The Higher Level Apprenticeship Steady State phase is delivered across Further Education colleges.

Since the commencement of the steady state phase of the Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) programme, covering 2017/18, there have been a total of 327 enrolments (324 individuals) in the scheme in Further Education (FE) Colleges.

The largest proportion of students were aged 16-19, and....

Although not a majority, the largest proportion (38.0%) of individuals enrolled on HLAs at FE colleges, were in the age group ‘16-19’ and the smallest proportion (29.9%) in the age group ‘20-24’.

... more males than females are studying HLA steady state programmes.

There were nearly twice as many males (62.0%) enrolled on HLA steady state programmes as females (38.0%) in 2017/18.

Level 5 programmes were the majority undertaken.....

In 2017/18 nearly all (99.1%) of HLA steady state enrolments were at level 5, while the remainder (0.9%) were at level 4.

... most subjects were STEM related...

In 2017/18, enrolments identified as Broad STEM accounted for nearly three-fifths (59.6%) of all HLA steady state enrolments, while there were 56.6% in Narrow STEM subjects (a subset of Broad STEM).

...with the largest proportion of enrolments in ‘Engineering and manufacturing technologies’ and...

The subject area ‘Engineering and manufacturing technologies’ had the largest share (36.1%). This was followed by ‘Business, administration and law’ (28.4%).

..... there was variation in gender in terms of the course subject area.

The gender composition within subject areas varied greatly from 62.4% females within ‘Business, administration and law’ to 6.8% in ‘Engineering and manufacturing technologies’.