



NORTH EAST
SCOTLAND
COLLEGE



BRINGING
LEARNING
TO LIFE



Strategic Plan

2025-2030

Sub-strategy: Our Digital Ambition



Our Ambition

We aim to enhance the College's digital maturity by building a culture that embraces digital opportunities for both staff and students. Our commitment includes equitable access to technology, ongoing professional development, and the integration of adaptive technologies and flexible learning models. With strong leadership and strategic planning, we will pursue a digital-first approach focused on inclusivity, sustainability, efficiency, and lifelong learning.

Linked to Strategic Objectives - 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3.
(see table in main strategic plan document).



Key Objectives

1. To ensure equitable access to digital resources and technologies by maintaining infrastructure that is accessible, resilient, and reliable, including business systems, devices, and specialist software. This will be underpinned by robust connectivity and a strong commitment to information and data security, enabling seamless and secure digital experiences for all users.
2. To advance staff experience by equipping our colleagues with essential tools and expert support to advance their digital competencies. They will have access to leading industry training programs and adequate time to develop confidence in these skills.
3. To foster a culture of digital leadership and governance through enabling a digital culture at NESCol that delivers a digitally advanced College. We aim to develop digital leadership across the organisation, promote a digital-first approach, support priorities, and dedicate time to innovation.
4. To enhance the learner experience by integrating adaptive technologies, flexible delivery models, and digital insights into the learner journey to ensure all students receive inclusive, engaging, and future-ready education that aligns with industry needs and supports lifelong employability.
5. To innovate and envision by fostering a forward-thinking environment that embraces digital innovation, creativity, and imagination. We will explore and integrate emerging technologies, pilot proofs of concept, and promote creative solutions that enhance learning, teaching, and operational practices.



What does success look like?

By 2030 we will have:



ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORTED ACROSS ALL FIVE CATEGORIES IN THE JISC DIGITAL ELEVATION TOOL, WITH A GOAL OF REACHING 'ELEVATE' LEVEL BY 2030

IMPLEMENTED A 'DIGITAL COMPETENCIES' STAFF TRAINING PROGRAMME, WITH 100% OF STAFF COMPLETING MANDATORY MODULES BY 2030



Delivered a **minimum of 80% satisfaction scores** on usability and support in post-implementation surveys for new platforms

ENSURED EQUITABLE ACCESS TO DIGITAL RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGIES, WITH AT LEAST 95% OF STUDENTS REPORTING ACCESS TO A SUITABLE DEVICE, AS WELL AS RELIABLE CONNECTIVITY TO NETWORKS ON AND OFF CAMPUS



Piloted AI-supported learning tools in multiple curriculum areas, with student engagement tracked

RECORDED A 50% REDUCTION IN PAPER-BASED PROCESSES THROUGH DIGITAL-FIRST INITIATIVES



INTRODUCED A 'DIGITAL CONFIDENCE INDEX', DERIVED FROM STUDENT SURVEYS, WITH A TARGET OF YEAR-ON-YEAR IMPROVEMENTS

SET BENCHMARKS AND INCREASED ENGAGEMENT WITH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS

How will we achieve this?

Ensure equitable access to digital resources and technologies

- **Challenging digital poverty** – We will continue to focus on identifying student need and increase access to loan devices in line with demand.
- **Embedding new platforms** – We will complete the roll-out the new student information system and focus on realising its full potential to streamline business processes, reduce staff workload and enhance student support.



Advance staff experience and expertise

- **Embracing industry standards** – We will benchmark our digital maturity using the JISC Digital Elevation Tool, identifying targeted improvements across its five key categories.
- **Developing skills and knowledge** – We will build on the Digital Futures initiative to develop a customised training and development programme to strengthen digital capabilities across the NESCol community.
- **Enhancing internal communication platforms** – We will complete the review and refresh the staff intranet to improve access to key resources, streamline internal communication and optimise business processes.

Foster a culture of digital leadership and governance

- **Focusing on digital first** – We will implement proactive measures to reduce remaining paper-based processes and develop a comprehensive digital transformation plan.
- **Classifying data** – We will carry out a project to categorise data based on its sensitivity, value, and required protection levels.



Enhance the learner experience

- **Embracing online tools** - We will continue to expand the use of integrated technologies, centred on our virtual learning environment, to support more effective blended learning and increase the adoption of e-assessment.
- **Looking ahead** - We will systematically plan for the increased use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) within the curriculum, ensuring its application is purposeful, ethical, and aligned with educational objectives.



Innovate and envision

- **Building understanding and awareness** – We will create a comprehensive service catalogue of available digital resources from devices and software to assistive technologies, their purpose and how to access and use them effectively.
- **Introducing new customer interfaces** – We will use AI-powered technology to give visitors to NESCol's external website quicker, more responsive and accessible information.
- **Establishing an enthusiastic learning culture** – We will actively support staff and students to build meaningful external networks, explore fresh perspectives, and bring innovative ideas back into the College to enrich practice and drive continuous improvement.
- **Establishing a clear and inclusive approach to piloting and evaluating new technologies** – We will guide future strategic planning and innovation by collaborating with staff and students.

