

Dearne Valley
College

FUTURES FOR

Everyone

**COURSES AND
APPRENTICESHIPS**

2027/2028

THIS IS *Your Time*

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

**DURING YOUR
TIME WITH US WE
WANT TO HELP
YOU ACHIEVE YOUR
ASPIRATIONS.**



Jason Austin
CEO and Principal of RNN Group*

*RNN Group comprises of Rotherham College,
North Notts College, Dearne Valley College and
University Centre Rotherham

Time is something we all have, but what it means to us and how we use it differs so much between us. It can mean time for ourselves, to grow, reflect, and develop skills. It can mean time for others, for socialising, making lifelong friendships, or caring for family. But no matter what our goals are, it takes time to achieve them. And we want your time with us to help you realise your aspirations.

We challenge you to achieve everything you want to do and will support you on your journey of life-changing learning. With us, you can spend your time wisely, putting your passion into practice in our first-rate facilities, all whilst being taught by our industry-experienced tutors. You'll be able to learn in environments that simulate the real world, on courses that have been designed in close collaboration with our wide network of local and regional employers.

Of course, College isn't just about 'studying'. During your time with us, you will benefit from access to enrichment programs, clubs, social action projects, and memory-making overseas trips. You can also make your voice heard by taking part in our Student Union.

How you use your time is one of the most important things you'll ever decide. We are so excited that you are considering spending it with us to take your next step on your learning journey.

GET IN TOUCH

Dearne Valley College

01709 513355

learn@dearne-coll.ac.uk

DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS WELCOME

WELCOME TO DEARNE VALLEY COLLEGE.



Stacey Higgs
Director of Campus
Dearne Valley College

Choosing where to study is an important decision, and at Dearne Valley College you will find a place where ambition is encouraged, individuality is celebrated, and every learner is supported to succeed. Whether you are taking your first steps towards a career choice, exploring a subject you love or just looking to gain new skills, our experienced staff are here to help you achieve your goals. We believe everyone has the potential to succeed, and we are committed to helping you build the confidence, knowledge and practical skill sets needed for your future.

Life at Dearne Valley College is about much more than just gaining qualifications. It is about becoming part of a welcoming community where you will meet new people, develop lifelong friendships and take advantage of opportunities that challenge and inspire you. From hands-on learning in industry-standard facilities to weekly opportunities to engage in enrichment activities and personal development, every experience is designed to help you grow.

We encourage our students to be curious, resilient and ambitious. By making the most of your time with us, you will develop the skills, independence and mindset that employers and Universities value, all whilst discovering what you are truly capable of achieving. Wherever your journey leads next, Dearne Valley College is here to support you every step of the way. We look forward to welcoming you and helping you create a future filled with opportunity, achievement and success.



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WE ARE Dearne Valley College

YOUR CAMPUS

At Dearne Valley College, our purpose is to help you achieve your professional and personal goals.

All of the courses and apprenticeships we offer aim to provide students with the tools that they need in order to take their first step towards their dream career.

Located in Wath-upon-Dearne, less than 20 minutes from Rotherham Town Centre by bus, we specialise in providing our students with a career focused education. Our industry-specific courses are also designed with current and future career trends and technologies in mind, so that students can learn the most sought-after skills in their chosen industry and start their career one step ahead.

Students who study with us also have access to a range of industry-standard facilities. This includes our own onsite sports hall and gym facility, fully equipped with all the latest fitness technology. Students and staff are able to use these facilities, and have access to discounted memberships.

**For more information about
Dearne Valley College, please
visit dearne-coll.ac.uk**

STUDY WITH US

Our courses include a variety of levels to suit all abilities - from entry-level to degree-level - as well as a range of apprenticeships.

Choose from a wide range of subjects including:

- Animal Care
- Construction (Joinery, Plastering and Bricklaying)
- English and Maths
- Esports
- FLEX - Dedicated department for students with Special Educational Needs
- Health and Social Care
- Land based Industries
- Motor Vehicle
- Public Services
- Sport

YOUR FACILITIES

We pride ourselves on investing in your future. All of our courses are delivered in industry-standard facilities with excellent equipment.

Our on-site Animal Care department houses many different species ranging from skinks to snakes, and meerkats to mice. We are also one of a few colleges in the UK to have our very own Porcupines!

At our Academy of Sport, you can really raise the bar by using facilities such as our on-site sports and fitness centre, multisport cages, Astro turf pitches and the nearby Manvers boathouse and lake. Explore our outdoor low ropes activity centre to practice team building skills and agility.

You can also fuel your future in our motor vehicle workshop housing hybrid and electric vehicles. You can also craft key skills in our workshops dedicated to trowel occupations, carpentry and joinery and plastering.

Delve into our state-of-the-art Health facilities where we have simulated AI wards which offer students invaluable hands-on practice. Gain access to cutting-edge technology in Esports with our top-spec computers and immersive F1 Williams simulator racing rigs.

Outdoors, you can cultivate your land-based skills in our fantastic facilities including our 12-acre forest, polytunnels and more.

Your time with us is about more than learning. We want you to enjoy your experience with us - whether this be through socialising with your new peers or being able to relax whilst you study, we have plenty of social spaces for you to do so.

HELPING YOU SUCCEED

Studying with us gives you industry specific skills for life that you can use within your future career.

By working with our extensive network of local and regional employers, we make sure that our courses give you the skills for success that businesses are looking for. Our professional networks also offer the opportunity for work experience and potential future employment, whilst our employer academies enable learners, educators and employers to identify collectively the necessary knowledge, skills and behaviours that are essential for success in specific industries.

