

# Press Statement

December 2022

## **Green light for HCUC (Harrow College & Uxbridge College) and Richmond upon Thames College (RuTC) merger**

HCUC (Harrow College & Uxbridge College) and RuTC are delighted to announce the proposed merger is due for completion on 4 January 2023.

Over the past months, RuTC and HCUC have been working closely towards the creation of Harrow, Richmond & Uxbridge Colleges (HRUC), a newly-enlarged London college that will offer outstanding education and training to students across a large part of the capital.

HCUC and RuTC are confident that by joining forces they will be able to do more for their students, and continue to deliver a high-quality learner experience, ensuring that the benefits to students increase. This includes a shared prioritising of students achieving more, progressing further and being more work ready.

The merger will provide many more opportunities for students, across the three colleges, with further expansion of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) provision through the West London Institute of Technology. This includes a brand-new STEM building with state-of-the-art facilities based at Richmond upon Thames College.

Both HCUC and RuTC share the same common values - delivering high quality teaching for students and focusing on opportunities for them to progress into further learning or getting the job they want.

Ian Valvona, Chair of Governors at RuTC, said, "The proposed merger is a watershed moment in Richmond upon Thames College's long history. It will bring together three excellent colleges with complementary strengths to continue providing outstanding education and training to students across a large part of London whilst ensuring financial stability for the long term."

Jason Jones, Principal at RuTC commented, "This is a very exciting time for RuTC. And the future for further education. The merger allows Richmond upon Thames College to continue to build on its strengths as a longstanding college within the local and regional community. All three colleges will retain their individual college name and identity and continue educating and training their learners as normal. The merger allows for the sharing and promotion of best practice teaching and learning to ensure consistent quality throughout every aspect of the three colleges."

Nick Davies, Chair of Governors at HCUC added, "The merger allows RuTC and HCUC to contribute to the much-needed economic recovery. Importantly, joining forces in this way would continue to promote excellence in local and regional FE provision to support sustainable, high-quality training and education in the years ahead."

Keith Smith, CEO at HCUC added, "This merger brings an exciting future for learners and employers in the west London area. Working together HCUC and RuTC will be investing in new collaborative opportunities to deliver outstanding quality and support local businesses to get skills they need. We will invest in new STEM facilities, deliver exciting opportunities for young people to progress into higher education through A Levels and T Levels, and expand our West London Institute of Technology to deliver the best and most innovative technical education anywhere in the country."

**[ENDS]**

## Further information

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