



**Derbyshire County Council
Derbyshire Adult Community
Education Service (DACES) UKPRN:
10001928
Local Accountability Agreement**

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Purpose

Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service (DACES) provides learning opportunities that raise aspirations and improve people's lives and

outcomes, enabling residents to participate in their communities to support the local economy and social growth across Derbyshire.



Service vision

We anticipate and respond to the needs of individuals, communities, employers, and the local economy through the delivery of creative, inspirational, flexible, and high-quality learning opportunities.

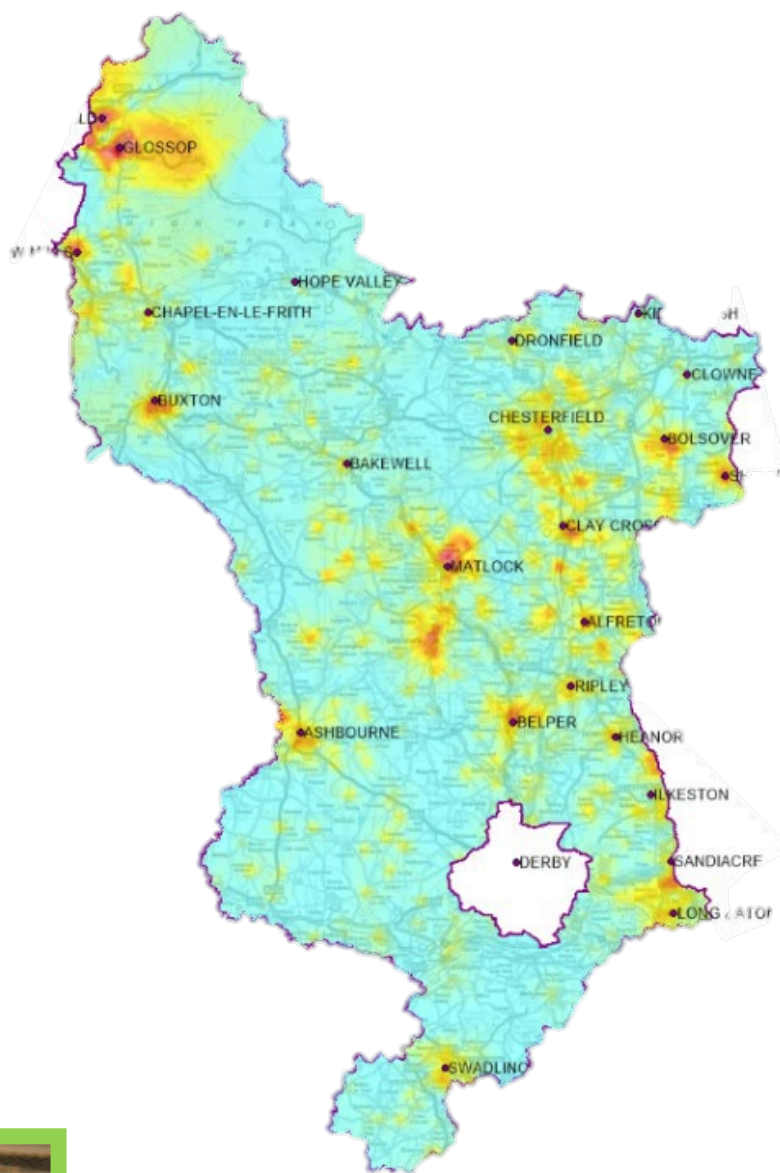
Strategic aims and objectives

- Resilient, healthy, and safe communities
- High performing, value for money and resident focused services
- Effective early help for individuals and communities
- A prosperous and green Derbyshire



Context and place

Derbyshire Adult Community Education Service serves the whole of the county of Derbyshire, with the exception of Derby City, reaching around 7,600 adult residents (just under 15,000 enrolments) in any given academic year.



The service delivers 14-19 programmes, qualification and community learning, internships, and apprenticeships. The map above highlights the distribution of our learners across the county.

Derbyshire is made up of seven local authority areas. There is no major city in the area and there are several large towns – Chesterfield, Long Eaton, Ilkeston, Buxton, Swadlincote and Matlock – all of which the service has a



major presence.