Our talented teams of specialist tutors have worked, or still work, in the industry they teach. They bring a wealth of expert knowledge, breadth of experience and passion to their teaching. Whatever your area of interest, we have the facilities, expert tutors and professional links to help you succeed.



YOUR College Experience

STUDYING AT COLLEGE CAN BE AN EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER.

We provide plenty of opportunities to try new things, and most importantly have fun. At College you'll have more freedom, learn new skills and build friendships to last a lifetime.

BECOME A STUDENT AMBASSADOR

As a college student, you'll have a lot more free-time on your hands. Now's the perfect time to enhance your CV and lend a hand as a student ambassador.

As an ambassador, you get paid to help out at College Open Events, give tours and go out to local schools to speak to potential students. Becoming a student ambassador will not go unnoticed to future employers.

ENJOY HEARING FROM GUEST SPEAKERS

As well as being taught by top-class tutors, throughout the academic year you'll have the chance to hear from guest speakers from industry professionals who work for some of the top organisations in their field and help provide you with a unique insight into your future profession.

ENRICHMENT

Make the most of your free time and meet friends for life with our fun extracurricular activities, including cross college sports days, World Skills UK competitions, charity events, fun runs, book clubs and much more, such as:

- College sports days and inter college sports competitions
- World Skills UK Competitions
- Fitness Classes
- Charity Events
- Fun Runs
- Book Clubs supported by the Library
- Gym Sessions
- Preparation for Life including personal budgeting, building positive relationships
- Football Club
- LGBTQ+ Club
- Gaming
- Pilates/Yoga
- Social Table Tennis
- Movie Club
- Arts and Crafts Club
- Student Union
- Driving Theory Club



Tabletop Gaming Club

INDUSTRY PLACEMENTS

We work closely with businesses across the region to not only develop our curriculum and facilities, but also to help you get your foot in the door. Through our industry placements you can start climbing the career ladder and gain invaluable experience - perfect for building your CV.

ERASMUS/TURING SCHEME

Another important part of your experience would be to be getting involved with our Erasmus scheme. This once in a lifetime opportunity is a voluntary scheme in which you would be able to travel abroad and participate in work experience to give you the knowledge and international experience of different cultures and workplaces.

This is an unforgettable experience to take part in. Previous placements have included Italy, Malta and Spain.

TRIPS AND EXCURSIONS

Off-campus learning is key to life at college. Whilst studying, you and your classmates will have the opportunity to go on exciting trips and excursions to businesses, attractions, universities and more. Former students have visited places such as St. George's Park, home to England's football team. They have also visited Wentworth Woodhouse, Manchester Airport and many, many more.



Learner Experience

GETTING STARTED IN SEPTEMBER

WELCOME WEEKS

During our welcome weeks, you can find out more about the activities and enrichment opportunities available. If you find that we have not got something for you and your interests, visit the reception and they will put you in touch with the person who can help you get your interest or club up and running.

CAREERS ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Dearne Valley College has dedicated Careers lounges for you to seek advice, guidance and help throughout your time at college with your next step when you have finished your course or courses with us.

Expert staff can support you with plans, CV writing, cover letter writing, interview techniques and general careers guidance.





Skills For Employment

SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT ARE CRUCIAL POWER SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE WORKPLACE AND YOUR PLACE IN IT.

WHAT ARE SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT?

Skills for Employment is a new initiative promoted by the RNN Group to develop students' power skills/transferable skills in the workplace, developing you to be first rate employees for local businesses.

You will work to complete ten skills for employment – power skills – which will include the following skills:

- Communication
- Creativity
- Critical Thinking
- Decision Making
- Leadership/Adaptable/Flexible
- Problem Solving
- Proactive/Shows Initiative
- Resilient
- Self-Management/Hard Worker/Reliability
- Time Management

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

RNN Group understands the need to support employers by providing both entrants to the job market and those rejoining the job market due to family commitments or a change in career the right skills to thrive personally and professionally.

Power skills are not just those found in the classroom or an exam room. Skills needed to grow our economy are transferable from job to job and organisation to organisation.

We know that employers consistently talk about the lack of these power skills and we hope that this new initiative will help both you gain a great job and thrive, and employers gain a great employee with all the skills they need.

Employers are helping us by pledging their support to the scheme so that both learners and other employers will recognise that learners/employees who achieve the skills for employment are going to be an asset to any business.



For more information about Skills for Employment,
please email marketing@rnngroup.ac.uk

Sustainability

WORKING TOWARDS A GREENER FUTURE

Sustainability is central to how we operate at Dearne Valley College and the RNN Group, something that all staff and students contribute to.

We have set a target of 2030 to achieve net zero carbon emissions from our campuses. We are following the EAUC/ AoC Climate Action Roadmap for UK FE Colleges. We are a signatory to the Rotherham Together Partnership Climate and Nature Charter. As educators we have a duty to teach our students about sustainability, and our campuses should show our students what a sustainable organisation looks like.

THE SUSTAINABLE THINGS WE DO:

ENERGY AND UTILITIES

The Group uses solar PV arrays and wind turbines to provide zero-carbon electricity and ground- and water- source heat pumps to provide low carbon heating. We are installing LED lighting systems combined with sensor technology to reduce electricity consumption. We use rainwater capture to supplement our mains water use and have other water-saving devices installed.

TRAVEL AND TRAVEL REDUCTION

Zeelo, our Transport Partner, is the first global bus platform to offer 100% carbon neutral services. Since September 2022 Zeelo has helped us to save 10.01 tonnes of CO₂ on commuting to college campuses, replacing 2,853 car journeys.

