

Contextual Statement

Trafford College Group

The Cheadle College (Centre no. 10238) Marple Sixth Form College (Centre no. 14829) Trafford College and Stockport College (Centre no. 40341)

The Trafford College Group (TCG) is a large general Further Education College Group based in Greater Manchester. In 2007, North and South Trafford College merged into one college; in 2018, Stockport College merged with Trafford College to form 'The Trafford College Group' and in May 2021, Cheadle and Marple Sixth Form College joined The Trafford College Group.

The Group has five main sites across two boroughs: Altrincham and Stretford (based in Trafford), Stockport, Cheadle and Marple (based in Stockport). We have approximately 5,300 students enrolled with an average class size of 20-30. The overall College Group Student profile for 2021/22 shows that 29% of young people are from the top 10% most deprived wards nationally and 42% from the top 20% most deprived wards nationally. 11% of the Group's 16-18 cohort claimed free school meals in 2021/22 compared to 15.9% of secondary school students claiming free school meals nationally (DFE National Statistics January 2020). In recent years, approximately 30% of students progress to higher education.

Level 3 vocational provision is offered at all campuses across a range of subject areas including Applied Science, Business, Creative Arts, Health and Social Care and Sport. A levels are offered at three sites - Trafford College Sixth Form, The Cheadle College and Marple Sixth Form College with approximately 750 students on programme. At Trafford College Sixth Form there is a large full time GCSE programme from which a high percentage of learners progress onto A levels. The majority of students in the Academic departments take 3 academic A levels but there is an option, where appropriate, for students to take an Applied A level or a vocational A level equivalent. A small proportion of students study four A levels which may include Further Maths or the Extended Project Qualification.