

 **Rotherham**
College

 **North Notts**
College

 **Dearne Valley**
College

UCR **University**
Centre
Rotherham



Rotherham College
North Notts College
Dearne Valley College
and
University Centre Rotherham

Part of
 **RNN GROUP**

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 **RNN**
GROUP

SCHOOLS LIAISON SERVICE



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Welcome

RNN Group is an education and training provider, meeting the needs of thousands of employers, adults and school leavers every year and contributing at the heart of our communities.

The RNN Group includes four campuses of career-focused further and Higher Education in South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire which include Rotherham College, North Notts College, Dearne Valley College and University Centre Rotherham.

We educate school leavers, undergraduates, employees and those re-joining the workforce with a focus on ensuring learners leave equipped with the necessary skills to progress in employment, Higher Education or further training.

The Schools Liaison team aims to raise young people's aspirations and awareness of the opportunities that further and higher education can offer.

Our goal is to enable young people to make informed choices about their future. Our team is experienced and qualified in delivering Information, Advice and Guidance in order to ensure we are providing young people with comprehensive information about the different study routes we offer by delivering a range of careers-related activities.

We can deliver a variety of sessions at any of our campuses or at your school, including:

- Taster days
- Assembly presentations
- Careers fairs
- Application sessions
- Apprenticeship sessions
- Campus tours
- Mock interviews

We can also:

- Send you regular application reports to help you track students' applications, all the way through to enrolment
- Support students to complete applications and make amendments to existing applications
- Support students with any interview preparation

"We're proud to work alongside our local schools to raise aspirations and inspire the next generation of learners"

Nick Dale - Head of Learner Recruitment



To arrange an activity or to find out more, please contact us on: schoolevents@rnn.ac.uk

Our Study Options

T Levels

We started delivering T Levels in September 2023 and they are proving very popular with our learners.

T Levels offer a mixture of classroom learning and an industry placement of 315 hours (45 days), in which students are fully integrated into the workplace.

T Levels are two-year technical programmes, designed with employers, to give young people the practical skills and knowledge that industries need.

The 'T' stands for technical and they are an alternative to A Levels. One T Level is the equivalent of 3 A Levels and they are assessed using a mixture of practical tasks, projects and exams.

Learners achieving a T Level will get a nationally recognised certificate which employers will use as evidence in their recruitment.

We offer T Levels in:

- Animal Care
- Business and Administration
- Construction
- Digital
- Education and Childcare
- Engineering and Manufacturing
- Health and Science

Once a T Level is completed, learners will be able to progress onto:

- A skilled occupation
- Higher or degree level apprenticeships
- Further study including Higher Technical Qualifications or Higher Education

Vocational Courses

We offer a variety of career-focused courses where students select one course, and study this in detail.

Students build practical skills, knowledge and behaviours to prepare them for their career progression and next steps into industry. The benefits include:

- A range of assessments throughout our programmes such as coursework, practical work and group work, meaning students are assessed throughout their time at college
- Industry-experienced tutors
- Industry-standard facilities including The Wharnccliffe restaurant, Hair and Beauty Salons, Sport Centres, Construction workshops and a Studio Theatre to allow students to learn in real-life working environments

Apprenticeships

Our apprenticeships combine hands-on work experience with high-quality education.

Apprentices will typically work four days a week in industry and one day a week they are provided with off-the-job training to enable them to gain the knowledge and skills they need in their workplace.

Applicants are expected to actively seek an employer to complete their apprenticeship with, while our Apprenticeship Team supports applicants in this process. Our Apprenticeship Team assesses applicants, submits applications to relevant employers on their behalf and holds events to prepare applicants for interview.

Higher Education

University Centre Rotherham is a modern, state-of-the-art campus in the heart of Rotherham, providing an affordable, friendly and flexible route to gaining top-quality degrees.

Our Level 4 to Level 7 courses - including degrees, masters, Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) in partnership with the South Yorkshire Institute of Technology, HNDs and HNCs - allow students to develop sought-after skills in a range of sectors through our departments.