We operate a number of charging points for electric vehicles for use by staff and

students. We have a salary sacrifice scheme for bike users, bike area for secure cycle storage and shower facilities for bike users. We encourage staff to meet virtually where the business allows to reduce travelling between sites and there are hybrid working opportunities for most staff.

RECYCLING AND UPCYCLING

Our students run clothing library rails across the Group for pre-loved clothing to be picked up by another learner. Wood, metal, and plaster is recycled from our construction departments, with bricks and lime mortar being reused. Cardboard and paper, bottles and cans are recycled. Food waste is collected to provide biogas for energy generation off site, whilst in Horticulture we have a compost heap.

We are a Google Reference College and through the use of Google Workspace for Education, we have significantly reduced our paper use by opting for electronically available education materials.

ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Our leadership team discuss and provide a steer on sustainability matters at the highest levels of governance whilst our Sustainable Development Goals are included in all lessons.

GO LOCAL

We make a principle of using local contractors and partners in our supply chain. We have strong links with the local communities in which our students and staff live.

PRINT AND PAPER

We now use non PVC banners and all our printed literature is FSC graded or recycled. We have reduced the number of physical prospectuses in favour of using QR codes linked to our digital prospectuses.



FLORA AND FAUNA

We plant wildflower areas at our campuses and participate in 'No Mow May'.

We have wildlife gardens, 10 acres of woodland, and Dearne Valley College is a "Hedgehog-friendly" campus. We also participate annually in the RSPB Big Schools Bird Watch.



RNN GROUP SUSTAINABILITY

Designed by Student Gracie Firth.

"My logo design consists of a leaf in 4 sections, each representing the four colleges and university buildings in RNN Group. I hope that my logo can help staff and students to recognise environmental issues and how we can play a part in reducing them."

Gracie Firth
Graphic Design Student

Wellbeing Support

WELLBEING IS AT THE HEART OF OUR COLLEGES AND VALUES

Dearne Valley College recognises and places a great importance on mental health awareness and wellbeing for all members of our community – both students and staff.

We have a dedicated Student Support Team at Dearne Valley College, who offer help and support to students who may be experiencing difficult/challenging times in their personal worlds.

Our Student Support Team offers Mentoring, Counselling referrals and Safeguarding.

PEOPLE SEEK OUR TEAM'S SUPPORT FOR MANY REASONS SUCH AS EXPERIENCING:

- Anxiety, stress and panic attacks
- Feeling overwhelmed in public settings
- Low mood
- Loss and bereavement

NATIONAL FREE COUNSELLING SERVICES AND TALKING SERVICES

Kooth

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online chat and emotional wellbeing service for young people aged 11 to 25. This is a free Counselling Service.

www.kooth.com

- Disturbing and unwanted thoughts and images
- Poor sleep
- Relationship difficulties
- Identity and self-image issues
- Abuse/bullying
- Addictive behaviours (including substance abuse)
- Past trauma
- Troublesome repetitive behaviours
- Self-harming
- Frequent or troublesome issues with anger
- Concerns about living with physical illness/conditions
- Housing difficulties/problems at home
- Financial worries

Qwell

Free, safe and anonymous mental wellbeing support for adults across the UK. This service is available from 18+

www.qwell.io

Samaritans

To speak to someone call: 116 123 (free from any phone)

www.samaritans.org/branches/rotherham

MENTORING

Mentoring tends to be the first point of contact normally when accessing our team.

Mentoring offers:

- A safe space to offload, puzzle over, and work positively toward managing life issues and emotionally upsetting times
- Links to Health Support, Social Support and Primary/Secondary Care
- Practical support with housing and financial applications, and travelling to college issues
- Appropriate advocacy – when a learner may need support linking with other teams/organisations within college and sometimes with external agencies
- A place to discuss the possibility of a referral to counselling, if counselling has been requested or advised
- Safety and Welfare: Mentors and Welfare Officers will always work to keep students and the community safe and are all fully trained safeguarding staff
- Wellbeing advice including sexual health, self-care themes and self-help information

COUNSELLING

Health Assured Counselling provides free confidential support, advice and counselling for students, available 365 days a year, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Counselling offers:

- Physical and Emotional Health: Resources for anxiety, stress, and more (including SilverCloud modules).
- Personal and Home Life Support: Help with budgets, debt, civil disputes, or any personal issues.
- Student Life Assistance: Coping with exam pressure, concentration, peer relationships.

Don't forget you can always call our free 24/7 Student Wellbeing Helpline: **0800 028 3766**

SAFEGUARDING

You can contact the College Safeguarding Team (during college open hours) by:

- Contacting the team on safeguarding@rnngroup.ac.uk
- Ask for Safeguarding at the College reception desk
- Or call reception on 01709 513355 and ask for Safeguarding

Important! In a mental health crisis, at any time, day or night, you can:

- Contact the NHS Crisis Team on 0808 196 3779 – available to anyone in mental health crisis 24/7 anywhere across the South Yorkshire / Nottinghamshire area
- Call 111 (call 999 directly if emergency)
- Contact your GP
- Go directly to the nearest A&E (Emergency Department)

Student Support

SAFEGUARDING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Across all of our campuses we offer a range of services and support to help you with all aspects of student life as well as helping you overcome any difficulties.

Our Student Services, Safeguarding and Health and Wellbeing teams offer a series of services, including:

- Career and progression guidance
- In-class support
- Mental health and well-being support
- Enrichment activities and events
- Support and guidance on personal and welfare issues

If you would like additional learning support we have a dedicated team who can agree your tailored support plan to help you make the most of your college experience and reach your full potential. This includes:

- One-to-one support
- Access to assistive technologies
- Transition support
- Support with exams
- Specialist support team for SEND students

FREDIE

FREDIE stands for Fairness, Respect, Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Engagement, and for Dearne Valley College it is the backbone of a truly inclusive culture.