The service delivers out of fourteen designated venues, several outreach venues in community settings (e.g., libraries, schools, housing associations, and hospitals) and three hybrid teaching spaces.



Derbyshire is a significantly rural county of 2,547km² with a population of around 795,000, an increase of 0.32% since 2011. Approximately **26% of people live in an**

urban setting and the county has a population density of 312 people per km².

The rising cost of living including food and fuel means that some communities in Derbyshire experiences higher than average levels of deprivation and poverty. The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) is the most commonly used measure of deprivation and the 2019 index shows there are **twenty-two out of 491 small areas in Derbyshire that fall within the most 10% deprived areas across England**. Most of these areas are in the North-East of the county in the former coalfield areas.



There are more than **484,100 people of working age (aged 16-64) in the county.** They represent 60.9% of all residents, over 2% lower than that seen in England.

Since the last census, the number of people of working age in the

county has fallen by 1.2%, whereas nationally there has been an increase of 3.7%.

Across the districts, only two districts have seen an increase, South Derbyshire, and Bolsover.



There are nearly **176,000 people aged sixty-five and over in the county.** They represent just over 22% of all residents, 4% higher than that seen in England. Since the last census, the number of people aged sixty-five and over has increased by

23.0% in the county, 3% higher than that seen in England. Across the districts, Chesterfield, Erewash, and Bolsover have all seen large increases.



There are more than **68,400 young people aged 16-24 in the county.** They represent 8.6% of all residents, 2% lower than that seen in England. Since the last census, the number of 16-24-year-olds in the county has declined by 12.6%, 8% larger decrease than the fall nationally, with South Derbyshire being the only district locally to have seen a rise.

Whilst the qualification levels of Derbyshire's residents have improved over recent years, fewer people are qualified to degree level and above compared with England. Derbyshire performs well on educational attainment, although there is considerable variation across the county on these measures. **Attainment at GCSE level is considerably lower in the districts of Erewash, Bolsover and South Derbyshire** with social mobility also being an issue in some parts of the county.



Across Derbyshire 25% of people have no qualifications. This is 3% higher than the national average of 22%. The highest levels of residents with no qualifications are in Bolsover, Chesterfield, Erewash, and North East Derbyshire.



Around **46,600** people in Derbyshire assessed their health to be 'bad' or 'very bad' making up **5.9%** of the total population, higher than the England average of 5.2%.



Bolsover has the seventh highest rate of residents with 'bad' general health of all 309 local authorities across England whilst Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire are also in the top 25.0%.

Unemployment tends to be **1%** lower than the national rate, however, Chesterfield, Bolsover and Erewash are at or just below the national and regional rates. The average weekly wage in Derbyshire is £624 which is 3.3% less than the average national weekly wage of £645.80.

Around **36,000** children live in families with **Absolute or low-income**. These issues are particularly prevalent in Bolsover, Chesterfield, Amber Valley, and North East Derbyshire.



Planning process

The annual **planning cycle commences in October and finishes in May of the previous academic year.** The service conducts a detailed analysis of national, regional, and local priorities, considering the direction of Government policy, regional analyses and information produced by D2N2 LEP, DCC Policy Unit, key regional strategies, and the Council Plan.

The DACES Senior Leadership Team consider an **initial set of planning priorities**, in partnership

with policy and planning colleagues, as part of the self-assessment process in the

Autumn Term of the previous academic year.



Curriculum Planning Guidance is produced by the service and approved by the Governance Board. This is the foundation for the programme

development team across the county to commence the detailed planning process in December. This provides curriculum intent, market Insights, and the rationale for changes to the curriculum.



In parallel to this, an **analysis of local data is conducted to provide in-depth evaluation of the specific curriculum and geographical needs** across Derbyshire to enable the effective targeting of interventions and efficient deployment of Resources.



The programme development team will then produce and refine a curriculum – in liaison with a range of internal and external stakeholder - of very short, short, and extended programmes across 14-19, community learning, qualifications, and apprenticeships to progress learners into employment, onto further learning or signpost to other services.

