Brand guidelines

Logo, colour & typography guidelines for Education Partnership North East and its sub-brands.

Education Partnership North East



Northumberland College





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Introduction

Education Partnership North East (abbreviated as 'EPNE') is a multi-awardwinning college group focused on 'place'.

We are a dynamic partnership between Sunderland College, Northumberland College, and Hartlepool Sixth Form College, with campuses located throughout the region. The group also includes EPNE Training, our adult skills training service.

These guidelines have been created to help you understand the EPNE and college brands, and how they should be used.

They will ensure consistency across all offline and online communication and marketing materials, helping build awareness of EPNE and strengthen our reputation as one of the leading college groups in the country.



Audience & messaging

The target audiences for EPNE and its sub-brands are school leavers, parents/ carers/guardians, adult learners (including Higher Education), apprentices, businesses, governing bodies, and the local community.

Our brand messaging is centred around three pillars: academic excellence, career-focus, and outstanding experience. This messaging and the tone of voice we use should be consistent across all communications and marketing materials.





_

Founders Grotesk

ABCDEducationFGH JKLMNOPartnership QRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmn opqrstuvwxyz

0123456789 @÷£+/#%&!"

Primary typeface Our primary typeface is Founders Grotesk. We use this for all headings across online and offline media. The typeface was chosen for its chunky, attention grabbing appearance.

To keep consistency, we use only the Medium weight.

When Founders Grotesk is unavailable, Arial should be used.

Founders Grotesk usage

Tracking

When using Founders Grotesk, do not manipulate the tracking unless absolutely necessary. Ideally the tracking value should be 0.

If you need to negatively track a word or line, the limit is -15. If positively tracking, the limit is +5.

Negatively tracked is difficult to read. (-25)

Positively tracked looks too gappy. (+25)

Ligatures

When using Founders Grotesk, do not use ligatures.

Affect, file – ligatures off (correct)

Affect, file – ligatures on (incorrect)

Hyphenation

When using Founders Grotesk, do not split a word with a hyphen when it doesn't fit on the line.

Capitalisation

Never use Founders Grotesk in ALL CAPS.

Caption style headlines

When using Founders Grotesk in a captionstyle headline (with a box behind it), leave an even space all the way around the text so the box isn't tight to the text but also isn't dwarfing the text.

When using an angled caption-style headline, it should always be angled at 4°, angled upwards to the right (more about angled headlines on page 30). Please do not guess the angle or do this by eye.



Be true, be you.

Be true, be you.

Be true, be you.

Be true, be you.

Be true be you.



Quicksond

ABCDEducationFGHI **JKLMNOPartnership** QRSTUVWXYZ

abcdefghijklmn opqrstuvwxyz

0123456789 @÷£+/#%&!"



Secondary typeface

Our secondary typeface is Quicksand.

We use Quicksand for all body copy. We do not use Quicksand for headlines or any other large text (e.g pull quotes, large stats). For large text we use Founders Grotesk.

For body copy we use Regular. For subheadings we use Bold.

The Design team have the creative license to use other weights of this font depending on the format/medium of the task assigned.

Quicksand is available for free on Google Fonts. It is also an Adobe Font, for those who have a subscription.

Link to download from Google Fonts: fonts.google.com/specimen/Quicksand

Quicksand usage

Tracking

When using Quicksand, do not manipulate the tracking unless absolutely necessary. Ideally the tracking value should be 0.

If you need to negatively track a word or line, the limit is -15. If positively tracking, the limit is +5.

Negatively tracked is difficult to read. (-25)

Positively tracked looks too gappy. (+25)

Leading

When using Quicksand, do not manipulate the leading (horizontal space between lines). Keep the leading value set to 'auto', where it looks best.

Hyphenation

When using Quicksand, do not split a word with a hyphen when it doesn't fit on the line.

Capitalisation

Quicksand can be ALL CAPS if needed but not as a first resort.

Point size (font size)

When using Quicksand in print, please use a minimum point size of 8.5pt. Anything under this may be unreadable.

The only exception is for smallprint T&Cs and stat disclaimers.

When using Quicksand digitally, please always test the design out at full size in all formats to ensure readability.



Hartlepool Sixth Form College, the top-performing specialist sixth form in the North East*, is the number one choice for nearly 1,000 students and offers a wide range of A-Levels, T Levels and technical courses

Be true, be you

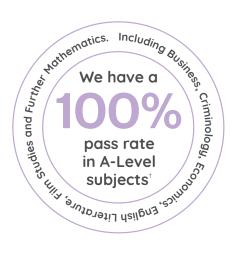
Studying with us means experiencing a new level of independence, discovering a self-belief for who you want to be, and getting excited about your future.

You will find Hartlepool Sixth Form is a more relaxed, mature environment where students are treated as adults and individuals. You will be inspired and motivated every day as you learn, explore and develop with us.