Diversity is good for business and diverse workforces are collaborative, creative, and are more understanding of diverse market needs. We want everyone whether staff, students or parents carers to feel they belong to a fair College that fosters inclusion through identifying common ground and finding opportunities for connection by recognising a fundamental need for respect that all human beings can understand and appreciate.

For more information visit:
nationalcentrefordiversity.com/meet-fredie



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We have a number of support schemes available to take the financial pressure off, so you can enjoy your college experience and focus on your studies.

STUDENTS AGED 16-18

When starting a college course, students are not subject to any course fees and parents or carers will be eligible to claim benefits to help you out during your time at College.

Our dedicated Finance Team are here to help you throughout your studies. You can receive help with:

- Bursaries and course-related costs
- Travel passes
- Childcare queries
- Application queries

16-18 COLLEGE BURSARY

You may be eligible to receive a contribution towards costs including:

- Travel
- Equipment
- Uniform
- Meals

For more information speak to a Learner Finance Officer in Student Services.

STUDENTS AGED 19+

Students aged 19 and over may need to pay fees towards their education. These fees are based on the level of funding provided by the Government. Many adult students are entitled to financial support, please contact Student Services to find out if you are eligible. You may be eligible to receive support including:

- Advanced Learner Loans
- Travel costs
- Childcare costs
- Awarding body and tuition fees
- Other associated study costs

CONTACT US

DEARNE VALLEY COLLEGE

For more information about student support, please visit the Information tab on dearne-coll.ac.uk or contact us directly on **01709 513355** or learn@dearne-coll.ac.uk

Additional Learning Support

HELPING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES, LEARNING DIFFERENCES, MEDICAL CONDITIONS, OR OTHER SUPPORT NEEDS.

Dearne Valley College provides Additional Learning Support (ALS) to help students with disabilities, learning differences, medical conditions, or other support needs access education successfully. The service is designed to ensure that every student can participate fully in college life and achieve their academic goals through tailored assistance.

The college supports a wide range of learners, including those with dyslexia, attention-related conditions such as ADHD, autistic spectrum conditions, mental health difficulties, physical disabilities, sensory impairments, and ongoing medical conditions. Students can discuss their support needs before starting their course, during interview, or at any point while studying. The aim is to make sure support is flexible and available whenever a learner needs it.

A key feature of the service is the personalised support plan. The Additional Learning Support team assesses each student's individual needs and agrees adjustments that can help them learn effectively. These adjustments may include changes to classroom teaching, one-to-one support, workshops, smaller teaching groups, and specialist assistive technology. The support is adapted to the learner, so it can vary depending on the type and level of need.

The college follows a graduated support model. This means support is reviewed regularly and adjusted as staff build a clearer understanding of what helps each student progress. There are different levels of provision: universal support for all students, targeted support for those with identified needs, and specialist support for students with more complex requirements, such as those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Examples of support include practical classroom adaptations such as visual aids, modified learning materials, differentiated tasks, and technology that helps with reading, writing, or organisation. Some students may also receive in-class or out-of-class learning support assistance. The service also links with wider student wellbeing resources, including mentoring, counselling, and referrals to external specialists where appropriate. This joined-up approach is intended to remove barriers to learning and support both academic progress and personal wellbeing.



The college also offers exam access arrangements. These are reasonable adjustments made to assessments so that students are not disadvantaged because of a disability or learning difficulty. Examples include extra time, supervised rest breaks, a reader, a scribe, use of assistive technology, or taking exams in a separate room. These arrangements are usually based on evidence of need and the learner's normal way of working in class.

Dearne Valley College emphasises that students should feel comfortable discussing their needs at any stage. The ALS team works closely with teaching staff and external specialists to make sure support is effective. The college highlights its specialist expertise and encourages anyone unsure about whether they need support to ask for advice. The overall goal is to create an inclusive learning environment where students can develop confidence, independence, and succeed in their studies.

Progression Plan

THREE YEAR SKILLS AND PROGRESSION PLAN

The 3-Year Plan is designed to map out and personalise the educational and developmental journey of certain learners from their current course through to their intended destination.

It acts as a strategic planning tool that captures each learner's support needs, academic goals, and preferred progression routes across a 3-year timespan.

This is a new service and support for vulnerable learners. A personalised progression plan (to work or higher-level study) to include English and Maths where needed.

A Three-Year Skills and Progression Plan Meeting will be held jointly with members of the FLEX and relevant Vocational / Subject Teams.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

How It Supports Destinations and IAG

- **Clear Destination Mapping:** Each plan identifies what the learner wants to achieve post-college – whether that's employment, further study, apprenticeships, supported internships, or independence skills.
- **Informed Decision-Making:** Curriculum teams, parents/guardians, and learners contribute to the plan, ensuring choices are well-informed and realistic.
- **Early Identification of Gaps:** If a learner's ambitions require different qualifications or support, these are flagged early, allowing time to adapt teaching or pastoral support.

- **CEIAG in Practice:** The plan links aspirations to action. It demonstrates how careers guidance, employer engagement, and curriculum align to support the individual's goals.

Support for 3-Year Journeys

- **Holistic View:** By mapping out three years, staff can anticipate and scaffold transitions. For example, a student starting in FLEX can aim to reach a Level 2 or 3 course with tailored support each year.
- **Curriculum Sequencing:** Helps staff plan learning that gradually builds skills year on year (academic, social, personal).
- **Smooth Transitions:** Ensures no student falls through the cracks between year groups or course levels. All teams are aware of the "end goal" from day one.