Each element of **the annual programme aligns to one or more of the following strategic outcomes of the service:**

- Development of self and life skills
- Health and wellbeing
- Employability, employment, and learning
- Social, community and citizenship



The resulting planned programme is scrutinised, challenge and further develop through an internal review process. **The Senior Leadership Team scrutinise the proportionality of the programme against the outcome themes, curriculum, and geographical need.**

The final plan is submitted to the Governance Board – which includes local councillors and external stakeholders - for further scrutiny in May of each year.

Partnership and co-production

For the plan to be approved, it must be grounded in good research and strong relationships with other teams in the council and with other local and partner organisations.



Other, internal County Council services including Public Health, Learning and Talent Development, Libraries and Information Service, Adult Social Care, Commissioning, Virtual School, Special Educational Needs, Early Years, Thriving Communities, and Economic Development to ensure that the programmes the service delivers are responsive to [local priorities and wider determinants of health](#).

The **service has a good relationship with regional partners** including D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership through the People and Skills, Young People and Careers Hub. DACES also works closely



with other **Adult and Community Learning Providers across the East Midlands Region** on joint improvement project development, including Strategic Development Bids and Multiply, and response to the changing policy landscape, including devolution.

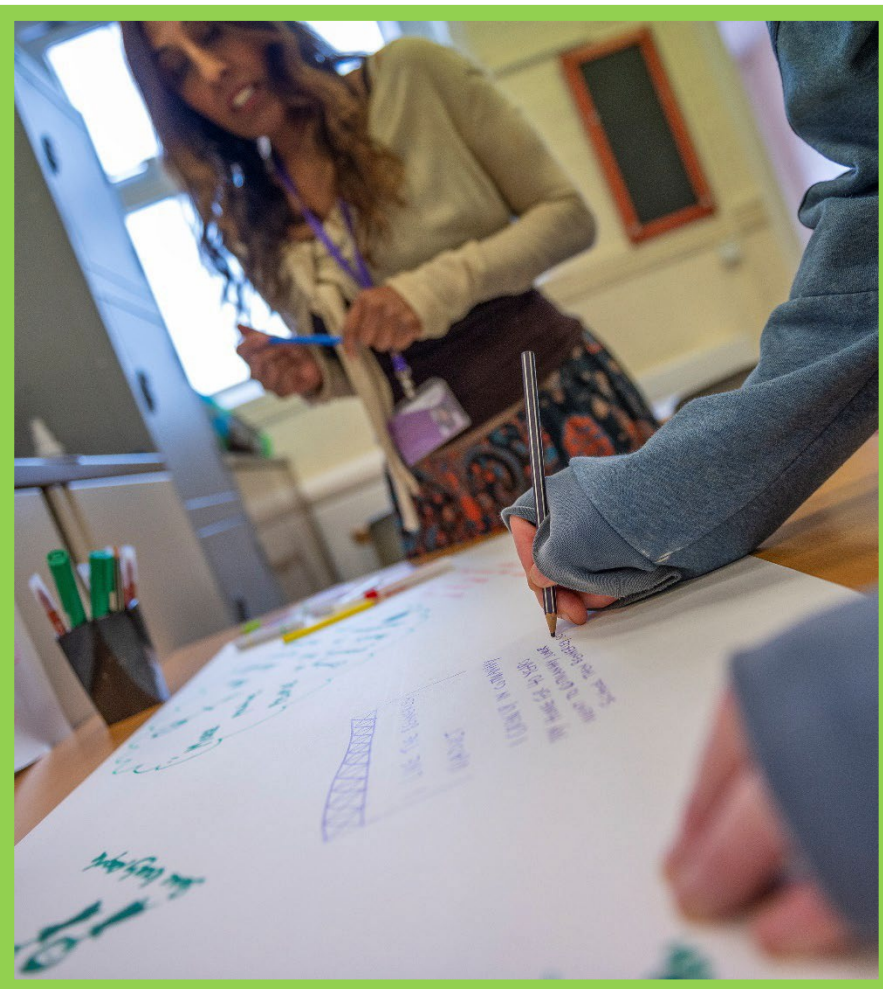
The service is standing member of the **Derbyshire Employment and Skills Group and works the Skills Leads**

across the District Councils, other training providers - including the FE college and University of Derby – as well as strategic partners such as the Department for Work and Pensions, Public Health, and the voluntary sector. The purpose of this group is to ensure that provision aligns with local needs and plans and is complementary to the local offer which optimises the deployment of resources locally to the benefit of both residents, employers, and other stakeholders.



