



MCC Connect

Issue 04

June 2026



MCC
BELIEVE. ACHIEVE. SUCCEED.

www.magnacartacollege.ac.uk

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1. Editor's note



Thought leadership

MCC's thought leadership is demonstrated by sharing expertise, driving innovation, and promoting best practices that help students achieve better outcomes and navigate their career choices with confidence and capacity.

Noorulain Zafer
Quality & Compliance,
MCC

Thought leadership is a core function for MCC in driving employability outcomes. With increasing numbers of young people **not in education, employment, or training (NEET)**, it is becoming increasingly important for educators to provide meaningful learning opportunities beyond the classroom. By fostering partnerships with employers, engaging industry experts, participating in conferences, and promoting continuous professional development (CPD), MCC ensures learners and staff remain connected to current industry trends and skills. This helps equip students with the knowledge, experience, and confidence needed for successful futures and to meet evolving workforce demands.

2. Alumni spotlight

Sumbal Manzoor is a higher education leader with extensive experience in academic leadership, management, and professional education. With over a decade of impact in higher education, Sumbal has led academic teams, shaped curricula, and trained more than 500 educators to deliver transformational learning experiences. Her career spans senior leadership roles, guiding higher education institutions through accreditation, programme development, and quality assurance, while also inspiring undergraduate and postgraduate students in business, management, and leadership. She is passionate about blending academic excellence with practical, real-world insights that empower both learners and institutions.

She holds an International MBA (Research Based) from Buckinghamshire New University (BNU) and is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA) and Chartered Manager (CMgr).

[Sumbal Manzoor](#)



3. Blog

Online MBA Specialisations Guide 2026: Which One is Right for You?

By Faran Arif

Being an Academic Support Officer, choosing an MBA specialisation in 2026 isn't about picking a subject but its about setting your career trajectory in keeping global market in view. As online MBA programs are becoming flexible, affordable and globally recognized, professionals now have the power to continue their education without pausing their career and could get more skills. But with so many options, **How will a student/professional will decide which specialisation to choose?**

Let's break it down intelligently.

How to choose the right program:
Before enrolling, ask yourself

- Where do you see yourself in 3-5 years?
- Do you prefer numbers, creativity, people or strategy?
- Which industries are growing and align with your interests?

If you already working professional, consider a specialisation that suits your current role or helps you transition smoothly into your desired field.



Why choose Magna Carta College:

1. Programs from UCAM are internationally recognized which gives your degree strong global value.
2. MBA degree is 100% online which means that you can study from anywhere, anytime and that is why it is perfect for working professionals who can maintain their career with education.
3. With Typically ranging between £2,500- £4,000, these programs are much economical as compared to other on-campus programs which is at least £15,000.

[TELL ME MORE.](#)

4. Learning Focus

Student Academic Experience Survey 2026

Student perceptions of their academic experience reach a decade-high despite the pressures facing higher education.

The 2026 Student Academic Experience Survey, published by Advance HE and the Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI), finds more students reporting good value for money and feeling positive about their choice of university than at any point in over a decade, even as financial pressures continue to shape the student experience.

The 2026 Student Academic Experience Survey (SAES), now entering its third decade since its launch in 2005-06, canvassed the views of more than 10,000 full-time undergraduate students studying at higher education institutions across the UK. The findings paint an encouraging picture of a sector delivering high-quality provision for students who are increasingly well-prepared to navigate the demands and opportunities of undergraduate life.

Access the full report [here](#)



5. Employee spotlight

Ahmed Dhimaj



“With faith, hard work, and consistency, every challenge becomes a stepping stone to something greater.”

Ahamedh Dhimaj is a Student Support Officer at Magna Carta College, where he plays an important role in ensuring students receive timely guidance and support throughout their academic journey.

He is responsible for assisting students with academic queries, administrative processes, and day-to-day institutional support, helping to create a smooth and positive learning experience within MCC.

In his role, Ahamedh works closely with students from diverse academic backgrounds, providing them with clear communication, problem-solving assistance, and continuous support. His focus is on improving student engagement and ensuring that learners feel supported at every stage of their studies.

Ahamedh is also actively involved in maintaining effective coordination between students and internal departments, contributing to the overall efficiency of student services. His approachable nature and commitment to helping others allow him to build strong professional relationships within the MCC community.

