merged on 1 February 2017, retaining the RNN Group name.
- South Cheshire College and West Cheshire College merged on 31 March 2017 and were known as South and West Cheshire College but as of 1 January 2018 the merged college is known as Cheshire College South and West.
- NCG and Carlisle College merged on 31 March 2017, retaining the NCG name.
- Northbrook College and City College Brighton merged on 31 March 2017 and are known as Greater Brighton Metropolitan College.
- New City College group (formed from merger of Tower Hamlets College and Hackney Community College) and Redbridge College merged on 1 April 2017, retained the New City College group name.
- East Berkshire College and Strode's College Egham merged on 9 May 2017, retaining the East Berkshire College name initially then changing to The Windsor Forest Colleges Group (on 1 July 2017)
- Central College Nottingham and New College Nottingham merged on 8 June 2017 and are known as Nottingham College

College mergers on 1 August 2017

- Bedford College and Tresham College of Further and Higher Education merged on 1 August to become The Bedford College Group

- Cambridge Regional College and Huntingdonshire Regional College merged on 1 August 2017 retaining Cambridge Regional College as the name
- Chichester College and Central Sussex College merged on 1 August 2017 to become Chichester College Group
- City of Westminster College and The College of North West London merged on 1 August 2017 to become United Colleges Group
- Henley College Coventry and City College Coventry merged on 1 August 2017 to become Coventry College
- Kingston College, Carshalton College and South Thames College merged on 1 August 2017 to become The South Thames Colleges Group
- Lowestoft College and Great Yarmouth College merged on 1 August 2017 to become East Coast College
- NCG and Lewisham Southwark College merged on 1 August 2017 and retaining NCG as the name
- Seevic College and Palmer's Sixth Form College merged on 1 August 2017 to become Seevic and Palmer's Colleges Group
- South and City College Birmingham and Bournville College merged on 2 August 2017 retaining South and City College Birmingham as the name
- South Downs College and Havant College merged on 1 August to become Havant and South Downs College.
- South Tyneside College and Tyne Metropolitan College merged on 1 August 2017 to become Tyne Coast College
- Sunderland College and Hartlepool Sixth Form College merged on 1 August 2017 to become Sunderland College Group
- Uxbridge College and Harrow College merged on 1 August 2017 to become HCUC
- Warrington Collegiate and Mid Cheshire College merged on 1 August 2017 to become Warrington and Vale Royal College

New College September 2017

- National College for High Speed Rail (incorporated September 2015 but opened on students September 2017)

College mergers September to December 2017

- Hillcroft College and Richmond Adult and Community College merged on 1 October 2017 to become Richmond and Hillcroft Adult and Community College (Note: newly merged college will retain SDC status)
- Aylesbury College and Amersham and Wycombe College merged on 3 October 2017 to become Buckinghamshire College Group
- Capital City College Group (CCCG) and College of Haringey Enfield & North East London (CONEL) merged on 1 November 2017 retaining the CCCG name
- Doncaster College and North Lindsey College merged on 1 November 2017 to become DN Colleges Group
- City College Norwich and Paston Sixth Form College merged on 1 December 2017 retaining the City College Norwich name
- St Helens College and Knowsley College merged on 12 December 2017 to become SK Group
- Telford College of Arts and Technology and New College Telford merged on 20 December 2017 to become Telford College

College mergers January to April 2018

- Solihull College & University Centre and Stratford-upon-Avon College merged on 1 February 2018 retaining the Solihull College & University Centre name
- East Kent College and Canterbury College merged on 1 February 2018 to become East Kent Colleges (EKC) Group
- Southport College and King George V College merged on 1 February 2018 retaining the Southport College name
- Wyggeston and Queen Elizabeth 1 College and Regent College merged on 29 March 2018 to become WQE and Regent Colleges Group
- Sussex Coast College Hastings and Sussex Downs College merged on 29 March 2018 to become East Sussex College Group

- Trafford College and Stockport College merged on 5 April 2018 to become The Trafford College Group

College mergers on 1 August 2018

(includes one with a university)