This has seen the service at the heart of the development of Youth Hubs in Chesterfield and Cotmanhay and the Skills and Creative Hubs in Clay Cross.

The service also works closely with **voluntary sector partners to deliver course and activities to some of our hardest to reach and most disadvantaged**



communities. For example, family cookery on a budget with community groups in Goseley, near Swadlincote, in the south of county and in Gamesley near Glossop in the High Peak.



We are currently developing links with several voluntary sector organisations in the High Peak to develop and promote walking opportunities in this area. The service works closely with the Derby and Derbyshire Social Prescribing Advisory Group in connecting under-served communities to the natural environment to improve mental health and well-being through Green Social Prescribing.

The service also collaborates closely with **local employers, specifically education, early years, and care settings**, providing sector-based work academies in care, retail and construction as well occupational standard qualifications and

apprenticeships. The service is the education provider with DFN Project Search and Chesterfield Royal Hospital Transition to Work Programme for young people with a learning disability. The service also provides work-placed training and development in teacher training, assessor, coaching, mentoring and team leadership skills for the Council and other public sector organisations.



Our contribution to national, regional, and local priorities

Strategic Aims and Objectives

1. Resilient, healthy, and safe communities

(TaMPADA outcomes: Health and wellbeing; Social, community and citizenship)

Impact and/or Contribution towards National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills

- We will continue to work with the resettlement team, and other agencies, to further support further support the integration of displaced communities, (including those from Afghanistan, Syria, and the Ukraine), through the delivery of **ESOL provision to two hundred learners**.
- We will provide **three hundred places** on community learning programmes aimed at **neurodiverse individuals and adults with identified learning difficulties**, supporting people to become more confident and independent through subjects such as basic cooking skills, arts and crafts and community gardening
- We will collaborate with colleagues from Public Health to deliver **eighteen** two-day adult Mental Health First Aid courses and **twelve** Youth two-day adult Mental Health First Aid courses to public and voluntary sector staff across the county **to support the mental health of the Derbyshire residents**.
- 14-19 will provide **twelve** new DCC Project Search **Supported Internship programme** to transition to independence with 70% secure employment.
- **Twenty-five** of the 14-19 teaching, learning and assessment workforce to participate in an accredited **Autism Advocates Programme** to improve in Autism Awareness.
- We will **increase provision to support families experiencing cost of living** pressures by increasing the number of free Cooking on a Budget courses offered to a further **160 residents**, collaborating with local community groups in Bolsover, Chesterfield, Northeast Derbyshire, Erewash, and the High Peak to provide Family cookery courses.

Priorities impacted and reason for objective

- Council local priority to collaborate with partners to welcome refugee families into Derbyshire and developed a countywide response to the implementation of asylum dispersal
- Work alongside people with a learning disability, those recovering from mental ill health and/ or who are autistic to develop Council services to ensure they are tailored to meet individuals needs and help people achieve their personal goals

Provide support to people and communities in need, including financial help from our Discretionary Fund, and other **activities that promote financial inclusion and tackle cost of living pressures.**

2. High performing, value for money and resident focused services

(TaMPADA Outcomes: Employability, employment, and learning; Social, community and citizenship)

Impact and/or Contribution towards National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills

- We will increase work with Derbyshire Careers Service to ensure that learners who are Derbyshire residents are able to access the free and impartial information, advice and guidance about career opportunities, learning and employment provided by their highly qualified careers advisors. This will provide targeted first steps Making Choices programmes to 180 learners within early years and child-care provision.
- We will support four hundred young adults with employability, personal development, and career plan advice through work with Youth Hubs in key areas of Derbyshire Chesterfield and Erewash
- Digital Skills will be an embedded offer into qualification learning at levels 2 and 3. 14-19 Study Programme will include a specific digital skills qualification for 250 learners.
- We will deliver construction and building trades occupational qualifications at Construction hubs in High Peak and Clay Cross to forty learners.
- We will deliver three hundred qualifications and apprenticeships in areas such as High Level 3 Teaching Assistants children and young people Childcare, Teaching Assistants and Higher enhancing the level of education given to children.
- We will continue to provide and improve the outcomes for five hundred learners on basic English and maths courses, through improved attendance and achievement of maths and English qualifications.
- Increase the number of apprenticeships in sector areas and leadership within the authority with fifty new team leader apprenticeships

