



NEW COLLEGE DURHAM

We, the undersigned, commit to honour the Armed Forces Covenant and support the Armed Forces Community. We recognise the value Serving Personnel, both Regular and Reservists, Veterans and military families contribute to our business and our country.

Signed on behalf of:

NEW COLLEGE DURHAM

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'John Widdowson'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Name: **JOHN WIDDOWSON**

Position: **PRINCIPAL AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Date: **4 May 2018**



New College Durham

The Armed Forces Covenant

An Enduring Covenant Between

The People of the United Kingdom
Her Majesty's Government

– and –

All those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces of the Crown

And their Families

The first duty of Government is the defence of the realm. Our Armed Forces fulfil that responsibility on behalf of the Government, sacrificing some civilian freedoms, facing danger and, sometimes, suffering serious injury or death as a result of their duty. Families also play a vital role in supporting the operational effectiveness of our Armed Forces. In return, the whole nation has a moral obligation to the members of the Naval Service, the Army and the Royal Air Force, together with their families. They deserve our respect and support, and fair treatment.

Those who serve in the Armed Forces, whether Regular or Reserve, those who have served in the past, and their families, should face no disadvantage compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services. Special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

This obligation involves the whole of society: it includes voluntary and charitable bodies, private organisations, and the actions of individuals in supporting the Armed Forces. Recognising those who have performed military duty unites the country and demonstrates the value of their contribution. This has no greater expression than in upholding this Covenant.

Section 1: Principles Of The Armed Forces Covenant

1.1 We **New College Durham** will endeavour in our business dealings to uphold the key principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, which are:

- *no member of the Armed Forces Community should face disadvantage in the provision of public and commercial services compared to any other citizen*
- *in some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate especially for the injured or bereaved.*

Section 2: Demonstrating our Commitment

2.1 **New College Durham** recognises the value serving personnel, reservists, veterans and military families bring to our business. We will seek to uphold the principles of the Armed Forces Covenant, by:

- *promoting the fact that we are an armed forces-friendly organisation via our website;*
- *striving to support the employment of Service spouses and partners;*
- *support our employees who chose to be members of the reserve or cadet forces, allowing for ten days special leave for attendance at annual camp, via our special leave policy;*
- *endeavouring to offer a degree of flexibility in granting annual leave for Service spouses and partners before, during and after a partner's deployment;*
- *aiming to actively participate in Armed Forces Day and commemorating Remembrance day each year with a military theme;*
- *actively engaging with current and former members of the armed forces, to provide delivery and guest speaker opportunities to our students;*
- *promoting the armed forces, and inviting members to attend at College Careers Events;*
- *actively involving our students at Army Recruitment Events;*
- *providing apprenticeship opportunities to Army Reservists.*

2.2 We will publicise these commitments through our literature and/or on our website.