Informing Curriculum Teams and Planning

- **Personalisation:** Curriculum staff are briefed early about learner needs, support strategies, and their desired career path. This allows planning of inclusive activities and assessments.
- **Collaboration:** Brings together SEND, curriculum, pastoral, and careers staff – improving communication and shared ownership of outcomes.
- **Evidence for Funding and Progression:** Provides structured documentation to support funding, progression panels, and transition support services.

Wider Benefits

- **Learner Empowerment:** Gives learners ownership over their journey. It helps them visualise long-term goals and understand how current choices affect the future.

- **Parental Engagement:** Parents/guardians are actively involved, building trust and clarity in how the college is supporting their child.
- **Efficiency:** Reduces duplication across systems (Navigate, ProSolution, ProMonitor) and improves the flow of information.
- **Quality Assurance:** Demonstrates good practice in planning, CEIAG, and EHCP management during Ofsted inspections or local authority audits.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- ALL EHCP learners up to and including applying for a Level 2 course.
- All High Needs Learners up to and including applying for a Level 2 course.

All vulnerable learners (transition information from school or self declared) including:

- SEMH Needs
- High Needs
- Behavioural Support Needs
- Home Educated Young People
- Level 1 Learners Previously (L1 Jumpers)
- Those who failed to attend English and Maths exams
- Those who are predicted to fail Vocational Qualifications
- Those who are predicted to not attain English and Maths
- Looked After Child (LAC)
- Those who have self-identified as having a criminal conviction
- Up to and including applying for a Level 2 course.



For more information about our 3 year progression plan, please email:
 Louise Turner
louise.turner@rnngroup.ac.uk

Project-Based Learning

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING (PBL) PROGRAMME OVERVIEW.

The RNN Group's Project-Based Learning (PBL) Programme is a specialist 12-week provision designed to support young people aged 16-19 with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs to successfully re-engage with education, training, and employment. The programme is particularly aimed at learners who are at risk of becoming, or are currently, Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), have been home educated for an extended period, or require additional support to access further learning opportunities.

PBL uses a trauma-informed and restorative approach to learning, recognising that many young people have experienced barriers that have affected their confidence, engagement, and educational journey. Staff work closely with learners to build positive, trusting relationships that help them feel safe, valued, and ready to learn. Through practical, hands-on activities and meaningful projects, learners are encouraged to develop confidence, resilience, communication skills, and a sense of purpose.

Delivered across two key sites, Idle Valley Nature Reserve and Dearne Valley College, the programme combines outdoor education with access to vocational learning environments. This balance



provides learners with varied experiences that support both personal development and preparation for future study or employment. Learning takes place three days per week and includes classroom sessions, outdoor activities, group projects, reflective practice, and careers education.

A key feature of the programme is the development of an individual three-year Skills and Progression Plan. Learners work with staff to identify their goals, explore career pathways, and create a clear roadmap for their future. Embedded careers guidance helps students understand the qualifications, skills, and experiences needed to progress into their chosen vocational area.

The programme is delivered through four phases. Learners begin by focusing on self-awareness, confidence building, and goal setting before moving on to emotional regulation, independent living skills, communication, teamwork, and career preparation. The final stage supports transition planning, ensuring learners are prepared for their next steps in education, apprenticeships, supported internships, or employment.

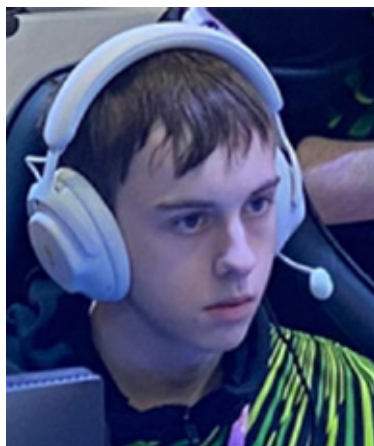
Project-based learning allows learners to experience success through practical achievements, helping them rebuild self-belief and motivation. Working

collaboratively on projects encourages teamwork, empathy, and communication while structured activities provide the predictability and support needed to develop emotional resilience. By connecting learning to real-world situations, learners gain a greater understanding of how education links to their future aspirations.

The impact of the programme is reflected in learner and parent feedback. Students report increased confidence, improved emotional regulation, stronger social skills, and a renewed enjoyment of learning. Many have successfully progressed onto vocational courses across the RNN Group, while others have developed clear career ambitions and improved attendance and engagement.

Ultimately, the Project-Based Learning Programme serves as a bridge back into education, helping young people overcome barriers, rediscover their potential, and move forward with confidence, purpose, and a realistic plan for a successful future.

What our Students Say



“The College has helped grow my confidence in social skills by leaps and bounds, my ability to communicate and present myself is now second nature.”

Rio Darlington

Level 3 - Esports

“I came to study at Dearne Valley College as the teaching is excellent and has fantastic construction facilities.”



Brendan Marshall

Bricklaying



“The College and tutors have been very helpful in supporting me throughout my time at College, with one-to-one tutorials, extensions on assignments when lagging behind.”

Sarah

HNC Animal Management

“The support is always there, even when we aren’t in College.”



Yevette

Level 2 Dog Grooming - Adult Learner

Your Study Options

Whether you're leaving school or returning to education, college is an exciting time filled with new experiences and gives you the freedom to choose your next step.

At Dearne Valley College we have a number of options for your post-16 choice including technical courses, T Levels and apprenticeships. You will acquire hands-on experience in a subject that interests you, allowing you to develop the industry skills and knowledge needed to begin a successful career.

