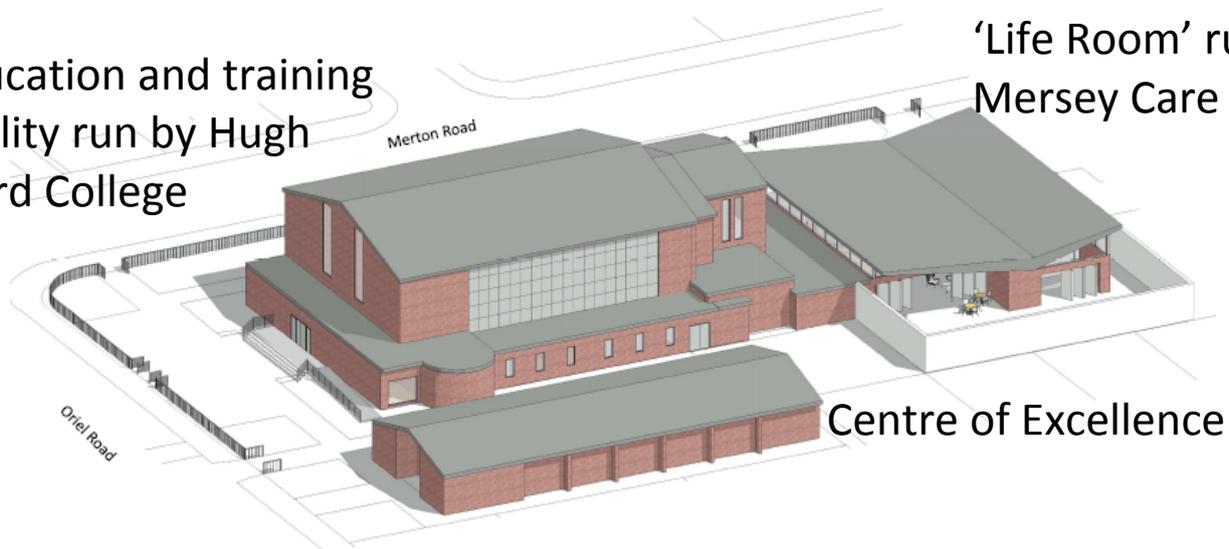


The Health Engagement and Training Hub
A collaborative approach between further education and the NHS to improving mental health and wellbeing

Education and training facility run by Hugh Baird College

'Life Room' run by Mersey Care



Centre of Excellence

Why is the Hub important?

The evidence of need is clear:

- A 200% increase over the last 12 months in College learners aged 14 to 18 providing a mental health disclosure at enrolment;
- Local neighbourhoods are within the most deprived 1% in the country, with particularly acute levels of deprivation as a result of ill health and disability (within the 0.2% most deprived in England);
- Research that shows that although 75% of mental health issues emerge prior to the age of 25, access to mental health services for 14 to 25 year olds is the poorest of all age groups;
- The health and care sector represents 17% of all employment opportunities within the Liverpool City Region and is anticipated to grow significantly in upcoming years.

The number of Hugh Baird College learners and members of the local community affected by mental health continues to grow significantly and addressing this effectively is essential, not only to support the work of the College but also to support improved life chances locally.

Recognising a clear synergy of aims and values, the College has forged a deep collaboration with Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust, a specialist mental health provider, to address mental health needs through the development of the Health Engagement and Training (HEAT) Hub and this collaboration has been vital in enabling the College to plan mental health support for our young people. The AOC was instrumental in initially bringing the College and Mersey Care together.

Core Aims of the HEAT Hub

The core purpose of the HEAT Hub is to improve life chances locally and regionally through a variety of workstreams:

- Provide regular specialist information, advice and guidance on managing mental health and wellbeing to staff and learners from Hugh Baird College, targeting learners aged between 14 and 18 years of age, in particular;
- Significantly increasing the number of Hugh Baird learners who achieve health and care qualifications by providing a curriculum offer, including pathways that focus on mental health support, that matches local need and using well-embedded contacts within local NHS foundation trusts to support high levels of progression into related employment;
 - A key focus of the Hub will be to build on the existing level 3 Nursing Cadet pathway that the College operates in collaboration with Aintree University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. There are 15 year 1 Cadets currently who, in addition to their studies, complete two days of work placement at the hospital. The College is currently working to expand the Nursing Cadet programme to two more NHS Foundation Trusts, as well as expanding the Cadet concept to other roles within the NHS beyond nursing. The College is working to ensure that the Cadet programme forms the basis of one of the T-level specialisms in the future.
 - Within the College's full time 14 to 16 provision, a Pre-Cadet Nursing group are being supported to move into the full Cadet programme upon completion of their studies.
- Improve the wellbeing and employment prospects of those within the wider community affected by mental health;
- Provide specialist training to employees from Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust and other regional health and care providers;
- Coordinate initiatives aimed at improving the local NHS workforce.

What is the Health Engagement and Training Hub?

Due to open in September 2018, the Hub consists of three distinct health-facing functions, each offering additional value through immediate proximity and links with the other two sites:

- an education and training facility delivering an expanded health and care curriculum offer from entry level to full honours degree supporting College-based and apprenticeship learners to develop the skills and attributes required to meet local need
 - Close working between Hugh Baird College and Mersey Care NHS FT will ensure that learning is enriched by utilising the skills and expertise of trained on-site NHS professionals whilst also ensuring the growth of education, skills and employment within the local economy by offering a breadth of apprenticeships and other learning interventions which will create clear career employment and progression routes within NHS Trusts.
- a 'Life Room' that will place recovery and social inclusion services at the heart of the local community;
 - The 'Life Room' is an established brand of Mersey Care NHS FT and the Hub has afforded the opportunity for the latest incarnation to be sited within the Bootle area. The Life Room will support increases in local wellbeing and employment through the engagement of those in the wider community affected by mental health. The facility will allow people to have positive experiences that will support their wellbeing and assist them to discover new meaning and purpose in life. A coordinated range of education and support services, including the option of referral to full time or part time education, will support people to make more informed decisions on their career choices and ambitions.
- a 'Centre of Excellence' that will support a coordinated local and regional response between skills and education providers and local NHS Trusts;
 - The Centre of Excellence will host the Core Workforce Group (CWG) which comprises a variety of learning and development professionals who are responsible for commissioning, coordinating and providing training and education within their respective organisations. Membership of the CWG continues to expand and additional participants include non-NHS health and social care providers, the Department for

Work and Pensions and Job Centre Plus. The CWG is also responsible for coordinating the large number of health-related student placements across the region and will promote a collaborative response regionally to health-related education and training requirements.

What is the expected impact?

Once fully operational, the Hub will support an additional c500 learners per annum to gain health and care qualifications and seek sector-related employment within the NHS. The Life Rooms facility will support c100 additional accredited enrolments on health-facing qualifications, in addition to engaging many more members of the local community on non-accredited pathways.

Funding

The construction of the Hub has been funded by a £3.9M grant, provided by the Liverpool City Region Combined Regional Authority.

Quotes

“Our partnership with Hugh Baird College presents a range of fantastic opportunities; not least of which is that we share common educational goals. Our new Life Rooms on the College campus will be a community hub for learning, recovery, health and wellbeing that aims to give people the services they want and need.”

Joe Rafferty, Chief Executive, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust

“This project doesn’t just benefit the students of Hugh Baird College. It has far wider reach. The new centre will provide a community resource that is open to all who feel ready to take those important first steps to wellbeing”.

Yana Williams, Principal and Chief Executive, Hugh Baird College