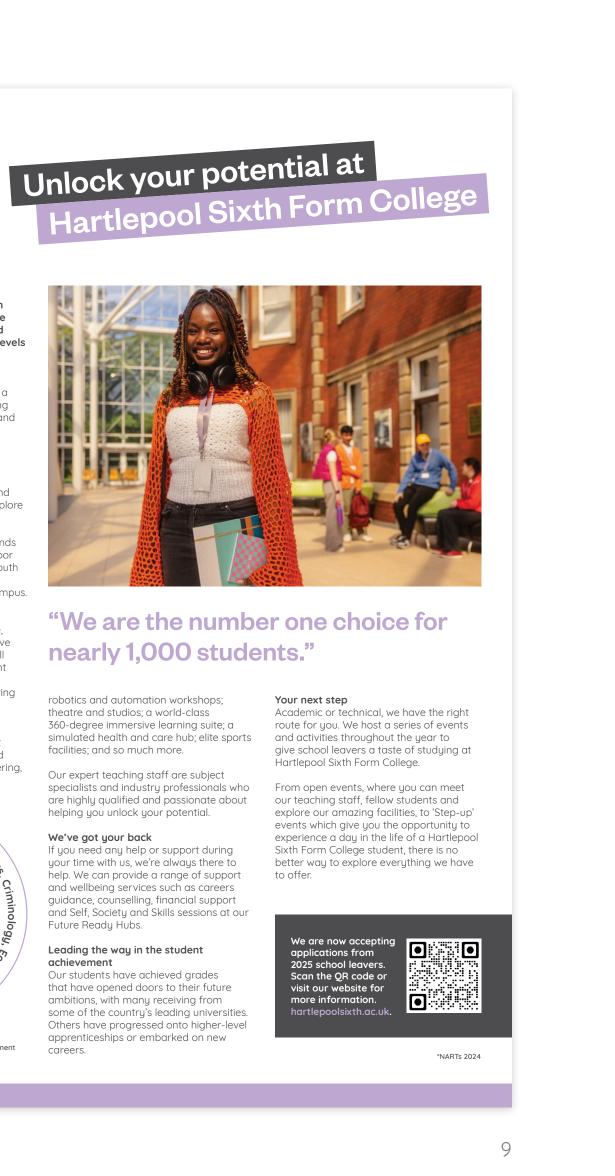
In between classes you can meet friends in our campus café, relax in our outdoor spaces, or participate in one of our yout activities and clubs – there is always something to enjoy on our vibrant campus

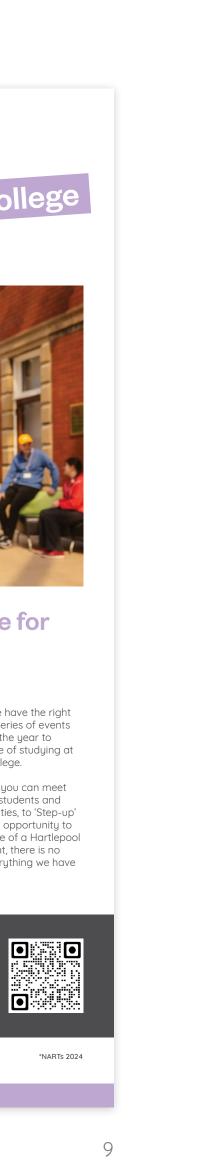
We are proud of our diverse student community and embrace an inclusive. welcoming culture where students have the freedom to be themselves. You will meet lots of new people from different backgrounds, with their own unique mbitions and views, who together bring energy, passion and talent.

An innovative place to learn Students thrive in our state-of-the-ar environments that replicate real world settings such as science labs; engineering,



⁺Hartlepool Sixth Form College student achievement rates 16-18 year olds, 2023-24









EPNE logo

This the logo that is used to represent the overall group as its own entity.

It can also be used as an accompaniment to each college logo.

Education Partnership North East

EPNE logo

Exclusion zone, placement and sizing

In order for our logo to always be clear and stand out, we have defined an exclusion zone, in which no other graphic element should enter.

The height of 'X' has been defined by the capital 'E' in 'Education' and 'P' in 'Partnership' within the logo.

As a rule the logo should never be touching the edge of the piece it is on. The minimum margin that should be used is 10px for digital applications and 8mm for print.



We have defined a minimum size for the partnership logo to ensure it is always legible:

Education Partnership North East

Print 20mm Digital 80px

Sunderland College logo

We have used the capital 'S' in 'Sunderland' to create a large bespoke 'S' that houses the name of the college.

When the large 'S' and the name of the college come together they create the college's unique logo.

Sunderland College



Sunderland College logo

Exclusion zone, placement and sizing

In order for our logo to always be clear and stand out, we have defined an exclusion zone, in which no other graphic element should enter.

The height of 'X' has been defined by the capital 'S' in 'Sunderland' and 'C' in 'College' within the logo.

As a rule the logo should never be touching the edge of the piece it is on. The minimum margin that should be used is 10px for digital applications and 8mm for print.



We have defined a minimum size for the logo to ensure it is always legible:



Northumberland College logo

We have used the capital 'N' in 'Northumberland' to create a large bespoke 'N' that houses the name of the college.

When the large 'N' and the name of the college come together they create the college's unique logo.

Northumberland College

Northumberland College logo

Exclusion zone, placement and sizing

In order for our logo to always be clear and stand out, we have defined an exclusion zone, in which no other graphic element should enter.

The height of 'X' has been defined by the capital 'N' in 'Northumberland' and 'C' in 'College' within the logo.

As a rule the logo should never be touching the edge of the piece it is on. The minimum margin that should be used is 10px for digital applications and 8mm for print.



We have defined a minimum size for the logo to ensure it is always legible:



Print 20mm Digital 80px

Hartlepool Sixth Form College logo

We have used the capital 'H' in 'Hartlepool' to create a large bespoke 'H' that houses the name of the college. The '6' relates to 'Sixth Form'.

