



## City Lit Accountability Statement 2023-24



# City Lit's Social & Community Approach



City Lit's purpose is "Bringing people together to enrich lives through learning." This means we endeavour to enrich and enhance the lives of individuals and communities in London and beyond.

The highest quality learning is the core of what we do, but we deliver more than just knowledge and skills, we also 'bring people together': working to build communities and enhance physical and mental wellbeing. We are passionate about this work. We believe that the opportunity City Lit gives for individuals to learn and mix with people from a wide range of backgrounds and life experiences is a key part of the way in which we enrich lives; the value of this positive experience of a diverse community is so important. We create social and community wealth as well as giving an outstanding educational experience.



## Our Purpose:

*Bringing people together to enrich lives through learning*

### Goals

Goal 1: We put our audience at the heart of everything we do

Goal 2: We will build back sustainably to support our diverse communities' needs

Goal 3: We will help shape the future of learning for life

### Deliverables /Activities

Better supporting different life stages

Curriculum strategy

We contribute to improving the well-being of Londoners

Widening participation

Expanding national reach

Increasing City Lit's impact

Enhancing Government and Mayoral relations and partnership working

### Pillars

People

Teaching & Learning

Learning Environment

Business Support



# Quality of provision



City Lit were recognised as an Outstanding provider in May 2023, achieving 'outstanding' in all categories:

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Adult learning programmes	Outstanding

*"The college makes a strong contribution to meeting skills needs. Leaders and managers have a good understanding of the skills needs they meet. They work very effectively with stakeholders, who value the role that the college plays in offering flexible, accessible and relevant courses that meet a varied range of needs within the capital and beyond. Leaders, managers and staff ensure that the curriculum remains focused on both the skills that employers need most, and the skills that individuals need to gain and remain in employment."*

judged as strong on skills - Ofsted

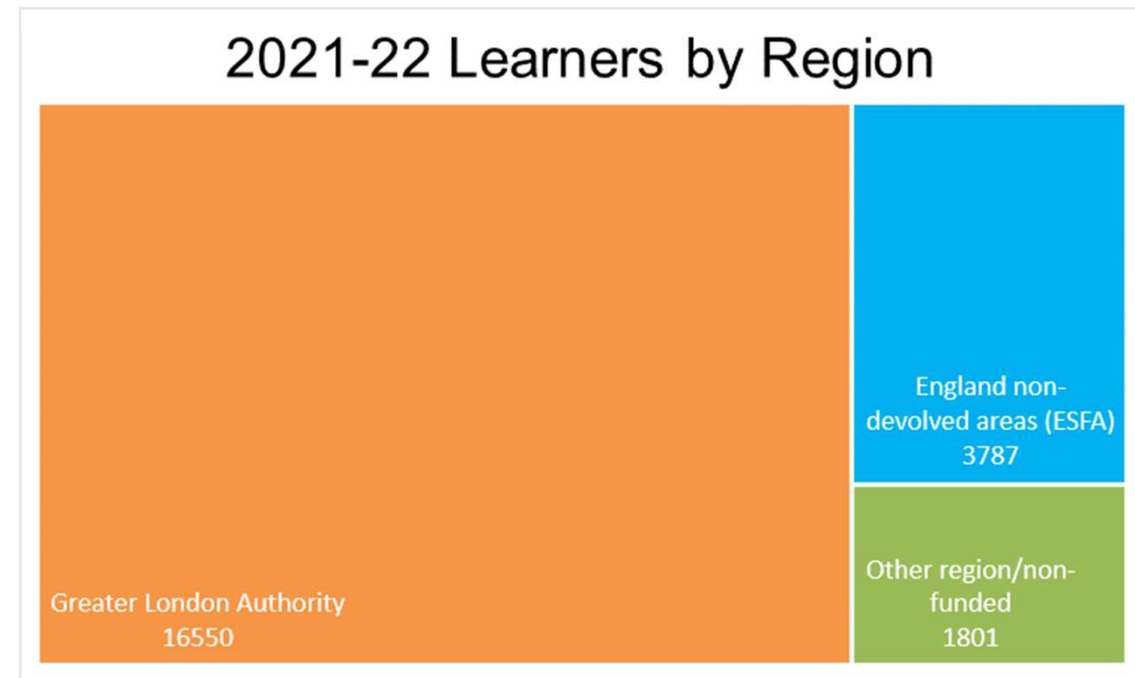


*“Ofsted’s acknowledgement of your strong contribution to meeting London’s skills needs and your focus on opening up adult education provision, for example through your offer to deaf and hard-of-hearing Londoners demonstrates our shared commitment to delivering on my ambition.”*

