

# West Cheshire College



West Cheshire College is the largest provider of vocational learning in West Cheshire, with campuses in Ellesmere Port, Chester and Capenhurst. Every year West Cheshire College delivers learning to over 20,000 people at its three campuses, in workplaces and community venues. The College's extensive range of full and part-time courses cover a wide range of subject areas and are from entry to degree level. The College also works very closely with employers, helping them to develop their staff and close skills gaps. It has achieved CoVE status in three areas Automotive Engineering, Logistics and Health and Social Care.

West Cheshire College has a highly responsive Business Development Services team which delivers world-class training tailored to meet the needs of employers. Its team of expert Commercial Advisers are dedicated to delivering effective training solutions that will develop employees skills and knowledge and improve overall business performance. The College is flexible in its approach and ensures that training solutions fit individual requirements and provide real measurable outcomes - enabling employers to see the benefits for themselves.



## Profit From Our Expertise...

West Cheshire College is one of the first 26 providers in the UK to secure the Learning and Skills Council's highly prestigious new standard, which highlights excellence in the two areas that employers say is most important to them: provider responsiveness to employer needs and excellence in a particular vocational area (the College received an additional specific accreditation for its work in Engineering).



(from left to right) David Way, National Director of Skills at the Learning and Skills Council, presents the new standard certificate to Jayne Smith, Area Manager for Commercial Services and Assistant Principal, Ian Rimmington, along with Chris Humphries, Chief Executive of the Commission for Employment and Skills.

# West Cheshire College & Witter Towbars Case Study



## Company Background

Witter Towbars are based in Deeside Industrial Park, Deeside, Flintshire. They are the UK's largest manufacturer of towbar and cycle carrier systems.

## The Challenge

Gary Nuttall, Senior Manufacturing Engineer, needed 50 employees to have a proven understanding and practical experience of a variety of welding techniques.

## The Solution

West Cheshire College advised Witter to put employees forward for the EAL Level 2 NVQ in Fabrication and Welding qualification to help demonstrate the quality of the workforce to existing and potential customers.

The training has been delivered on-site at Witter to ensure that staff can learn the specific skills needed within their own working environment, while significantly improving their welding skills and knowledge.

## The Business Benefits

- Improved staff knowledge of welding techniques
- Increased employee morale and motivation
- Increased productivity and reduced rework

“We are currently midway through the training but it is already very clear to see how employees have benefited from undertaking the course. The College has been extremely supportive in delivering the training to meet our specific business needs and employees have gained a sense of achievement from learning new skills on the job. Not only does the qualification provide evidence of an employee's ability to do a particular job, but it should also prove fruitful in helping to improve their career development and promotion chances for the future.”

**Gary Nuttall, Witter's Senior Manufacturing Engineer**

“The Fabrication and Welding course benefits both employers and employees by offering alternative pathways to training. The qualification is suitable for those seeking recognition of their competence at their job and offers maximum flexibility to meet the needs of semi-skilled and skilled workers engaged in fabrication and welding engineering.”

**Alan Tate, Assistant Manager in Business Development, West Cheshire College**

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