When the large 'H', '6' and the name of the college come together they create the college's unique logo.

Hartlepool Sixth Form College

Hartlepool Sixth Form College logo

Exclusion zone, placement and sizing

In order for our logo to always be clear and stand out, we have defined an exclusion zone, in which no other graphic element should enter.

The height of 'X' has been defined by the capital 'S' in 'Sixth' and 'C' in 'College' within the logo.

As a rule the logo should never be touching the edge of the piece it is on. The minimum margin that should be used is 10px for digital applications and 8mm for print.



We have defined a minimum size for the logo to ensure it is always legible:





Logo lockups

When multiple logos are necessary, there are certain ways these must be presented.

The order of the college logos must always be Sunderland College, Northumberland College then Hartlepool Sixth Form College. When using logo combinations, please use mono (dark grey) or white logos.

Spacing between all elements:

The height of 'X' has been defined by the 'E' of 'Education' in the EPNE logo.



Context of use:

EPNE is the main focus, but has association with colleges:





Context of use:

Colleges are the main focus, but has association with EPNE:



Context of use: All three colleges:



Logo lockups

When multiple logos are necessary, there are certain ways these must be presented.

The order of the college logos must always be Sunderland College, Northumberland College then Hartlepool Sixth Form College. When using logo combinations, please use tertiary colour (dark grey) or white logos.

Spacing between all elements:

The height of 'X' has been defined by the 'E' of 'Education' in the EPNE logo.



Context of use: College focused, association with EPNE



Context of use: EPNE focused, association with a college









Education Partnership North East





Education Partnership North East



Logo misuse

The rules outlined in these guidelines ensure we always look the way that we should and keep consistency across all of our brand executions. The following are some examples of what not to do with our logos.



Do not distort Our logos orientations should be retained when they are being scaled to different sizes.



Do not rotate Our logos' axis should be retained. They like to be upright and not on the side or on a tilt.



Do not overlap

Do not overlap any of the logos or put any graphic elements over them.



Do not outline

Our logos should always be seen as a solid object and should not be outlined.



Do not alter The way the logos look should always be consistent. Don't move elements around.



Do not use the wrong colours

Use only the brand colours associated with the specific logo/brand or white.



Do not separate

Keep the logos as one object, do not create differentiation with colour.



Do not use image Our logos should be a

statement. Images should not be a contained within them.

Logo exceptions

There are a limited number of approved exceptions to our guidelines surrounding the manipulation of our logos:

- Readability of inner text: When our logos are used over a background where the inner text is not readable, we can fill the space behind with white or tertiary grey (see right for examples). From 2025 you will see this used more frequently for visibility.
- **Pride:** we use these logos to show support for the LGBTQIA+ community.





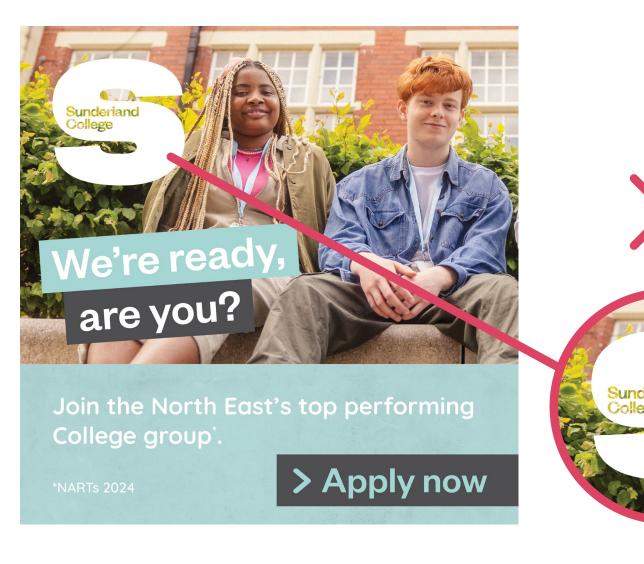




Join the North East's top performing College group^{*}.

> Apply now







Logo exceptions

• **EPNE Training** has a standalone logo. This logo is under review and subject to change from 2025 onwards.

• Northumberland College Zoo at Kirkley Hall has its own logo made up of six variations in a streamlined colour palette (updated 2025). These logos support the zoo's identity and help recognition specifically due to the local competition.

• The **Sunderland College Sports Academy** logo incorporates the Sunderland College 'S' in a format that enables it to be identifiable on sports kits and other collateral, whilst allowing all sports teams within the college to sit underneath one, all-encompassing sub-brand.







Special usage (small spaces)

There may be instances where a special use version of our logos are required. Use it when our logos need to fit within a small landscape space e.g the neck strap of a lanyard, a pen, or on the header of a website.

