



Welcome Pack

Dear Adult Learner

Welcome

Welcome to your course. We thought you might be interested in some information about the RNN Group. The RNN Group is a group of colleges incorporating Rotherham College, Dearne Valley College and North Notts College. We receive funding from the Government to train and upskill adults across our local communities. As such, the RNN Group is working with **Ways2Work** to further expand our offer to individuals across the Sheffield City Region. **Ways2Work** are one of the RNN Group's sub-contractors and have a duty of care to ensure your programme of choice is of high quality, enjoyable and more importantly, contributes to you meeting your goals and ambitions.

The RNN Group is an education and training provider, meeting the needs of thousands of employers, adults and school leavers every year and contributing right through to the heart of our communities. With an income of over £40m each year, the RNN Group offers career-focused further and higher education including Apprenticeships, distance learning and classroom-based provision. We offer various levels of provision from community learning to higher level classroom-based courses and Apprenticeships.

In total, we employ around 1,200 staff who work hard to educate and train over 16,000 people, the majority of which are adults, school leavers and apprentices. We work at the centre of our local communities, contributing to civic life and economic renewal. Through events, volunteering and charitable efforts, we reach out to individuals and groups providing access to high quality community and qualification-based learning.

Our Vision

Leading innovation and skills in our communities

Our Core Values

- **We Are One Team**
- **We Deliver**
- **We Are Inclusive**
- **We Have Integrity**

Our Adult Learners

We are the largest single provider of education to school leavers, adults and apprentices in the area, bridging South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire. We deliver excellent technical training and Apprenticeships for young people each year, propelling them forward into employment or undergraduate courses.

We also offer education and training, including professional education and Apprenticeships, to adults seeking to gain qualifications and skills to find career fulfilment and prosperity. This also includes offering courses aimed at helping individuals who have low level skills, language or confidence barriers, to find work. Provision through our community adult learning team offers more relaxed and informal courses aimed at building confidence and resilience through activities such as arts and crafts, cookery and health/lifestyle.

Through our distance learning provision we offer more than 30 level 2 courses which individuals can study at home and at their own pace. These courses are a fantastic way to gain industry recognised qualifications in a subject of your choice and have seen thousands of our learners' progress in the workplace as a direct result of completing their chosen programme.

**Enough about us....
Here's how we can support you....**



Enrichment Programme

Adults can access a range of activities across our sites to add value to their educational experience.

This includes:

- Guest Speaker Events
- Learner Events including Freshers week and Welcome week
- Clubs
- Public Speaking Events
- Volunteering opportunities
- Student Union
- Enrichment sessions (10.30- 11.00am and 12.00-1.00pm on most campuses)

...and much more! More events will continue to be added throughout the year so please keep checking back!

We want you to really make the most of your time with us and achieve and be the best you can be! Don't be afraid to ask for help and to ask lots of questions throughout.

Would you like to develop personal knowledge, skills and behaviours that aren't listed above? Please let us know and we can explore this in the future!

Safeguarding

Our Colleges place the safety and wellbeing of students and staff at the forefront of all our operations and acknowledge the range of activities that contribute to creating and maintaining an environment that promotes effective safeguarding practice.

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding is about ensuring children, young people and vulnerable adults are protected by providing an environment where they are safe from harm and to identify those suffering or likely to suffer harm. It involves educating children, young people and vulnerable adults to promote personal responsibility for safety, health and well-being.

It is the duty by law of any member of staff, volunteer or visitor who receives a disclosure of abuse, or suspects that abuse may have occurred, to report it to a member of the safeguarding team. The College will refer concerns that an individual might be at risk of harm to the appropriate services as required, with the goal of keeping them safe. We work with the individual in an open and honest way ensuring they understand the purpose of any referrals e.g. reducing the risk of harm to them or others.

Sometimes it can be difficult to ask for help which is why we have prepared a Self-Help Welfare guide. In this guide you can find contact details for a wide range of services from benefit support to drug and alcohol advice, immigration to sexual health, and counselling to travel information.

