

Dear Mrs Russell

I would like to point out there is already an Outstanding provider of A Levels within the Forest of Dean, Hartpury College. With circa 1700 FE students including 200 A Level students plus 1600 university students, there are plans to grow the A Level provision to 300. This is partly in response to current research that suggests that for a high quality A Level student experience, the cohort should consist of at least 250 students. This also allows for multiple specialist staff supporting standardisation amongst tutors and therefore maximising quality. Currently our growth plans project our A Levels numbers being closer to 300 in September 2019.

Hartpury College and the Local Enterprise Partnership has already invested significant sums of money into the College campus. The College recently invested £3.2m in a state of the art College Learning Centre for A Level students, a flexible learning space to support classroom delivery, group and independent study. GFirst LEP also supported development of the laboratories recently to enhance A Level delivery for science subjects. In addition the College has been successful in obtaining LEP funds to support a state of the art Agri-Tech Centre which will not only add value to the county economy but also expose students to the latest science and technology in this sector. As such, these examples coupled with £50m investment in the overall campus facilities and infrastructure over the last 20 years suggest that Hartpury is well placed to deliver A Level provision within the Forest of Dean.

We point this out to correct the impression given by some that no A Level providers exist in the Forest of Dean.

Yours sincerely
Russell Marchant
Principal & CEO of Hartpury College

Thank you for your response.