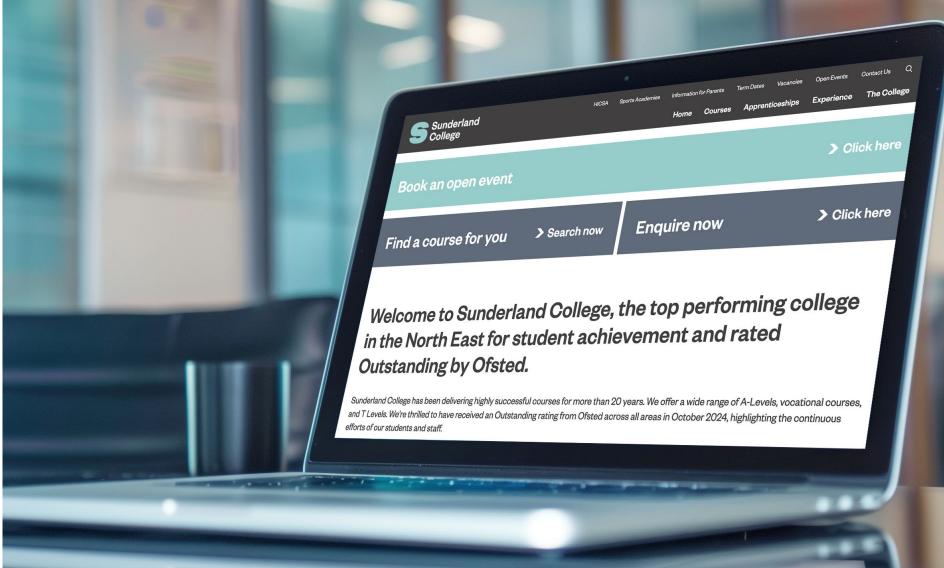
Use of these logos must be approved by Marketing. They are not readily available on SharePoint for general use.



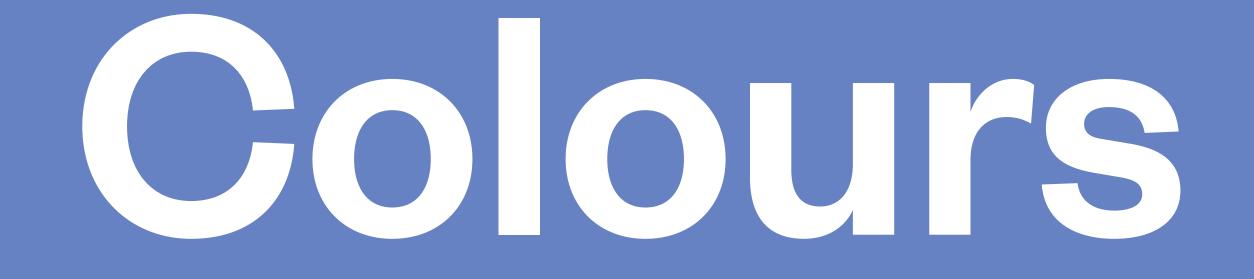
Northumberland College

Hartlepool Sixth **Form College**











Colour palette

Primary colours

Sunderland College	Northumberland College	Hartlepool Sixth Form College
C40 M0 Y20 K0	C5 M25 Y15 K0	C24 M35 Y0 K0
R150 G213 B210	R237 G197 B196	R191 G167 B208
#96D5D2	#EDC5C4	#BFA7D0

Secondary colours

C63 M47 Y36 K8 R104 G118 B134 #687686 C51 M14 Y54 K0 R142 G181 B139 #8EB48A C0 M68 Y31 K0 R242 G118 B134 #F27586

EPNE

C64 M45 Y0 K0 R101 G131 B194 #6583C2

Tertiary colour for all



Each college has two colours assigned to it and we must only use these colours, plus the optional tertiary grey, when creating marketing material for each college.

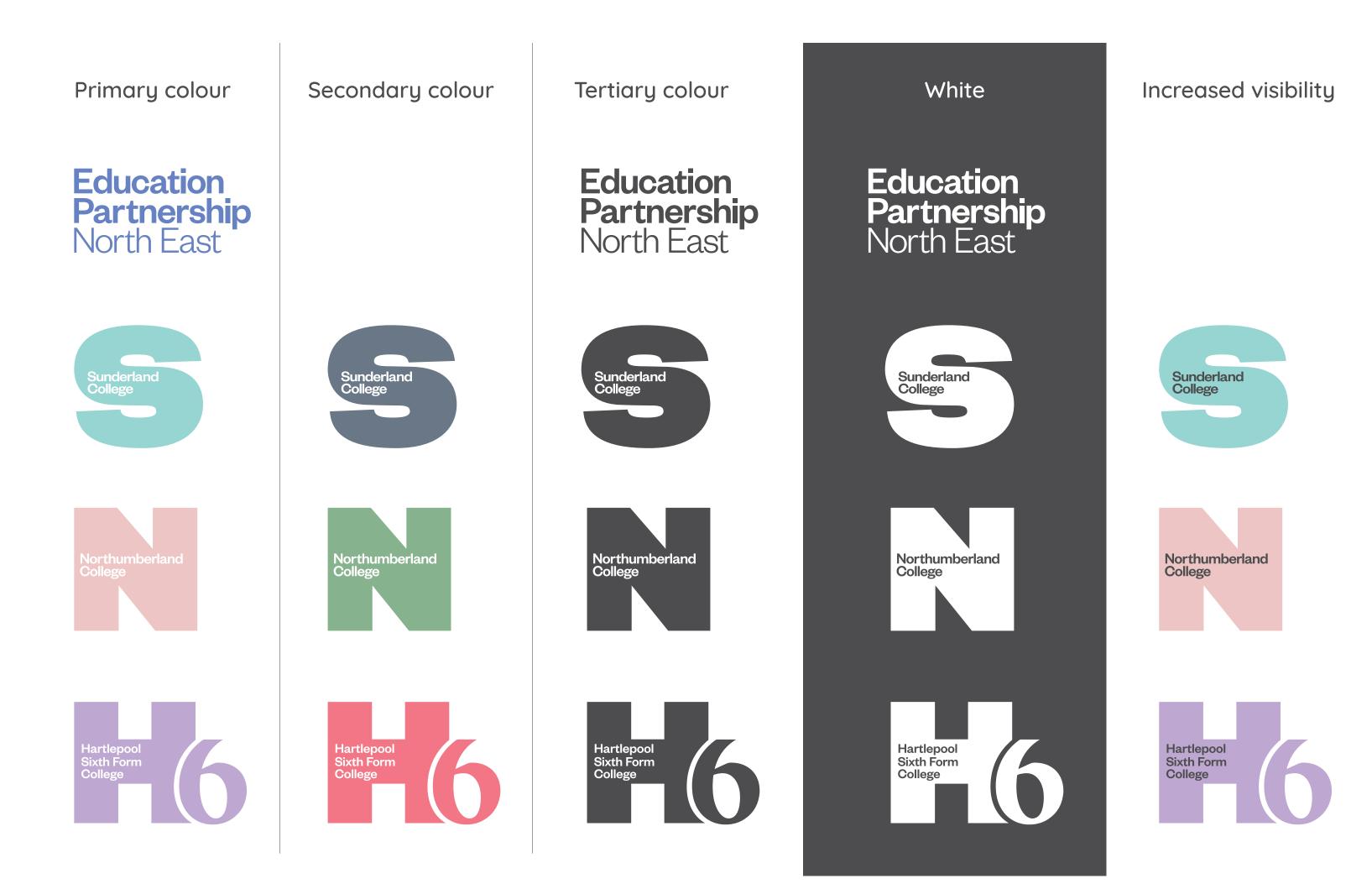
EPNE has only one colour, with the option to use the tertiary grey