Our higher-level and degree qualifications are accredited by partner universities including Sheffield Hallam University, the University of Hull and the University of Huddersfield. We understand that not everyone wishes to move away to study, so we provide high-quality degrees on the doorstep of our local communities.

We offer some of our degree programmes at our College campuses, in order to make best use of our fantastic facilities. For example, Animal Management and Esports are hosted at Dearne Valley College.

We pride ourselves on our industry-experienced lecturers, excellent employer links and diverse student experience through guest lectures and educational trips.



Gatsby Benchmarks

Supporting you with the Gatsby benchmarks

There are eight benchmarks set out as a framework for improving school careers provision.

We can help support you to meet the benchmarks, allowing you to deliver good careers guidance to your students.

1. A stable careers programme

We can offer a range of activities in your school and in college to add to the variety of careers activities your school provides.

2. Learning from career and labour market information

Our websites and course guides contain lots of useful information on career pathways and salaries. Our team are also available to give good quality information to students and parents to help them explore choices.

3. Addressing the needs of each pupil

Every student is unique. Our team are more than happy to provide each student, and their families, a full campus tour and how college can support them. We actively challenge stereotypes and embed equality and diversity into the planning and delivery of our activities.

We aim to raise aspirations through promoting our local University Centre offer, showing students that they can access high-quality and supported higher education without moving away, which can help to remove barriers.

We are able to provide schools with information on students from application to enrolment, to help schools track the destinations of their pupils and can also share examples of what your students have gone on to do since leaving your school, in the form of posters and success stories.

4. Linking curriculum learning to careers

Our tutors have worked, and/or continue to work in the industry that they are teaching. This enables them to pass on the first-hand knowledge, skills and behaviours that are required for industry. Our programmes are closely linked with industry requirements, to give students a real impression of that sector and what it takes to pursue their career aspirations.

5. Encounters with employers and employees

We are proud to be part of the local communities we serve. Through our Colleges and University Centre, we work closely with local and regional employers to ensure that our offer reflects the relevant needs of employers and that our students are prepared for their bright futures.

6. Experiences of workplaces

Unlocking students' potential, through hands-on experience and knowledge is an integral part of our offer. By offering work experience placements for our students, at all Colleges as well as University Centre Rotherham, we provide students with a competitive edge in their field and offer them an insight into their future careers.

7. Encounters with further and higher education

Our school liaison team can work with you to enable your pupils to understand and learn about opportunities for technical and academic routes. We are able to hold Taster Days at our College and University Centre to show students our fantastic facilities and how they could continue their learning journey with us.

8. Personal guidance

We can work with your school's careers expert to help support students with decision-making and career choices. The team have achieved qualifications in Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) and can help enhance any career-related activity through individual and small group work.

Dearne Valley College had the pleasure of welcoming Max from Swinton Academy to spend a week in our college reception team.

Max said: "I really enjoyed meeting and working with the team, learning about customer service and using different systems. I now have a CV that will help me get a part time job".

Our Activities

Taster Days

Our College Taster Days are a great way for students to get a feel for college life by experiencing subject areas through practical sessions. This can assist with decision making for next steps in education, as well as inspiring, motivating and engaging students for further and higher education.

Tasters can be tailored to fit your school's requirements, whether that's an entire year group or a smaller group of students, to try a specific subject area.

Over 90% of our Taster Day attendees said they felt more confident in choosing their next step after visiting us!

Tours

Students can gain an insight into college life by having a tour of our facilities. This can be bespoke to individuals' interests or can be an opportunity for a group of students to have a full campus tour.

Scan the QR codes to book your tour!



Rotherham College



North Notts College



Dearne Valley College



University Centre Rotherham

Open Events

We host Open Events throughout the year, giving students, and their parents and carers, the opportunity to tour our facilities, meet our industry-experienced tutors, discuss their future options and explore courses and apprenticeships that are suited to them.

Students can apply for college on the day and can learn about the wide range of support and enrichment opportunities available.

In the last 12 months, we have welcomed over 3,000 visitors to our Open Events!