Throughout this course guide your options will be explained to help you make an informed decision. If a number of options spark an interest, you can apply for more than one and you don't have to decide until you get your GCSE results in August which route you wish to take.

If you would like to discuss your options further get in touch with us on **schoolevents@rnngroup.ac.uk**

TECHNICAL COURSES

Technical courses are specialist courses focusing on one subject area. These courses come in a range of different course areas and provide you with all the practical skills and knowledge needed in your future career. On a technical course, you usually spend around three days-a-week studying your chosen course, with the rest of the time free to complete assignments, undertake work experience or pursue a hobby.

You may know technical courses as BTECs, NVQ and VRQs, with different courses available at a level to suit each student. More information can be found on page 28.

T LEVELS

T Levels are similar to technical courses, as they provide specialist training in a given area. The difference between the two is that T Levels include an in-depth industry placement that lasts at least 45 days. More information can be found on page 29.

APPRENTICESHIPS

An apprenticeship is a paid job where you will receive practical training and work alongside experienced staff. You will be in a real working environment, gaining employability skills and knowledge of an industry-sector.

As an apprentice, you'll work towards a nationally recognised qualification and typically spend four days a week in the workplace and one day a week at College.

Apprenticeships are competitive like any job so it's worth having a college course as a back-up option. More information on apprenticeships can be found on pages 32-33.



CASE STUDY

Finn

Animal Management

“I wouldn’t have coped well at university with the environment where you feel like just another person in the room. I prefer the intimacy of the classroom environment where you can ask questions to a tutor who knows your name and not wait for two weeks for a professor to get back to you.”

.....

Course Levels

EXPLAINED

Our courses are offered in a variety of different levels, we refer to them as Introduction Skills (Entry Level 1 – Entry Level 3), Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 courses.

Below is a table that explains what our typical entry requirements are, the course duration and what each level means to help you find a starting point.

YOUR EXAM RESULTS OR PREDICTED GRADES	YOUR STARTING POINT AT COLLEGE	TYPICAL DURATION	WHAT THIS LEVEL MEANS
5 GCSEs at grade 4 or above	T Levels	Two years	T Levels are a level 3 course which offer students a mixture of classroom learning and an industry placement of 315 hours (45 days). Equivalent to three full A-Levels.
OR			
A relevant Level 2 qualification	Level 3 course	A one or two-year course	Our Level 3 courses allow you to start to gain greater knowledge and learn advanced skills in your chosen industry.
	Level 3 Apprenticeship	Typically lasts 18 months to two years	A two-year Level 3 course is the equivalent of three full A-Levels.
4 GCSEs at grade 3 or above	Level 2 course	A one-year course	Our Level 2 courses allow you to specialise in your chosen industry.
OR			
A relevant Level 1 qualification	Level 2 Apprenticeship	Typically lasts one year	This provides a great foundation to build skills, knowledge and behaviours required for your chosen industry.
GCSEs at grade 2 or below	Level 1 course	A one year course	Our Level 1 courses give you the chance to explore a range of areas within your chosen industry, helping you to progress to Level 2.
No GCSEs or pre-GCSEs	Introduction skills (Entry Level 1 – Entry Level 3 courses)	One year per level	Our Entry Level courses introduce you to a subject area and are taught alongside other employability skills.

GRADING

Qualifications are now graded 9-1 rather than A*-G, with a grade 9 being the highest and grade 4 being an acceptable pass.

CURRENT GRADING STRUCTURE	FORMER GRADING STRUCTURE
9	A*
8	
7	
6	B
5	
4	
3	C
2	
1	
U	D
	E
	F
	U

If you would like advice on what level is most suitable to you, please contact us on schoolevents@rnngroup.ac.uk

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

In most subjects, if you haven't achieved GCSE maths and English at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.

For construction courses, if you have not achieved Level 2 in both English and Maths you will study Functional Skills or GCSE English and Maths alongside your course.

In addition to qualifications, you should also have genuine interest in the area you wish to study.

The table on page 30 shows our typical entry requirements. Some courses have additional entry requirements, which are listed throughout this guide. You can also find more information on our college websites.

PROGRESSION

After completing a Level 3 qualification you could progress into employment, further training or Higher Education.

We have Higher Education courses ranging from Level 4 to Level 7 available at our college campuses and our dedicated Higher Education campus, University Centre Rotherham (UCR). This includes Foundation Degrees, HNCs, HNDs, BA/BSc Honours and more.

WHAT IS A Technical Course?

Technical courses are designed to help you to develop the skills and confidence to succeed in your chosen career. You will be taught by tutors with industry skills and experience and you'll learn in high-quality, purpose-built facilities that simulate a real working environment.

Technical courses at Level 3 are equivalent to A-Levels and are worth UCAS points, which means you can progress onto university after completion. They are mostly assessed by project work across the year and can involve some exams and tests depending on the qualification.



Vocational courses have many different names such as BTECs, NVQs (National Vocational Qualifications) and VRQs (Vocationally Related Qualifications) that are available at different educational levels.

Technical courses at Entry, Level 1 and Level 2 also help students develop their skills and move towards work or higher-level courses.

At College, students have lots of contact with employers and businesses through work experience, talks, visits or real-life projects. Graphic design and Photography students have recently created a series of designs for Wentworth Woodhouse to engage a younger audience to visit as well as having their work showcased at the We Wonder Noir festival.

Our students go on trips to bring their subjects to life. For example, Business, Retail and Tourism students went to Clifton Park Museum to complete their tour guiding and storytelling project as they guided staff around the museum and explained the history and origins of the site.

Students may also be involved in activities that develop skills of enterprise and entrepreneurship demonstrated by our games design students, who hosted a games play fundraiser afternoon to raise money for Rotherham Hospital's Children's Ward.

