NORTHERN Regional College

November Media Review 2020

from 01/11/2020 to 30/11/2020



Causeway Coast Community | 29/11/2020

Media Source Online Visits 13,667

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Invest in Belfast | 27/11/2020

Media Source Online Visits 5,000

£850m City Deal investment nears important milestone



...Belfast, Ulster University and the regional Further Education Colleges (Belfast Metropolitan College; Northern Regional College; Southern Regional College and South Eastern Regional College). For further information...

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News Letter | 27/11/2020

Media Source Online Visits 146,379

Also published in Belfast City Council [+ 1 more]

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News Letter | 26/11/2020

Media Source Press Page 18

Circulation 13,710

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As a caring learning institution we aim to serve our local community through providing an inclusive, child-centred environment in which all students achieve their full potential.

Our college is rightly proud of its longstanding reputation of academic achievement and extra-curricular opportunities and we regard the education of our pupils as a partnership between the young people, their parents, the school and the local community.

We are absolutely delighted to be located in our stateof-the-art school building from January, 2018.

This £20million investment has brought all of our pupils and staff together on one site, and our current enrolment figure has risen to 955 pupils.

Each classroom is equipped with new technology, including interactive panels which enhance the teaching and learning opportunities for our pupils, and our sporting provision has been enhanced by our AstroTurf facility, five tennis courts, two indoor sports halls and a fitness suite.

Our new grass sporting facilities have been in use from January, 2020.

Each year the school attracts pupils from a diverse range of feeder primary schools and from all religious and ethnic backgrounds and traditions. Building upon the college's integrated ethos, we are striving forward with continued efforts aimed at addressing the religious balance within the school and welcome children from all faiths and none.

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Media Source Press Page 31

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Northern Regional College students sock it to the bullies

India Marks and Carly Weir, Performing Arts students at Northern Regional College's Coleraine campus, showed off their odd socks in support of Anti-Bullying Week 2020.

Odd Socks Day, organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, encourages people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality. Participants were invited to

make a donation to support the organisation. Northern Regional College participated in Anti-Bullying Week 2020 each year to raise awareness of the damage that bullying can do.

Stephen McCartney, Head of Student Services at the college, said: "Bullying can take many forms so it is really important to highlight that bullying is something we

must all tackle together. Northern Regional College strongly supports the Anti-Bullying Alliance. Odd Socks Day was designed to celebrate what makes us unique and we want our students to respect each other because of their differences."

India Marks and Carly Weir show off their odd socks

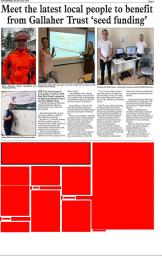




Ballymena Guardian | 26/11/2020

Media Source Press Page

Circulation 13,725



Catherine made her pprenticeship count

A former Ballymena Academy pupil who joined the staff of Northern Regional College in 2015 as a finance apprentice has just completed her final professional exams and is on track to become a chartered

track to become a chartered accountant.
As a trainee accountant, Catherine Shiels successfully completed a two-year Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) in Accountancy at the College's Coleraine campus in 2017.
For the next three years, while working full-time, she studied part-time with Chartered Accountants Ireland and has just completed her final Admitting Exams.
When she completes her fourth and final year as a trainee accountant next

final year as a trainee accountant next summer, Catherine can apply for professional membership as a fully-fledged chartered accountant.

HISTORY

Catherine completed a History degree before deciding to pursue an accountancy career. "As I was interested in accountancy, I felt the HLA was an excellent option.

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"The practice-based HLA really pepaled to me and I felt that working four days and studying one day in the College was the perfect balance," Catherine said.

She continued: "The practical nature of the course was really helpful.

"I was able to apply what I was learning in class to my job straight away and this really helped my understanding."

Now that she is on the cusp of becoming a chartered accountant, Catherine hopes to continue working in the public sector and said she would recommend the 'earn as you learn' HLA route to anyone with an interested in a career in accountancy.

"It's a strong progression route to further study and a professional qualification.

"An added bonus is that the course was fully funded by my employer, so I didn't have to pay any fees. It's a great way to get a professional qualification and relevant work experience without the burden of student debt."

Congratulating Catherine on passing her Final Admitting Exams, College Accountant and Catherine's line manager Kim Craig, said she was delighted with her success.

"The HLA in Accountancy is an excellent training programme. Catherine was recruited as a Finance Apprentice for the two-year duration of the HLA programme and this gave her the opportunity to apply what she was learning in class to the varied daily tasks learning in class to the varied daily tasks she was performing as part of the College finance function.

EXPERIENCE

During her two years as an HLA apprentice, Catherine gained experience in all areas within the Finance section and was able to build on this knowledge and experience when she took up the position of Trainee Chartered Accountant with the College and began studying with Chartered Accountant Ireland in 2017," she explained.

Kim added: ""I have thoroughly enjoyed training and working alongside Catherine over the last five years on her journey to becoming a fully qualified Chartered Accountant."