- Stockton Riverside College and Redcar & Cleveland College merged on 1 August 2018 retaining the Stockton Riverside College name
- New City College and Epping Forest College merged on 1 August 2018 retaining the New City College name
- East Coast College and Lowestoft Sixth Form College merged on 1 August 2018 retaining the East Coast College name
- University of Bolton and Bolton College merged on 1 August 2018. The Bolton College Corporation was dissolved. The college is now a company limited by guarantee with the university as its sole member, which will give the HE institute ultimate control. The new company is being designated as an FE institution under the FE and HE Act 1992 (so remains in FE sector)

College mergers planned for 2018/19

- Croydon College and Coulsdon College - 1 October 2018.
 - Herefordshire & Ludlow College and North Shropshire College – 1 October 2018 to become Herefordshire, Ludlow and North Shropshire College
- Activate Learning and Bracknell & Wokingham College – 1 October or 1 November 2018
- Sandwell College and Cadbury College retaining the Sandwell College name – 1 November 2018
 - Accrington and Rossendale and Nelson and Colne College – November 2018
 - Activate Learning and Guildford College – date tbc
 - New City College and Havering College of FE and HE and Havering Sixth Form College – 1 January 2019
 - South Essex College of Further and Higher Education and Prospects College of Advanced Technology – January 2019

- Barnfield College and West Herts College – Spring 2019
- Chichester College Group and Worthing College – March 2019
- Abingdon & Witney College and Moulton College – March 2019
- Alton College and South Downs and Havant College – April 2019
- Loughborough College and Stephenson College – September 2019

Planned university and college mergers, 2018/19

- London South Bank University and Lambeth College – date tbc

Sixth form college academy conversions

(as at 3 August 2018)

Conversions completed in 2017

- Hereford Sixth Form College on 1 March 2017
- Rochdale Sixth Form College on 1 April 2017 (joined Altus Education Partnership which it set up)
- Priestly College on 1 May 2017 (joined The Challenge Academy Trust which it set up)
- New College Pontefract on 1 June 2017
- Birkenhead Sixth Form College on 1 August 2017 (joined Wirral Academy Trust which it set up)
- Longley Park Sixth Form College on 1 August 2017 (joined Brigantia Learning Trust)
- Sixth Form College Solihull on 1 August 2017 (joined Ninestiles Academy Trust)
- City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College on 1 September 2017 (joined Potteries Educational Trust)

- Oldham Sixth Form College on 1 September 2017 (joined Pinnacle Academy Trust which it is set up)
- Reigate College on 1 September 2017 (joined Reigate Learning Alliance - a new multi academy trust)
- The Sixth Form College Farnborough on 1 September 2017 (formed The Prospect Trust – a new multi academy trust)
- Woking College on 1 September 2017 (formed a single academy trust known as Woking College)
- Queen Mary's College on 1 October 2017 (formed North Hampshire Learning Trust - a multi-academy)
- Prior Pursglove and Stockton Sixth Form College on 1 November 2017 (joined Tees Valley Collaborative Trust - a Multi Academy Trust which it is setting up)
- Richard Taunton Sixth Form College on 1 November 2017 (joined Lighthouse Learning Trust - a multi-academy trust established by both Richard Taunton Sixth Form College and St Vincent College)
- St Vincent College on 1 November 2017 (joined Lighthouse Learning Trust - a multi-academy trust established by both Richard Taunton Sixth Form College and St Vincent College)
- Thomas Rotherham College on 1 November 2017 (joined Inspire Trust)

Conversions completed in 2018

- Godalming College on 1 January 2018 (formed a single academy trust known as Godalming College)
- Sir John Deane's College on 1 April 2018 (formed a new multi academy trust Sir John Brunner Foundation)
- East Norfolk Sixth Form College on 1 August 2018 (formed the East Norfolk Multi Academy Trust – ENMAT)

Conversions where applications have been made and/or there has been a public consultation

- Ashton under Lyne Sixth Form College (joining the Stamford Park Trust which it set up)
- Esher College (forming a single academy trust)
- King Edward College Nuneaton (joining Better Futures Multi Academy Trust, formed by Coventry University)
- Worcester Sixth Form College (forming the Worcestershire Learning Trust – a new multi academy trust)

Corrections and clarifications

The information in this note is accurate so far as we know at the time of writing. If you have corrections or clarifications, please contact geeta.halai@aoc.co.uk or julian.gravatt@aoc.co.uk

Association of Colleges
3 August 2018