As well as brilliant skill-developing activities, students also take part in fantastic competitions such as the yearly inter-college championship where Rotherham College and Dearne Valley College compete against Grimsby Institute in over 30 subject areas.

T-LEVELS

THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

WHAT ARE T LEVELS?

T Levels offer students a mixture of classroom learning and an industry placement of 315 hours (45 days) where you will be 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 equivalent to 3 A-Levels and will be assessed using a mixture of practical tasks, projects and exams.

We are currently offering T Levels in Animal Care and Health. Please check our website for the latest information.



Higher Technical Qualifications

HIGHER TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS (HTQS) ARE SPECIALIST TECHNICAL COURSES DEVELOPED WITH EMPLOYERS AND DELIVERED BY INDUSTRY EXPERTS.

WHAT ARE HTQS?

HTQs have been developed in partnership with employers and are delivered by industry experts and focus on the skills, knowledge and behaviours that are in-demand by employers.

They can also act as a stepping stone to further study, such as an apprenticeship or undergraduate degree. Whether you're looking to take the next step in your chosen career or want to retrain into a new industry, an HTQ can help you gain the skills you need for a specialist technical job.

WHAT WILL I ACHIEVE?

By completing an HTQ you will also achieve a Level 4 or 5 qualification in your subject area. These technical qualifications include Foundation Degrees, Higher National Certificates and Higher National Diplomas.

The courses are classroom-based with the opportunity to learn practical skills through workshops, role playing exercises, or using industry facilities.

University Centre Rotherham, Rotherham College and Dearne Valley College are offering HTQs in digital, construction and health and science.

Email careerscoaches@rnngroup.ac.uk for further information.



COURSE DURATION

On average an HTQ will take between 1 and 2 years to complete if studying full-time. Flexible options such as part-time, online and learning through short courses may also be available.

HTQs are provided by universities, Institutes of Technology, local colleges and independent providers.

ENTRY CRITERIA

Many providers will have their own entry criteria, such as minimum GCSE or A level (or equivalent) requirements. If you don't have GCSEs or A levels, you may be eligible for an HTQ through an Access to HE course.

COURSES AVAILABLE

Rotherham College:

- Construction Management (Site Supervisor) HTQ
- Diploma in Cybersecurity (HTQ)
- Diploma Data Analyst (HTQ)

North Notts College:

- Commercial Procurement and Supply (HTQ)
- National Certificate in Digital Technologies Software and Programming (HTQ)

Dearne Valley College:

- Health Science Associate Diploma (HTQ)
- FdSc Assistant Practitioner (HTQ)
- Youth Justice (HTQ)

WHAT IS AN Apprenticeship?

WITH AN APPRENTICESHIP, YOU CAN EARN WHILE YOU LEARN, RECEIVE TRAINING AND DEVELOP SKILLS WITHIN YOUR CHOSEN INDUSTRY SECTOR.

93%

OF APPRENTICES REMAIN EMPLOYED ON COMPLETION

2.2M

PEOPLE HAVE STARTED AN APPRENTICESHIP SINCE 2015

APPRENTICESHIPS IN PRACTICE

As an apprentice, you are a paid employee, who receives training and education in combination with gaining work experience, where you have a contract of employment and employer rights, such as paid annual leave.

Apprentices work towards a nationally recognised qualification and typically spend four days a week in the workplace and one day a week completing off-the-job training, this is typically (but not always) at College.

APPRENTICESHIP LEVELS

Apprenticeships offer a wide range of different levels to meet the fluctuating demands of each level of business. We provide apprenticeship options ranging from Level 2 to Level 6, all taught by our team of industry-experienced staff.

Type	Level	Equal Educational Level
Intermediate	2	5 GCSEs at grades 9-4
Advanced	3	2 A-Levels
Higher	4, 5	Foundation Degree
Degree	6	Bachelor's Degree

80%

OF AN APPRENTICES TIME IS SPENT AT THE WORKPLACE AND 20% DOING OFF-THE-JOB LEARNING



APPRENTICESHIP SALARIES AND BENEFITS

As an apprentice, you are entitled to earn a salary of at least the National Minimum Wage for apprentices, which is currently £8.00 (as of April 2026 - Updated annually on the 1st of April).

A lot of employers choose to pay their apprentices a higher salary than the National Minimum Wage.

As an apprentice, you are also entitled to paid holiday, sick pay, support in the form of mentoring or coaching and benefit schemes such as childcare.

£8.00

APPRENTICESHIP NATIONAL MINIMUM WAGE

OUR APPRENTICESHIPS

Our apprenticeships last anywhere from 12 months to four years and are available to anyone over the age of 16, with no upper age limit.

We offer apprenticeships in the below areas:

- Business Administration
- Construction
- Early Years and Education
- Engineering
- Hairdressing
- Health and Social Care
- Hospitality
- Management
- Motor Vehicle



OUR Courses

Environment and Creative Occupations

Animal Management including Dog Grooming **40-49**

Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management **50-55**

Essential and Supported Education

English and Maths **56-59**

FLEX (Department for students with SEND or High Needs) **60-63**

Sustainability and Commercial Industries

Construction Trades including Brick Joinery and Plastering **64-73**

Motor Vehicle including Vehicle Body Repair and Renewable Alternative Energies **74-81**

Wellbeing and Professional Services

Esports **82-87**

Health and Science **88-95**

Sport and Public Services **96-107**

We make every effort to ensure information within our College course guide is accurate and a true representation of the courses and apprenticeships we are offering in 2026/27. However, we do reserve the right to make changes if necessary.