Ballymena meeting hears £850 million City Deal investment nears important milestone

...Belfast, Ulster University and the regional Further Education Colleges (Belfast Metropolitan College; Northern Regional College; Southern Regional College and South Eastern Regional College). For further information...

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southantrimvox.co.uk | 19/11/2020

Media Source Online Visits 5,000

Tiny owl found inside Rockefeller Christmas tree

...all adds up for Laura! 19th November 2020 A Ballycastle woman who completed a Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) in Accountancy at Northern Regional College has just qualified as a chartered accountant....

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Ballymena Times | 19/11/2020

Media Source Online Visits 52,859

Also published in Larne Times [+ 1 more]

£100k Mid and East Antrim funding for 'employment academies'

...commence later this month for 30 participants. A welding academy will be delivered in partnership with Northern Regional College and is a five-week intensive reskilling training course. However, it has experienced...

CONTINUE READING



News Letter | 18/11/2020

Media Source Online Visits 146,379

Also published in Ballymoney Moyle Times [+ 1 more]

Northern Regional College students sock to the bullies

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Telegraph

Belfast Telegraph | 16/11/2020

Media Source Press Page 18

Circulation 32,538

Also published in Northwest Telegraph

Living with a disability is easier than changing attitudes to it

TWO people living with a disability have said big challenges still remain even 25 years since the introduction of landmark anti-discrimination laws.

In 1995, mass protests including wheelchair users in London handcuffing themselves to buses and demonstrations outside Parliament led to the passing of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA).

Although it represented a watershed moment for disability rights, significant gaps remained in enforcing the policy in areas like employment and public transport.

Patricia Bray from Londonderry, aged in her 60s, has been an amputee since the age of six. She said social isolation for disabled people during Covid-19 has become a major problem and that changing attitudes remains "the biggest barrier".

"There was something exciting when that act came in. There was a lot of demonstrations in England, but the disability movement in Northern Ireland wasn't up and running as well as it is now because of the Troubles even though we have a higher percentage of people with disabilities," she said.

"Twenty-five years later there has been changes. You notice on TV you have interpreters and that type of thing. Most new buildings have minimum requirements for accessibility but they're not always 100%.

"Recently I was up at my husband's doctor and there was a sign to say the disabled toilet was out of order, because they had installed permanent chairs beside it which stopped wheelchair users getting in. That's last year and they still couldn't get it right."

During welfare reform, she said media reports depicting disabled people claiming benefits as "spongers" had been harmful.

"That really reinforced negative attitudes to people with disabilities. "I would say that social isolation has also been a big issue. Often the people who are paid to care for them are the only people they see. That's even more so in rural areas and it's been reinforced by Covid."

While technology like laptops has greatly improved the lives of many disabled people, she said many from low income families were priced out.

"That's actually quite a high number of people. It costs three times as much to raise a child with a disability, with added expense for things like specialised shoes. Often one parent will have to give up work meaning they go from a two income to a one income house.

"Another thing that retail don't pick up on, is that disabled people will often plan one big outing to the shops. They spend a lot more money in one go, so that purple

pound hasn't really been used well enough."

Joe Forbes (24) from Newtownabbey became a wheelchair user in 2013 after a fall at work and also has a moderate learning disability.

"Life changed for me, I had no idea what life would be like as a wheelchair user in Northern Ireland," he said. "I started experiencing things that didn't seem right.

"There's still a long way to go in terms of access to public transport. Trying to get a train conductor to get a ramp down, for example, can be a bit of a nightmare sometimes.

"I still see a change in how people treat me every day. People will talk to those directly behind me instead. They always assume that someone in a wheelchair can't talk. It's really not fair and not nice when they do that."

Currently studying for a qualification in childcare with Northern Regional College, Joe said a lack of opportunities for people with disabilities to socialise during the pandemic had hit him hard.

"I have to say my confidence has actually dropped because I haven't been out and about," he said.

Joe Forbes

Patricia Bray from Derry MARTIN McKEOWN





Northern Regional College sock it to bullies in support of Anti-Bullying Week

INDIA Marks and Carly Weir, Performing Arts students at Northern Regional College, stand out as they show off their odd socks in support of Anti-Bullying Week 2020. Odd Socks Day, organised by the Anti-Bullying...





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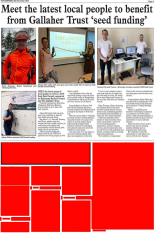




Ballymena Guardian | 26/11/2020

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		218,554	182.12 €

£100k Mid and East Antrim funding for 'employment academies'

Published in: Larne Times, News Letter

Total Printrun:	Total Circulation	Total Visits	Sum of AVE:
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Northern Regional College students sock to the bullies

Published in: Ballymoney Moyle Times, Coleraine Times

Total Printrun:	Total Circulation	Total Visits	Sum of AVE:
		189,458	157.88 €

Living with a disability is easier than changing attitudes to it

Published in: Northwest Telegraph

Total Printrun:	Total Circulation	Total Visits	Sum of AVE:
63,328	35,594		7,473.91 €

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