With a strong sense of responsibility, Ahamedh continues to develop his skills in student support and higher education. His work reflects MCC's values of academic excellence, student success, and continuous improvement.

6. Connect Corner

Advancing Women from Education to Enterprise: A Day of Inspiration at BNU Nottingham

On 19 June 2026, Magna Carta College brought together an extraordinary gathering of leaders, educators, entrepreneurs and changemakers at Buckinghamshire New University's Nottingham Campus for the Advancing Women from Education to Enterprise Conference. What followed was not simply a programme of speeches and panels. It was a morning that felt genuinely alive with purpose.

Noorulain Zafer, Head of Quality and Compliance at MCC, opened proceedings as Master of Ceremonies, welcoming guests and setting the tone for a conversation that would be honest, ambitious and deeply relevant.

Liz Bridgen, Head of Academic Practice at Buckinghamshire New University Nottingham, followed with a welcome address that grounded the morning in the academic realities facing women today and the responsibility institutions carry in closing the gap between educational achievement and real world opportunity.



6. ...contd

The keynote sessions brought perspectives that were as varied as they were compelling. **Professor Sarah Williams**, Pro Vice-Chancellor at Buckinghamshire New University, challenged the room to think beyond conventional career paths, exploring entrepreneurship and intrapreneurship as tools for change and calling for stronger, more intentional support systems that allow women to lead and grow on their own terms.

Angela Kandola BEM, Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire and Labour Councillor for Berridge Ward, spoke with conviction on the role of government in advancing women in education and enterprise. Her words carried the weight of 25 years of frontline community work and left the room with a clearer sense of what genuine institutional commitment to women's advancement looks like in practice.

Amina Qureshi, Lawyer, Entrepreneur and Parliamentary Candidate, brought a refreshingly candid voice to the morning. She spoke openly about navigating three demanding worlds simultaneously and made a compelling case for why women must not wait for permission to lead, in law, in business or in politics.



6. ...contd



Merlita Bryan MBE, High Sheriff of Nottinghamshire, offered one of the most moving reflections of the day. As the first African Caribbean woman to hold the office, her journey is itself a statement about what becomes possible when barriers are challenged and representation is taken seriously.

The panel discussion on Women in Leadership and Entrepreneurship brought the morning's themes into sharp focus. **Fakiha Imran**, ICF-Certified Executive and EI Coach, drew on her extensive coaching practice to explore how emotional intelligence underpins effective and sustainable leadership.



Nadine AbuQtaish, Medical Writer and Scientific Consultant, offered a perspective shaped by her experience across industries, speaking to the importance of visibility, networks and the confidence to chart an unconventional path.



Moderated with skill by **Noorulain Zafer**, the discussion moved fluidly between personal experience and broader structural questions, drawing the audience into a conversation that felt less like a formal session and more like a room of people genuinely thinking together.

6. ...contd

Ejaz Ashraf Chowdary, CEO of Magna Carta College, brought the formal proceedings to a close with remarks that reflected both pride and purpose. He spoke of MCC's commitment to being more than an institution of learning, to being a platform where education becomes a launchpad for leadership, enterprise and lasting impact.

The Advancing Women from Education to Enterprise Conference was more than an event. It was a demonstration of what becomes possible when the right people are brought into the same room with the shared belief that education must translate into opportunity for every woman it reaches. Magna Carta College is grateful to every speaker, guest, partner and attendee who made it so.

MCC looks forward to building on the momentum of this conference. The insights shared, the networks formed and the conversations started will continue to shape the work we do in supporting students, professionals and communities to reach their potential. Advancing women from education to enterprise is not a theme for a single morning. It is a commitment that runs through everything MCC stands for, and today was one important and deeply meaningful step forward.



7.Round up of events



MCC at the Hillingdon Business Expo 2026.

The Hillingdon Expo 2026 was more than an event it was an opportunity. MCC's outreach team connected with residents, organisations, and local partners to raise awareness of the support and opportunities available at our college.