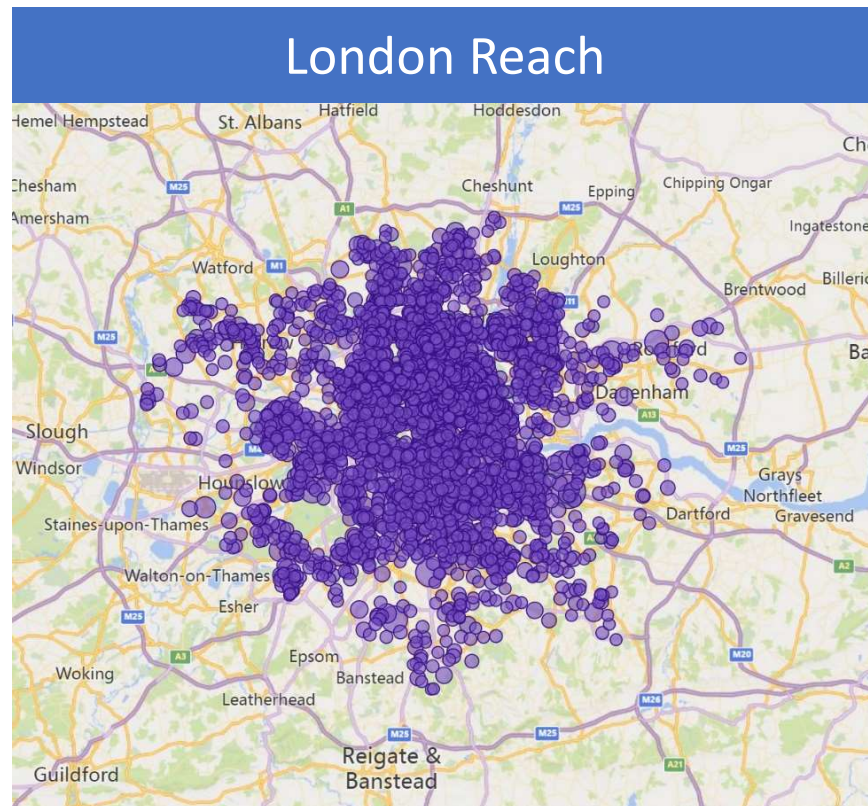
**Sadiq Khan - Mayor of London**

We are England's leading adult education provider. Located in central London, we serve nearly 17,000 Londoners, almost 4,000 learners from ESFA non-devolved areas, and nearly 2,000 non-funded learners annually

## Context and place...



# We attract students from across London and beyond





# Serving learners beyond London

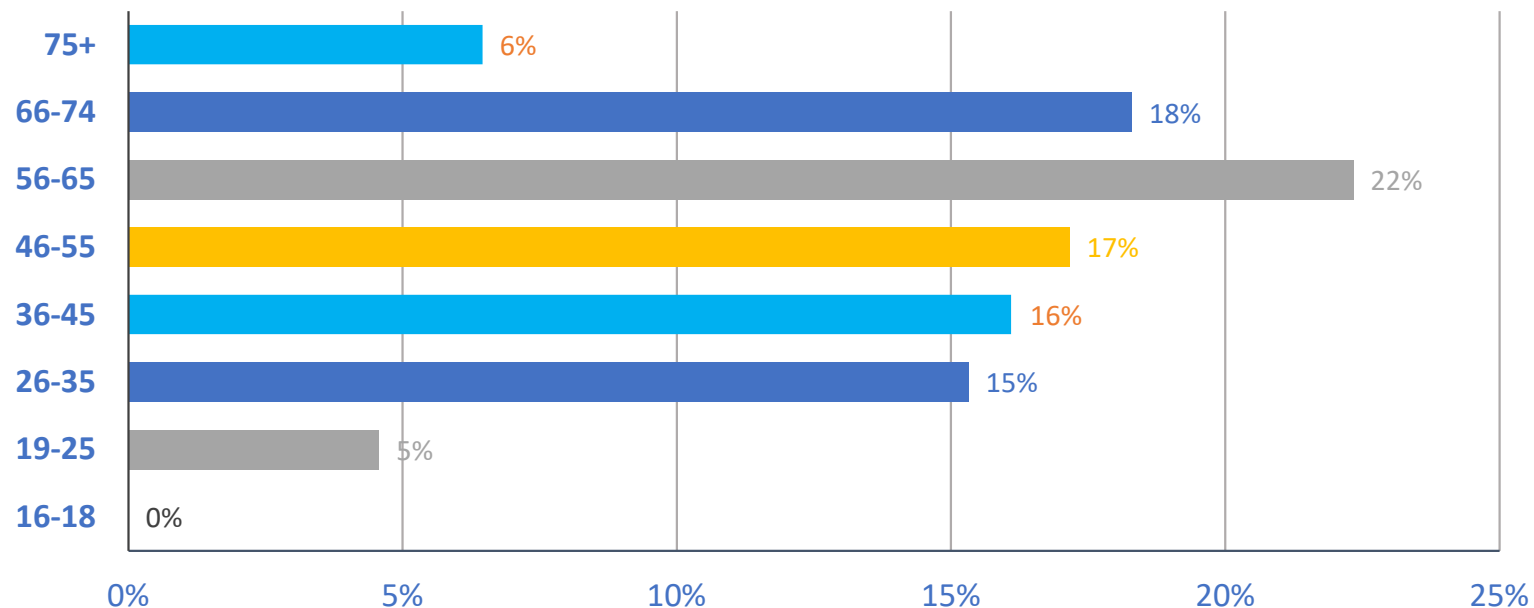
City Lit serves nearly 4,000 learners living outside of London in non-devolved areas. These learners will access learning through either access our extensive range of synchronous online courses, or by travelling into London to access in-person learning. Many of these learners work in London as commuters, attending evening classes after work.