Priorities impacted and reason for objective

- Young people and adults will have access to high quality and dynamic labour market intelligence which demonstrates roles available, skills needed **to secure them and the education, training, and support pathways available to help them on their career path.**
- This meets Skills Priorities outlined in the **D2N2 Local Skills Report 2022**
- Digital skills integration in education. To keep pace with the rapidly changing digital landscape, education should **provide digital skills as a key component** of courses.
- Priority skills shortage occupation in **Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, draft Local Skills Improvement Plan**
- Supports the national priority **Apprenticeship programmes and Free Level 3 Courses for Jobs** and the local priority to provide the best education within schools and childcare providers.
- Ensures that children, young people, and adults are **empowered to realise their ambitions and maximise their potential**
- Supports the council plan to **become an employer of choice** attracting and retaining a talented and diverse workforce

3. Effective early help for individuals and communities

(TaMPADA Outcomes: Development of self and life skills; Social, community and citizenship)

Impact and/or Contribution towards National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills

- We will work with mental health support organisations such as Rethink and Mind to further develop and expand our Brightside programme of courses for people experiencing mental health difficulties, or emotional or psychological distress. 120 learners will be offered by the service in art, crafts and textiles, poetry and creative writing, dry stone walling, and photography to build resilience, self-confidence, and self-esteem to progress onto further learning, volunteering and improve employment prospects.
- 250 courses will include embedded transferable skills for 14-19 learners and those of a working age. These will focus on the practice and explicit recognition of key transferrable skills within qualifications, projects, and work experience.

Priorities impacted and reason for objective

- Supported more people to manage their own mental health and wellbeing
- Essential skills such as communication, problem-solving, and teamwork are critical for success in any industry

4. A prosperous and green Derbyshire

(TaMPADA Outcomes: Development of self and life skills; Employability, employment, and learning)

Impact and/or Contribution towards National, Regional and Local Priorities for Learning and Skills

- We will work with Derbyshire County Council's Climate Change team to develop and deliver **forty online courses for learners, especially those embarking on our Construction and Building Trades qualification courses** to develop their knowledge of climate change and Net Zero.
- We will provide learning programmes to support self-employment and entrepreneurial skills for two hundred learners
- support to develop a business plan which support micro businesses and creative industries
- **Twenty-five** of the 14-19 teaching, learning and assessment workforce to participate in **trauma-informed patient training** to further support vulnerable young learners to re-engage, and be retained, with learning to address the long- term impacts of the pandemic.

Priorities impacted and reason for objective

- Contributes to meeting the needs of the developing Net Zero economy as prioritised in the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire LSIP and National Skills Priorities
- Work with schools and other education providers to implement new strategies and support, to enable children and young people to achieve their educational potential and begin to catch up on learning they have missed due to COVID-19 restrictions

Corporation statement:

On behalf of Derbyshire County Council, it is hereby confirmed that the plan as set out above reflects an agreed statement of purpose, aims and objectives as approved by the DACES Governance Board at their meeting of 23 May 2023.



Cllr Alex Dale
Cabinet Member for Education



Mark Homer
Head of Service

The plan will be published on the Council's website in advance of the new academic year and accessed through the following link www.derbyshire.gov.uk/adulteducation.

Supporting documentation

Derbyshire County Council – Council Plan

D2N2 LEP - Derbyshire, Derby, Nottinghamshire & Nottingham Recovery and Growth Strategy

D2N2 LEP - Derbyshire, Derby, Nottinghamshire & Nottingham - Local skills report

Derbyshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Derbyshire Public Health - Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Report

DACES Ofsted Report

Derbyshire Observatory - Data and statistics for Derbyshire