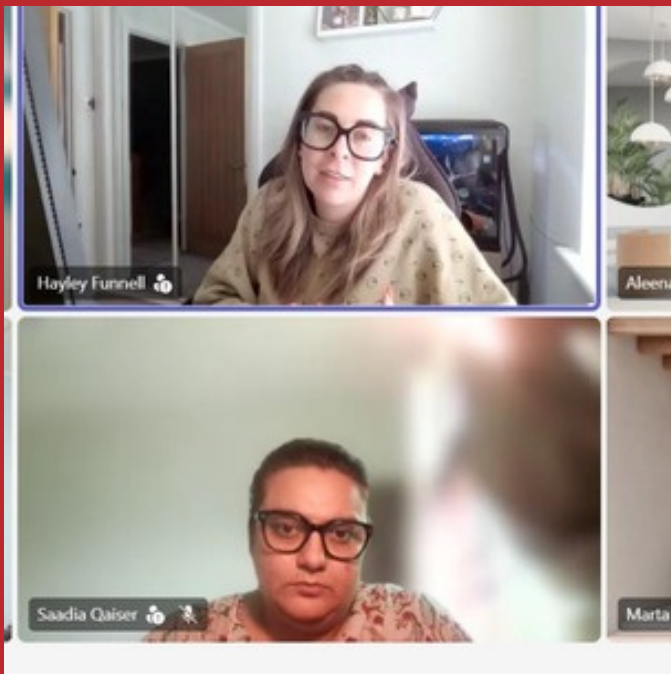
Taking our message to the community.

At the Hillingdon Expo 2026, our outreach team engaged with local residents and partners via the Radio Hillingdon providing free information, advice, and guidance on education, training, and career pathways.