# Our students by age

As an adult college, our learners range in age from 19 to later life, including some students in their 80s and 90s. Given the diversity of our student base, we have people who are: unemployed; self-employed; in early stages of employment; have careers they wish to enhance; looking to change their job or career; and those who are retired but still want to self-develop and contribute to society. Skills acquisition ranks highest in our learner intent and outcome statistics.



*“It is particularly encouraging to see how people of all ages and backgrounds come together at City Lit to challenge themselves and transform their lives. If education can be defined as ‘training for life’, then lifelong learning and its ability to unlock potential throughout people’s lives should be accepted as part of life.”*

**HRH The Princess Royal**

We are  
famous for...



- Our inclusive offer - subjects, levels and being open and accessible
- Being open seven days a week, from 8am to 10pm
- The quality of our teaching, delivered by subject matter experts and leaders in their field of study
- Our arts provision that has launched the careers of many artists, writers and actors
- Our internationally-renowned Centre for Adult Speech Therapy
- Our annual Mental Wealth Festival – partnering with the Mayor of London, Corporation of London, Royal Opera House, National Gallery, Mind, Samaritans....
- 25 years of Deaf Day - the biggest national event for the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community
- Our portfolio of over 30 languages at different levels, including Cornish, Hungarian, Hindi and classical languages such as Biblical Hebrew

# Our approach to Skills

A broad definition  
of “skills”

A focus on the Creative  
Industries

Our new School of Skills  
Employment  
and Wellbeing

Progress to Higher  
Education and further  
study

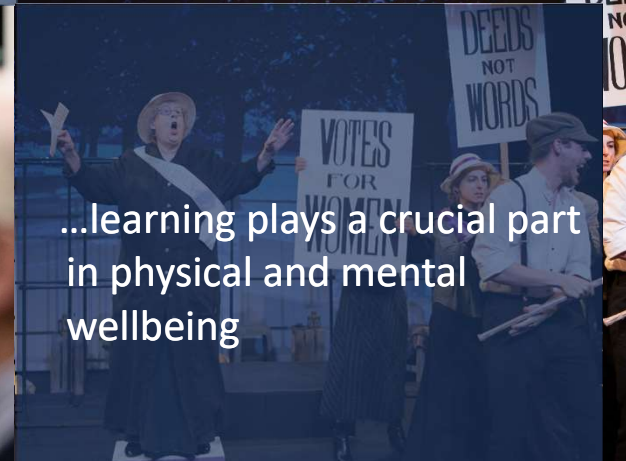
Supporting second and  
third careers

Focus on areas of specific  
disadvantage

“ *City Lit supports tens of thousands of Londoners to pursue and achieve their aspirations and gain the valuable skills needed to progress into further learning, access good work, participate in their local communities and lead happier, healthier lives.* ”

Jules Pipe CBE, Deputy Mayor for Planning, Regeneration and Skills

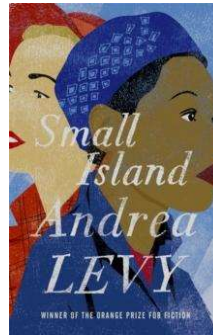




# Curriculum breadth



We provide over 5,000 courses, 7 days a week, 46 weeks a year. Our offer is diverse covering skills, well-being, humanities, languages, visual arts, performing arts, and we are a center of excellence for adult speech therapy, Deaf and hard-of-hearing students, and for adults with learning disabilities





# Developing the Plan – engagement with key stakeholders



Employer engagement



Civic stakeholder  
engagement



Professional  
associations

*We engage with a wide range of stakeholders in addition to funding bodies and ERBs to inform curriculum design and enrich our learners' opportunities for development or progression.*

# Civic stakeholder engagement



**Our civic stakeholders** include national and regional organisations, including:

- Greater London Authority
- Education & Skills Funding Agency
- Department for Education
- Learning & Work Institute
- HOLEX
- Association of Colleges
- Institutes of Adult Learning

City Lit contributes to shaping the policy for adult education in London and nationally and ensures its currency related to the latest societal and economic priorities. Through our political engagement, stakeholder and partnership working, we ensure that the benefits of adult education to individuals, economy and society are recognised and advocated for.