Each logo can be used white on a coloured background, providing the background colour is on-brand.

Do not transfer the colours between colleges, for example, Hartlepool lilac cannot be used on any marketing materials for Northumberland College.



Colour palette (logos)



When used as standalone logos, each logo may only be used in the colours shown here.

Always use the primary colour as the first option. If the logo isn't legible, use secondary, tertiary or white. If the inner words aren't legible, they can be filled in with tertiary grey for increased visibility (on large screens for example).

Do not alter the colour of the logo to be different from the brand colours.

Colour palette (typography)

All body copy must be tertiary grey, or white if appearing against a dark background.

Do not vary from grey or white.

If certain words/phrases in body copy need to stand out from the page, these specific words may be changed to a heavier weight and the colour changed to the brand colour most relevant to the copy.

Headlines can be either tertiary grey or the colour most relevant to the сору.

EPNE example

The most important thing for teachers and practitioners to do is to have high expectations for all students. This means not labelling students (as "bright", "strugglers", "ADHD" or "autistic"), as this can lead to lower expectations in both teacher and student. Rather it is important to see all students as learners who can make leaps of growth in their learning.

Great teachers are passionate about helping students learn. They forge strong relationships with their students and need to be very clear with them about the content and goals of their learning.

The aim is to make student learning as visible as possible.

Outstanding practice and high expectations

Sunderland College example

Outstanding practice and high expectations

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This means not labelling students (as "bright", "strugglers", "ADHD" or "autistic"), as this can lead to lower expectations in both teacher and student. Rather it is important to see all students as learners who can make leaps of growth in their learning.

Great teachers are passionate about helping students learn. They forge strong relationships with their students and need to be very clear with them about the content and goals of their learning.

The aim is to make student learning as visible as possible.



Design elements & examples





Design elements

Textured paper backgrounds

You can use textured backgrounds to make designs look less 'flat'. We often marry textures up with a colour overlay.

Chevrons

Good to use large to signify direction, or small as bullet points or alongside a call to action (CTA). We use them pointing right or upwards to signify direction and positivity.

Bursts

Quirky way to highlight a graphic or piece of text. Most often used on QR codes or in infographics. Ensure that the 'ends' of the bursts are always rounded and not square.

Image cut outs with white outlines

When we cut out photos of students we use a choppy cut (not hairline), and always use a white stroke to outline. When using a number of cut outs together, ensure white outlines are the same width.







Design elements

Caption-style headlines

We use Founders Grotesk Medium headlines which sit in a caption-style coloured box. Leave an even space all the way around the text so the box isn't too tight to the text but also isn't dwarfing the text.

Headlines can either be on one or two decks depending on the space, format and context of the message.

When headlines are two decks, the boxes should be different colours and there should not be a gap between them. Where the sentence carries onto another deck, do not capitalise the first word of the second deck.

Caption-style headlines should never be three or more decks.

When using an angled caption-style headline, it should always be angled at 4°, angled upwards to the right. Please do not guess the angle or do this by eye.