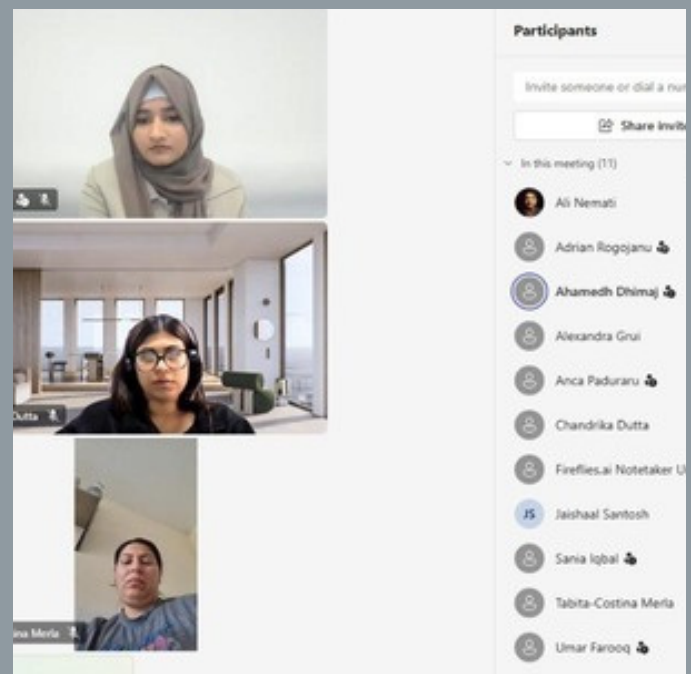
PCM Highlights

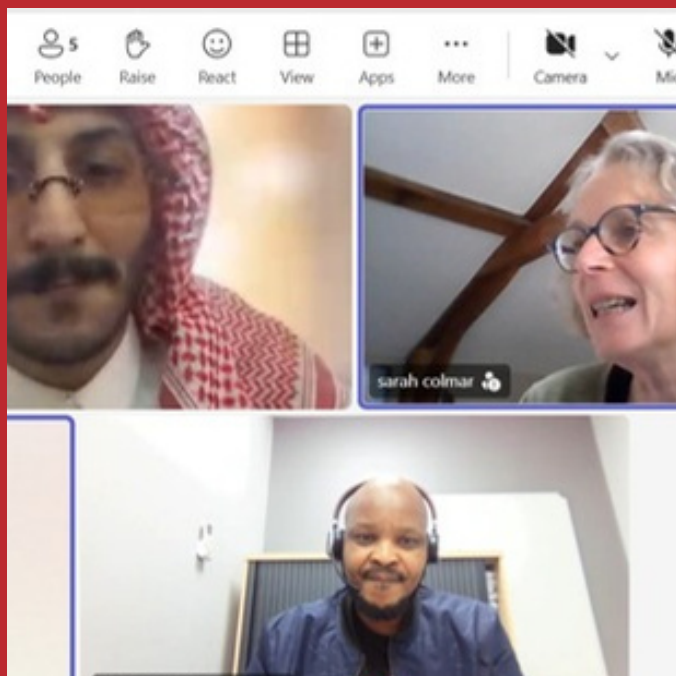
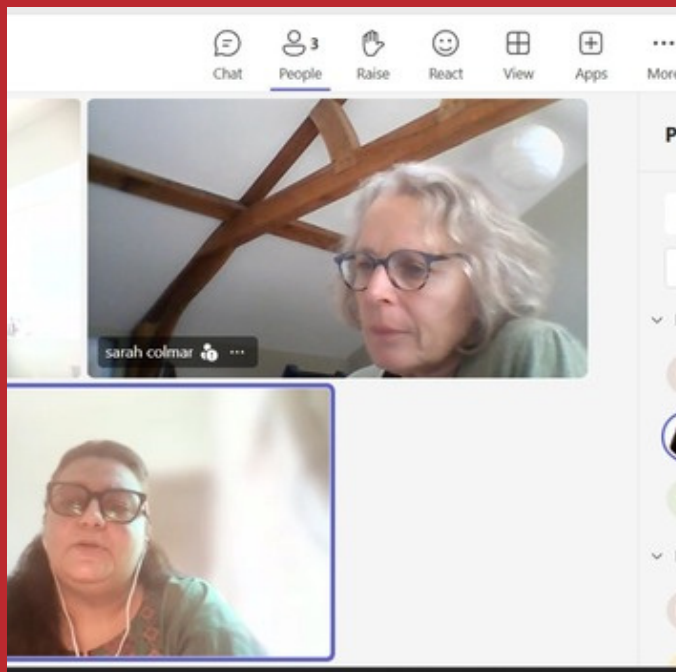
MCC held its Programme Committee Meeting (PCM), chaired by Dr. Ali Raza Nemati, Academic Dean. Student Representatives from both campuses participated, alongside the BNU Student Engagement and Welfare Coordinator.



Pearson AMR

MCC has successfully completed the first half of the Annual Monitoring Review with External Quality Assurer Hayley Funnell. All documentation was submitted on time, the session concluded positively, and no recommendations or actions were raised.





Pearson Level 7 EV Review

MCC has successfully completed the External Verifier review for Pearson Level 7, with all students cleared for progression. Thank you to the entire team for their dedication throughout the process.

Future-Ready Talent Webinar

MCC hosted a live webinar featuring Afrasiab Ahsan Nawab, BFSI Sector Lead at ACCA, and Moderator Rizwan Niazi, Head of Partnerships at MCC, discussing how to develop future-ready talent.



FUTURE-READY TALENT

Building Stronger Connections
Between Industry and Academia

Tuesday 16 UK Time
June 2026 **12 - 1 PM**

LIVE WEBINAR
ON SOCIALS  





Academic Board Meeting

MCC has successfully concluded its 2nd Academic Board meeting, chaired by Academic Dean Dr. Ali Raza Nemati. This marks another significant step in strengthening our academic governance and institutional development.



Warm welcome Back

UCAM MBA classes are now live, bringing together learners from around the world for interactive, real-time sessions and a rich learning experience.



8.Upcoming Events

HEPI Webinar

The economic costs and benefits of international students webinar will explore opportunities of investing in international student programmes.

More information [here](#)

SUMMER FEST

Saturday 11th July 2026 Time 1- 3 PM

Games, food and good company. Come take a break and reconnect with the MCC community.

 **BNU CAMPUS**
Uxbridge



 magnacartacollege.ac.uk

 +44 7886 286760

HEPI

Summer Fest: Student engagement

Join us for Summer Fest at BNU Campus, Uxbridge, on Saturday 11th July, 1-3 PM. Games, food, and good company await come take a break and reconnect with the MCC community.



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We would love your feedback on the MCC Connect. Feel free to share any feedback or content you would like to add by emailing us on quality@magnacartacollege.ac.uk