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<u>Recruitment drive steps up as multiple</u> <u>education contracts are secured</u>

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South Tyneside-based <u>HLA Services</u>, is mounting a recruitment drive, after a first class start to the year with multiple contracts secured right across the education sector.

Its portfolio includes a six-year contract with Durham University, to supply maintenance services to air conditioning, ventilation, thermostatic mixing valves, specialist ventilation LEV and multiple other services across its sites.

HLA is also working with Northumbria, Sunderland, Durham and Newcastle universities, supplying project works, service and maintenance including, but not limited to, mechanical services, HVAC air conditioning and specialist local exhaust ventilation (LEV) services.

In addition, the company has contracts with Newcastle and Gateshead colleges, to supply multiple services and with a number of schools and academies across the North East.

As a result, 20% of its targeted turnover has been secured for up to six years and this has given the company the confidence to recruit up to seven staff, including a commercial gas engineer, air conditioning and refrigeration service engineer, commercial and industrial electrician, two trainee and improver air conditioning and gas engineers and two water hygiene engineers.

HLA is one of the North East's leading full-mechanical, air conditioning, climate change and temperature control specialists. Employing more than 100 people, it has satellite offices in Cumbria and North Yorkshire and has recently established a new office in Teesside to meet growing demand for its services.

Director, Paul Smith, said: "Despite the economic backdrop, we start 2023 with a very healthy order book,



which includes our most recent contract with Durham University, which is led by contracts manager, Mark Hull and team.

"I believe our success in the education sector shows how critically important trust and a good reputation are. It can't just be coincidence that we are seeing growth via universities, colleges and academies. Those operating within these organisations were aware of us and the quality and value for money we provide and that has resulted in contracts.

"Following very strong customer demand and contract success, we are actively recruiting for a variety of positions across the company, with immediate effect, which is great news as we want to grow and to make available quality jobs. We look forward to welcoming new colleagues to our team during the first quarter of the year."