Be true, be you

Be true, be you



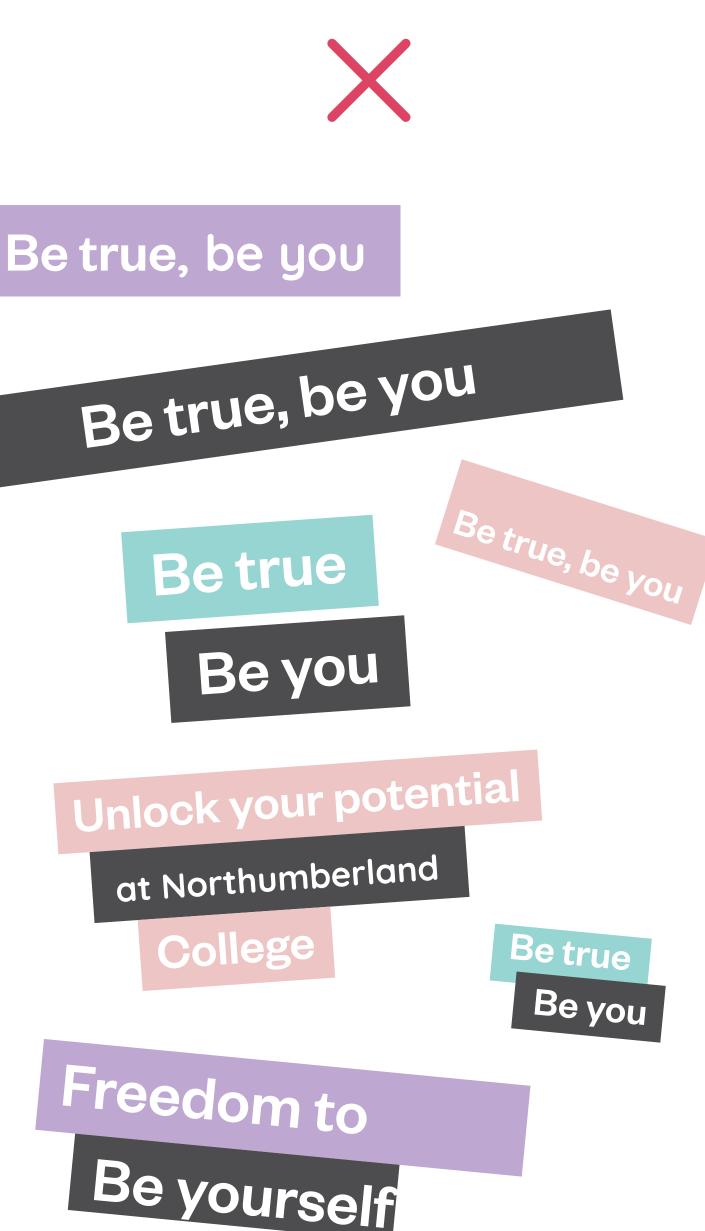
be you

Unlock your

potential

Freedom to

be yourself



Design examples (print)



Access to **Higher Education**





Find the T Level for you at 📉 Hartlepool Sixth Form College









Creative, Digital & Computing offers a dynamic range of programmes designed to ignite your creativity and technological prowess.

ing Arts, Music, and Media, or vibrant world of digital and creative industrie tography, Visual and Digital Arts ou can immerse yourself in cutting-edge elds like Games, VFX, and Animation, or This subject area fosters an inspiring environment for you to develop your talent Arrises the power of computing and esports. Our state-of-the-art facilities and outstanding faculty provide an inspiring environment to

NORTHUMBERLAND.AC.UK

> T Level Media (Foundation) > Digital Media: Film School > T Level Media, Broadcast & Production (Content Creation) > Visual Art > Music (Performance & Technology) > Creative Media Practice

> Creative Media Skills OUR FACILITIES

You will have access to ind ftware and state of the art fa our Media House, equipped with recording tudios and photography studios, our outstanding Arts Academy with photo nusic and dance studios, and 200-se

l wanted a creative route to studying, so I really loved the practical approach the course offered."

Advanced Manufacturing Engineering & Construction Industries Skills Centre • A centre of excellence for electrical, mechanic transport, construction, housing, retrofi and wider renewable technologies.	and and and a second second	Calege Block Digital classrooms, virtual reality environments and aso-degree immersive suite. Simulated nospital ward and science labs. Usuaness, tourism, and hospitality training facilities. Cachnical training suites. Cachnical training	
		Careers, Inform - Future Ready Sk	https://www.action.org/actio
Revolutionising educ & skills in Northumb		Student welfare Auditorium. Compus café and	
purpose-built net zero campus do purpose-built net zero campus at Wansbeck Business Park. Supported by the Department for Education (DfE), the campus will offer state-of-the-art	Featuring three buildings, the transformative project will create an immersive industry experience for thousands of learners and revolutionise the education and skills landscape.	Northumberland	Advance Northumberland