You can also find more information on either of our college websites by scanning the QR codes below or by visiting:

www.rotherham.ac.uk/support/safeguarding/
www.dearne-call.ac.uk/support/safeguarding/
www.nnc.ac.uk/support/safeguarding

Rotherham College



Dearne Valley College



North Notts College



To discuss any concerns about yourself or others, please speak to your Tutor in the first instance, they will offer support and help signpost to other agencies. If you would prefer to contact a member of the Safeguarding team directly you can do so through the Student Portal and a member of the Safeguarding team will take appropriate action.

Alternatively, you can use the contact details below:

Rotherham College

Email: safeguarding@rotherham.ac.uk

Telephone: 01709 722777

Dearne Valley College

Email: safeguarding@dearne-coll.ac.uk

Telephone: 01709 513333

North Notts College

Email: safeguarding@nnc.ac.uk

Telephone: 01909 504504



British Values

RNN Group Colleges (Rotherham College, North Notts College and Dearne Valley College) and our sub-contractors recognise British Values as core principles which support our learners and staff to be active and successful citizens in their local communities.

The Department of Education define British Values as:

Democracy

The rule of Law

Individual liberty

Mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs



In actively promoting these values, all learners and staff are encouraged and supported to develop their knowledge, understanding and practice of these principles. This is achieved through clear and enforced policies, innovative programmes of teaching and learning and visual media campaigns.

Counter Terrorism and Prevent

Users of the RNN Group's or its sub-contractors' systems, including the Student Portal, should be aware that the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015) makes it an offence for an individual to collect or make a record of information of a kind that is likely to be useful to a person committing or preparing an act of terrorism, or to possess a document or record containing information of that kind (e.g. a terrorist training manual).

The Counter-terrorism and Security Act (2015) also makes it an offence to disseminate terrorist publications in order to encourage others to engage in terrorism. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act (2015) requires the RNN Group and its sub-contractors "to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism."

Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015

The RNN Group has an established ethics approval processes and secure storage systems for staff and students who require access to and potentially store sensitive or extremism/terrorism-related materials as part of their bona fide studies or research. All users considering accessing and storing such materials are very strongly advised to first obtain ethics approval from the appropriate staff members and to make use of the secure storage facility for such materials.

Section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a duty on all FE and training providers, as listed in Schedule 3 of the Act, to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

The Prevent duty is also part of the Safeguarding duty for providers but one that extends to all learners of all age groups and also staff. The government has defined extremism in the Prevent strategy as: "vocal or active opposition to fundamental British values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs." This also includes calls for the death of members of the British armed forces.

COVID-19 & Mental Health Support

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a crippling effect not only on the economy and people's livelihoods but also on peoples' mental health. Whilst young people aged 18-25 have been particularly affected, it has affected individuals of all ages, from all backgrounds. If you would like to speak to anyone about any issues surrounding COVID-19 or your own mental health, please do get in touch with us on 01709 513148 and we will put you in touch with the appropriate team to provide you with the support you need.

Additional Learning Support

If you would like any form of additional learning support we have a dedicated team who can work with you to agree your bespoke plan of support. We support students with a wide range of special education needs and difficulties and disabilities (SEND) including: dyslexia, attention disorders, autistic spectrum conditions, mental health difficulties, medical conditions and people with physical, medical or sensory requirements. Our aim is to ensure we do everything we can to help you access student life and achieve on your course. Our dedicated and specialist teams will support you by assessing your learning, access and exam needs and agreeing a support plan with you to help you make the most of your chosen learning opportunity.

This may include adjustments to teaching, one to one support, workshops, in class support or assistive technology – whichever suits you best.

If you think you may benefit from Additional Learning Support firstly please speak to your Tutor who will arrange for the right support for you.



Contact Us

At the end of your course you will be asked to complete a feedback form which gives the RNN Group the opportunity to capture vital feedback from all of our learners. Please take time to complete the form as honestly as you can. However, if you have any specific concerns which you would like to discuss in confidence then please contact a member of the RNN Group's Contracts Team on **01709 513148**.

Please enjoy your course and we wish you every success for the future.

The RNN Group



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