We partner with the **British Museum** to provide adult education provision relevant to their major exhibitions, as well co-delivering **Classics Day**, with the likes of Dame Mary Beard and Bettany Hughes taking part each year.

Our Learning Disabilities learners work with learners from the **Royal Ballet** and the **Royal Academy of Music** co-producing performances across the capital; and we work with the **National Gallery** to deliver art appreciation and wellbeing events and courses.

For the last 25 years City Lit has been the founder and host of **Deaf Day**, the biggest and most significant Deaf and hard-of-hearing event in UK, partnering with over 50 organisations and welcoming over 3,000 of the Deaf community to the college.



# Employer engagement



**Our work with employers**, both local, regional and national, leads to the curriculum that reflects the appropriate knowledge, skills, and industry standards and provides a gateway into a range of sectors. Our relationships with employers and professional bodies support our learners in three ways:

- 1. Employers share intelligence with City Lit about skills shortages or offer learners work placement, employment, and volunteering opportunities. Some occasionally run workshops for learners about aspects of self-employment.**
- 2. Professional associations offer opportunities for learners to join the professional communities of practice, supporting their future CPD and career progression.**
- 3. Employers whose workforce improves core skills and productivity through the City Lit's tailored learning programmes.**

# Engagement with professional associations



City Lit departments are either leading partners, or active members, of professional associations. These bodies include:

- British Stammering Association
- Association of BSL Teachers and Assessors
- Association of Teachers of Lipreading to Adults (ATLA),
- British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP)
- British Association for Counselling
- Complementary Therapists Association
- Federation of Holistic Therapists
- Royal National Institute for the Deaf (RNID)
- Crafts Council
- Designer Bookbinders & The Society of Bookbinders
- The Society of Scribes & Illuminators
- The Basket makers Association & The Worshipful company of Basket Makers
- Goldsmiths Livery Company
- Royal Society of Sculptors
- Calligraphy & Lettering Arts Society
- The Guild of Photographers & Association of Photographers
- Printmakers Council & Royal Society of Painter Printmakers
- Heritage crafts association

# Contribution to national, regional & local priorities

Aim/objective	Match to National/regional/local priorities	Current position	Target	By when
Continue to deliver a digital skills offer informed by the sector that addresses skills needs, including growing accredited progression pathways.	Digital skills: local (Business LDN, Genius Hub); regional (GLA); National (ESFA/DfE)	823 enrolments	952 enrolments	End of 2023-24
Continue to focus vocational training pathways in key Health and Social Care professions including continuing professional development	Health and Social Care; local (Business LDN, BACP, employers) ; regional (GLA); National (ESFA/DfE)	819 enrolments	848 enrolments	
Grow creative vocational qualification offer	Creative (Business LDN); regional (GLA)	0	12 level 3 vocational certificate learners	End of 2023-24
Increase ESOL participation	Essential/transferable skills: local (Business LDN); regional (GLA)	254	300	End of 2023-24
<u>Increase numeracy participation</u>	Essential/transferable skills: local (Business LDN); regional (GLA)	120	200	End of 2023-24
Deliver innovative numeracy CPD programme to support Multiply delivery	Essential/transferable skills: regional (GLA Multiply programme)	0	10 new numeracy tutors trained	Easter 2024
Expand / extend reach of lipreading teacher training and BSL teacher training programmes	Essential communication skills; National priority identified by City Lit	38 enrolments	42 enrolments	End of 2023-24
Contribute to the national development of special educational areas and continuing professional development in those areas.			Continuing to deliver and grow the biggest national Deaf and hard of hearing event, Deaf Day. Deliver two national conferences in the areas of learning disabilities, speech therapy and lip-reading.	End of 2023-24
Further invest in best-of-breed Virtual Learning Environment to enhance impact of online learning	Increase national reach	Google Classrooms	Best-of-breed alternative	End of 2023-24



# Corporation statement

- On behalf of City Lit, it is hereby confirmed that the plan as set out above, was approved Governing Body at their meeting on 18 May 2023.
- [www.citylit.ac.uk](http://www.citylit.ac.uk)