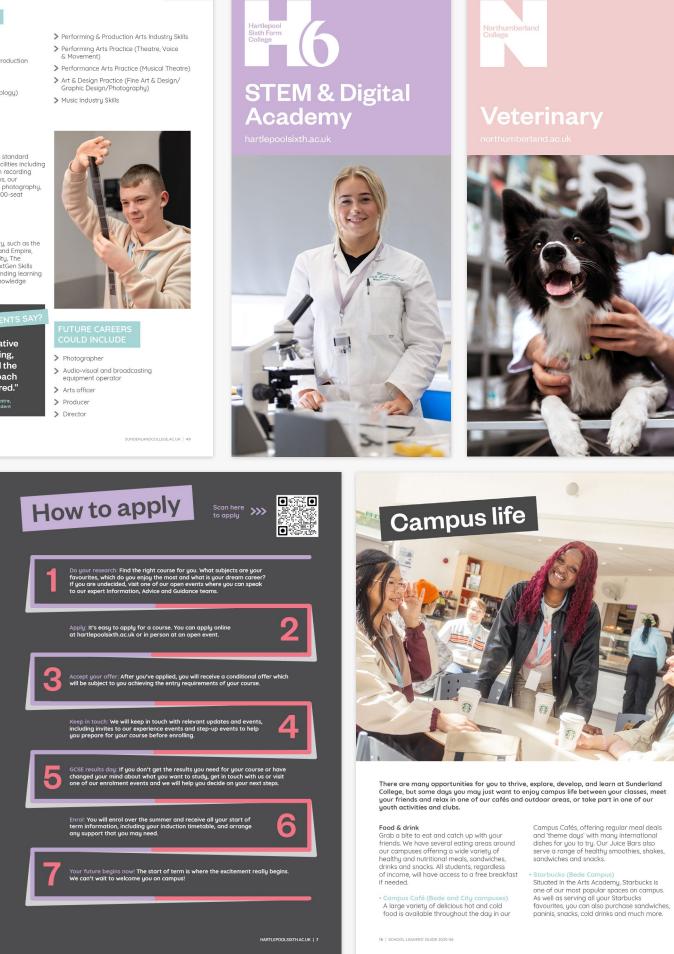
Academies & Pathways

Our exclusive Academies each have several pathways, so gou can follow a bespoke programme of study that is tailored to your future ambitions, whether that is progressing to university or into employment. ociology; When choosing what to study, it's important to consider subjects that link, cross over or complement each other, or ones that are required by universities. We recommend you have at least 5 GCSEs at grades 4-9 to apply GCSE Package) nanities A-Levels: English Language; English Literature; Geography; History; Politics ourses within one of our Academie A-Levels: Law; Criminology T Levels: Legal Services Arts A-Levels: Art & Design; ccounting Games Design, Animation & VFX (NextGen); A-Levels: Business usiness & Skills for the Creative Studies; Economics; T Levels: Business; Business (Foundation) Industries (Games De forming Creative Music Productio Music; Performing Arts Marketing & Communication A-Levels: Media Studies a & Film A-Levels: Film Studies; Media Studies T Levels: Media, Broadcast & Production A-Levels: Biology; Chemistry; Maths; Phys Medicine, Dentistry & T Levels: Laboratori cience T Levels: Adult Nursing; Health & Science (Found Health A-Levels: Computer Science T Levels: Digital Production, Design & Development ocial Care Health & Social Care T Levels: Education & Childcare (Early Years Educator); Education & T Levels: Animal Care Animal Care & Management Maths, Physics A-Levels: Further Maths; & Engineering Maths; Maths; Physics T Levels: Engineering; Engineering (Foundation)
 Sports
 A-Levels: Biology; Physical Education; Psychology

 Sports
 Sport & Exercise Science; Coaching

 Sport & Fitness
 Sport Coaching; Sport
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Our campus is an innovative place to learn with specialist staff and state-of-the-art facilities. With a welcoming, inspiring and supportive environment where everyone matters, our students have the freedom to be themselves and get excited about their future.

Where you can find us We are located on Blakelock Boad on the site of the former Brinkburn Grammar School, a short distance from Hartlepool town centre.



troughout 2024-25 we will be opening ditional catering facilities at Bede campus icluding a new café, providing more option: or our students to choose from.

Details of opening times are published on the Student Life intranet with weekly menus and any new offers. The College currently operat a cash and contactless payment system.

All our food and drink outlets have a 5-star food hyglene rating!

Enrichment le are committed to providing an enviro where students can grow and develop by offering a wide range of wellbeing activitie across our campuses. Join in volunteering and social action projects with the Duke of Edinburgh Award, National Citizenship Servi and Good for Me, Good for FE, one of our college clubs and societies or take part in veekly themed events.

Tange of software, available for students to use on a drop-in basis. Students are expected to improve their awareness of, and skills in, information technology (IT). There are many staff who can support you in your use of IT. The College has campus-wide Wi-FL which enables students to access the internet and complete their college work using their own, or college, devices.











Design examples (print)



Enrol now to secure your place.

hartlepoolsixth.ac.uk

Enrol today.

Northumberland



Proud to be Outstanding.

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

We've been rated Outstanding in every area by Ofsted 2024.





learn is a gift, the ability to learnisa skill, the willingness skill, the arnis a choice beam is a choice

Design examples (screen)



Feeling a bit unsure about your course choice?

You may be able to SWITCH to a different course. Please speak to your tutor or attend our drop-in sessions in our Future Ready Hubs with our Careers Guidance Team from 16 September until 17 October.

No booking is required.

Scan for more information



Hartlepool Sixth Form College

91% overall pass rate

for A-Levels Student Achievement Rates 2022-23

Study your A-Levels / with us in September.





Unsure about your course choice?

You may be able to SWITCH to a different course here at Sunderland College.

Design examples (bespoke)

We use an alternative design treatment for beskpoke, out-of-home marketing materials for a mass audience (not targeted).

We use this bespoke design for special projects such as partnerships or themed events.

We retain the colour palette associated with the college but only as a secondary colour. The dominant colours are tertiary grey and black.

Depending on the location and message, we may introduce colours not featured in our brand guidelines (for example, Sunderland AFC-related marketing activity uses red to tie in with the team's brand colours.







Join Sunderland College

Be part of the top performing college group in the North East.*

Apply now.

Northumberland College Join the top performing land-based college in the North East.*

*National Achievement Rates Tables 2023-24, 16-18 year-olds Apply now.

