

CASE STUDY



The UK Defence Sixth Form College (DSFC)

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Delivering education & training

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The DSFC is a centre of excellence for young people wishing to pursue successful careers as technical officers in the UK's Armed Forces and MOD Civil Service. The DSFC is one of the best performing educational establishments in the UK and is ranked in the top 1% of the 1,100 A level schools and colleges in the country.

THE TRAINING REQUIREMENT

Originally based on the Welbeck estate in Nottinghamshire, the college provided technical officers for the Army for over 50 years. The Defence Training Review in 2001 identified an increased need for technically trained officers across the Army, Navy, RAF and the MoD Civil Service. In addition to the academic learning programmes the armed forces need the DSFC to be more than just another sixth form college. There is an additional need to develop loyalty, teamwork and leadership skills through a broad range of activities and opportunities.

In 2003 a 30-year contract was signed with the Minerva Consortium, comprising Interserve, HSBC and TQ, to provide a purpose built facility based at Woodhouse near Loughborough.

THE TQ PROGRAMME

DSFC provides a stimulating learning environment and a culture of moral, academic and social discipline. All DSFC students join the combined cadet force and take part in regular military training activities, including a range of adventurous training pursuits.

The DSFC is a fully serviced, residential, technical sixth form college with a capacity of approximately 340 students. It is part of the UK's Defence Academy and provides first class A level education, particularly in Mathematics and Physics, together with physical education and personal development. TQ provides teaching staff to work alongside military personnel at the DSFC to enable students to develop their abilities and maximise their highest academic and personal potential. In addition to implementing and delivering a broad curriculum, TQ manages all educational learning resources as well as ICT, sport and pastoral care for the college.

MEASURING SUCCESS

All its graduates continue their education at University and go on to careers in the armed forces or civil service.

