

## Short inspection of Petroc

Inspection dates:

6 7 November 2019



knowledge



help learners prepare well for their next step, for example work or further study. Many learners go on to subject-related university courses, employment or apprenticeships when they leave Petroc. A high proportion of learners achieve their qualifications, particularly at level 3.

Learners gain valuable experience of industry and business through work experience, volunteering, sector-related trips in the UK and abroad, and visiting speakers and lecturers. These help to broaden their understanding of employment and employers expectations, and life in the UK and overseas.

Petrocs relatively new senior leadership team has identified the strengths and weaknesses of the curriculum clearly. They receive good support from a well-informed governing board to ensure that the curriculum offer meets the business needs of local services and supports innovation. Leaders have introduced new initiatives this year designed to tackle specific weaknesses, such as developing learners soft skills and enrichment activities to support their movement into employment. It is too early to evaluate their success.

Leaders have ensured that much of the college provides a pleasant environment for learners and staff. There are good resources and facilities for learning in many of the specialist subject areas, such as engineering and health and beauty, and the learning centre. Some areas of the college, such as corridors and classrooms in the main buildings, do not match the standards seen elsewhere.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Leaders work well with staff and external agencies to keep learners safe. Designated safeguarding leads are well qualified, and all staff receive regular refresher training. Managers keep detailed records of concerns, which they monitor carefully. As a result of a comprehensive and well-designed curriculum, learners know how to report any concerns. Staff are aware of the potential local risks to learners but have not captured these effectively in their risk assessments. Not enough learners fully understand the risks associated with extremism or exploitation.

What does the provider need to do to improve?

Senior leaders need to monitor the impact of changes and new initiatives to the curriculum carefully to ensure that actions to improve are effective. This includes developing ever-swifter responses to the changing demands of local employment so that learners can use their learning, knowledge and experiences gained from the curriculum to access new opportunities.

Managers should develop the higher-level teaching skills of teachers further so that they use their subject and industry expertise to become masters of the craft of teaching.



Leaders should ensure that the curriculum delivery is enhanced further by developing teachers pedagogical knowledge in using their expert subject knowledge and industry expertise so that all learners learn, understand and embed key concepts in their long-term memory.

Staff should ensure that learners develop a clear and deep understanding of how to keep themselves safe from harm in the local community and beyond.

Leaders should improve some of the underdeveloped areas of the college to ensure that all learners and staff learn and work in an environment that is conducive to effective learning.



## Provider details

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Principal/CEO Sean Mackney

Provider type General further education college

Date of previous inspection 4 5 November 2015

Northern Devon Healthcare Trust Construction Industry Training Board

Group Training and Development Ltd

Launceston College

Skills Network

Wings

Main subcontractors