Open Events

Sunderland

College

14 November City Campus

16 November Bede Campus

Book now sunderlandcollege.ac.uk

Hartlepool Sixth Form College is the top performing sixth form college in the North East*

*(National Achievement Rates Tables, specialist sixth form providers, 2023)

Apply now.

hartlepoolsixth.ac.uk

Campaign background



Be true, be you campaign

Our **Be true, be you** (BTBY) campaign celebrates individuality and reminds people that being unique is a strength, not something to hide. It aims to boost selfconfidence by reassuring students they don't need to change to succeed, fostering self-worth and empowerment.

This inclusive message resonates with anyone who has felt pressure to conform or struggled with self-acceptance, offering a universal reminder that everyone can relate to, regardless of background or interests.

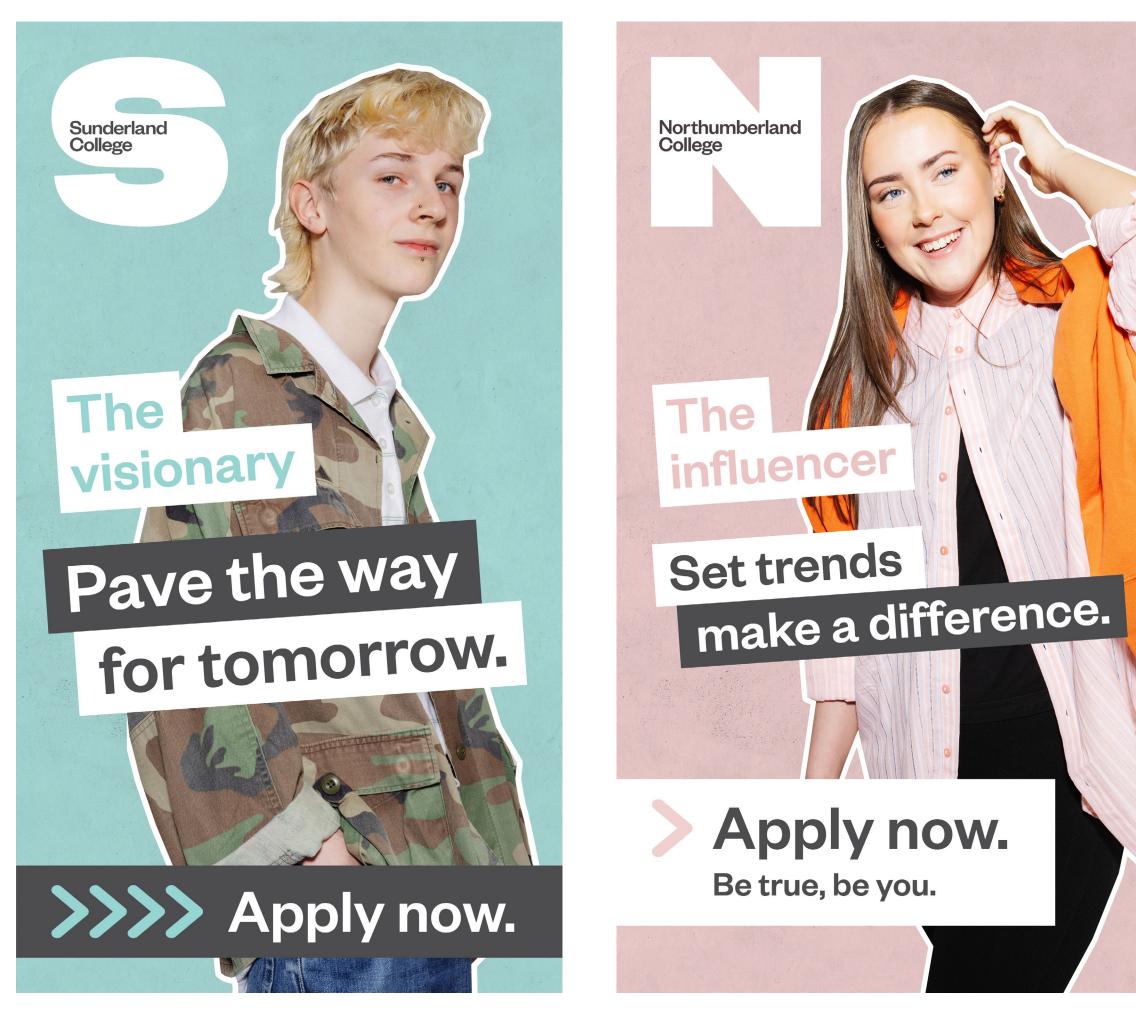
Our 22 BTBY student models have all been assigned a label such as "The leader" or "The free spirit" which they will carry for any BTBY campaign or artwork, only when their studio cut outs used. They have also been assigned a main college to represent.



Be true, be you campaign

Guidelines for using BTBY labels:

- Capital letter on "The" but not on the following word
- > Labels should be presented as caption-style text
- If label is 6 letters or less, use only one line (see "The leader" example)
- > If label is 7 letters or more use two lines. It should never go on 3 decks
- Ensure that, if using two lines of caption-style text, the caption boxes are the same colour
- > Do not put a full stop after a label
- > Do not mix and match labels and students
- > Only select students can be assigned a label





Contact

These guidelines will be reviewed and updated annually by the Marketing team to ensure they remain relevant and up to date. Any updates will be communicated to relevant stakeholders accordingly.

For any questions about these guidelines, please contact the Marketing team at marketing@educationpartnershipne.ac.uk.