Careers Fairs and Parents Evenings

We can provide support for your careers fairs, where we can offer a wide variety of services, including general information about our colleges to curriculum-led activities.

We can also attend your school's parents evenings, where we can speak to parents and carers about their young person's future.

GCSE options

Choosing GCSE options is often the first major decision students will make. We can be there to support this decision making, including delivering sessions in schools with activities to get them thinking about their strengths and interests and attend parent option evenings.

Mock Interviews

We are able to attend Mock Interview days held in schools. We understand how important these are in providing young people the experience to practise and demonstrate key employability skills, and provide feedback so they can improve ready for the real thing!



Higher Education

University Centre Rotherham would love to continue to support Schools, Sixth Forms and Sixth Form Colleges with any events, including Options Evenings, Parents' Evening, Careers and Progression Events, and Mock Interview Days.

We also welcome visitors and groups to join us for the following:

- Open Events
- Campus Tours
- Presentations
- HE Masterclasses
- Higher Education Away Day

Open Events

University Centre Rotherham hosts Open Events throughout the year. Open Events are a great opportunity to explore our dedicated Higher Education campus, view presentations, take part in a tour, and get a feel for the courses on offer.

They allow visitors to speak to tutors in all subject areas, meet Student Ambassadors and other prospective students, seek student support and application advice, and also receive careers advice.

More details can be found at:
ucr.rotherham.ac.uk/open-events

Campus Tours

We offer bespoke tours of all campuses on both an individual and a group basis. We love to show our fantastic facilities to our visitors, and the University Centre Rotherham tour includes viewing our various subject area classrooms, Mac suites, lecture rooms, social spaces, learning zones, library and our outdoor amphitheatre.

Presentations

We have a range of presentations ready to go, that we deliver on campus to our visitors, but are also happy to send for use in Schools, Sixth Forms and Sixth Form Colleges, of varying durations. We also create bespoke presentations to suit. Examples includes: An Introduction to UCR and degrees available; Unique subjects at UCR; UCR: Bringing subjects to life.

Higher Education Masterclasses

These sessions are conducted on site at our campuses, and could include a Higher Education jargon buster workshop (understanding Higher Education terminology, and activities to inspire students about progression), or Subject Taster Session Pick and Mix (students select from a range of vocational subjects offered at Degree level to 'give it a go').

Higher Education Away Day

We invite Secondary Schools, Sixth Forms and Sixth Form Colleges to visit our University Centre for a morning or an afternoon to get a real feel for our campuses and what we can offer. This would typically include presentations, tours, meet the staff and Student Ambassadors, an activity, and question and answer session.

To request any of the above activities, please contact us on schoolevents@rnnngroup.ac.uk



School Partnerships

Schools' Partnership Programme

RNN Group has over the years developed sound relationships with schools across South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire to help school leavers decide on their next educational step across our colleges, Rotherham College, Dearne Valley College and North Notts College, as well as at our University Centre Rotherham.

We have supported schools with careers events, mock interviews, assembly presentations, open event promotion and taster events.

We are now proud to launch a brand new initiative to further develop our relationship with schools: the Schools' Partnership Programme.

We have a number of schools across the South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire area who have signed up to this brand new initiative which are listed on our website.

At the RNN Group, we prioritise our Partner Schools by guaranteeing students from these schools a place at one of our colleges, conditional on meeting entry requirements.

Learners still need to achieve the grades to be accepted onto the course of their choice and go through the usual application process. Offers may be suggested for other courses or programmes if the course chosen is not right for the learner or the grades are not met.

We offer the following special activities and services to Flagship Schools:

- Bespoke Taster Days with Funding for Transport
- VIP Tours
- Priority attendance on your A Level or GCSE results days
- Work experience opportunities
- Free hire of Business Centre Rotherham

All Schools' Partners feature on our website too; you can find out who our current partners are on our website and see if your school is listed.

We look forward to working with you.

For bespoke arrangements, partnership queries, or to request a visit, contact our friendly Schools Liaison Team at schoolevents@rnngroup.ac.uk

