What we do:

We are a large Further and Higher Education College Group, with 8 main campuses across Cornwall and Devon. Three of our Campus sites are large general FE campuses, and 5 are campuses with a specialist focus, from the rural economy to marine science and higher education. Our mission is to be the Career College in the South West, and we are proud of the collaborations we have with local businesses and our USP (universal, specialist and personal) approach to curriculum delivery.

Why we became a healthy workplace:

We are committed to supporting the physical, emotional and mental health of all our employees. Our employees are our greatest asset and our employee wellbeing agenda is a key part of our strategic intent. The Healthy Workplace assessment criteria has given us a framework to focus on, and has given us great ideas in terms of how we can improve our health and wellbeing offer for our employees.

Recent health and well being activities:

This year we have been focusing on both mental and physical health, and have once again been working with Healthy Cornwall to offer training opportunities for our employees. The Healthy Weight at Work Scheme was particularly popular with employees across our Cornwall campuses with over 100 people taking up the tanita scales challenge.

We are also really pleased that we're able to offer more training in understanding stress and how to reduce it from Healthy Cornwall.

We have created some new policies to support our employees when dealing with mental health problems, domestic violence and preventing musculoskeletal issues. And the information and resources we share with all employees through our Health and Wellbeing at Work intranet site continues to grow.

Plans aims for the next year:

Over the next year we will continue to build on what we've achieved by offering more opportunities for employees to attend training, specifically around mental health awareness. We are offering two opportunities for employees to attend Mental Health First Aid courses in work time, funded by the College.

We are also developing a Health and Wellbeing brand for promoting all the different healthy activities that happen across the Group. This will hopefully raise the profile of workplace health and wellbeing for all our employees.

Quote feedback from Director:

Achieving a Silver award this year is a fantastic acknowledgement of everything we've done so far. Our employees' health and wellbeing is very important to us and being part of this scheme gives us a great framework to build on in the future.