Animal Care

Including Dog Grooming

ANIMAL CARE

In our fantastic facilities, including specialist animal housing and herpetology rooms, you'll have hands-on access to a variety of domesticated and exotic animals from a range of habitats. You'll gain a wealth of knowledge about different animal breeds, their biology, behaviour, health and welfare, as well as develop skills around their handling and care.

Our courses, from entry level through to degree level, will open the door to professional opportunities in the vast and varied animal health, welfare, handling and husbandry job sectors.

PATHWAYS	
Level 1	Transition programme to Animal Care and Land-based
Level 2	Animal Care Dog Grooming Assistant (Part Time Adult)
Level 3	Dog Grooming T-Level Animal Management Practical Animal Management Technical Animal Management
Level 4/5	HNC/HND Animal Management

WHY STUDY HERE?

- Study in state-of-the-art facilities
- Taught by industry specialists
- Access to guest speakers with key employer involvement
- Enrichment opportunities to increase employability skills

WHAT CAREERS OR STUDIES COULD I PROGRESS ON TO?

- Conservation Officer
- Dog Groomer
- Dog Handler
- Game Keeper
- Horse Riding Instructor
- Pet Shop Manager
- Veterinary Nurse
- Zoologist
- Zoo Keeper

UNIFORMS

You will be required to purchase a uniform as part of your programme, further details can be obtained at interview.



Animal Care

Including Dog Grooming

TRANSITION PROGRAMME TO ANIMAL CARE AND LAND-BASED

Whether your passion is animals, wildlife conservation or growing flowers and plants, this practical course will be the first step on the ladder to developing the core skills needed for further study or to work in land-based and/or animal care.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Assist with Maintaining of the Health and Wellbeing of Animals
- Introduction to Land Based Industries
- Assertiveness and Decision Making
- Healthy Living
- Group and Team Work
- Health and Safety in Practical Environment
- Improve Own Learning
- Personal Development

ANIMAL CARE

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Maintain Animal Health and Welfare
- Undertake Practical Animal Feeding
- Maintain Animal Accommodation
- Undertake Work Related Experience in Land Based Industries
- Understand the Basic Principles of Animal Biology
- Contribute to the Care of Exotic Animals

T LEVEL ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Our T Level Animal Management course will give you the hands-on experience of managing animal environments. You will learn management responsibilities and development throughout this course.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Sustainability, Including Environmental Legislation, Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Waste Management Principles
- The Principles of Biosecurity
- Employment Rights and Responsibilities and Progression Opportunities within the Sector Ethical Principles
- The Supply Chain and Principles of Stock Management
- Business Organisations, Enterprise Skills and Project Management
- Characteristics Protected by Equality Legislation
- Communication
- Principles of Customer Care
- Finance
- Health and Safety
- Information and Data

UNIFORMS

You will be required to purchase a uniform as part of your programme further details can be obtained at interview.



**WE OFFER T LEVELS
IN THIS SUBJECT**



ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.

Animal Care

Including Dog Grooming



PRACTICAL ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

If you would love to work hands on with animals then our Animal Management courses may be for you. There are two routes to choose from, practical and non-practical.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Promote and maintain the health and wellbeing of animals
- Plan the handling and restraint of animals
- Plan, supervise and control the movement of animals
- Plan the accommodation of animals
- Plan animal diets and feeding regimes
- Recognise and interpret the behaviour of animals
- Handle animals
- Load and unload animals for transport

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Animal Biology
- Animal Welfare and Ethics
- Practical Animal Husbandry
- Work Experience in the Animal Sector
- Farm Livestock Husbandry
- Wildlife and Conservation Management
- Animal Breeding and Genetics
- Animal Behaviour
- Animal Health and Diseases
- Investigative Research Project
- Principles of Animal Nursing
- Exotic Animal Husbandry
- Zoological Animal Health and Husbandry

WE OFFER T LEVELS
IN THIS SUBJECT

UNIFORMS

You will be required to purchase a uniform as part of your programme, further details can be obtained at interview.

Animal Care

Including Dog Grooming

PART TIME - ADULT

LEVEL 2 + LEVEL 3

DOG GROOMING

Would you love a career in dog grooming?

With our Dog Grooming courses you will be able to gain the knowledge and skills in all aspects of care and grooming. This qualification covers the skills you will need to progress to work as a Professional Dog Groomer.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Prepare and groom for dogs prior to bathing
- Bathing of dogs
- Dry dogs and prepare a dog for styling
- Carry out trimming of a dog's coat to prepare for styling
- Move and lift dogs
- Maintain the cleanliness and biosecurity of the dog grooming environment
- Professional conduct
- Introduction to anatomical features, breed characteristics and behaviour of dogs
- Health and safety, legislation and codes of practice for the dog grooming industry various assessments that could be included
- Styling and finishing a dog
- Health checking and handing a dog in a dog grooming environment
- Customer service and record keeping in a dog grooming environment

WHY STUDY HERE?

Dearne Valley College has a purpose-built dog grooming salon. You will be taught by an industrial specialist with up to date professional knowledge.



UNIFORMS

You will be required to purchase a uniform as part of your programme, further details can be obtained at interview.

CASE STUDY

Kayleigh Shaw

Level 2 Dog Grooming

“I enjoy coming to Dearne Valley College and learning in the fantastic teaching environment. After I finish my Level 2 course, I plan to continue my studies and progress to Level 3.”

.....



Future Careers...

IN ANIMAL CARE

The animal care sector is ideal for those who enjoy working outside in physically demanding settings or have a passion for caring for animals.

TYPES OF ROLES AVAILABLE:

ANIMAL CARE WORKER

Animal Care Workers look after animals in kennels, rescue centres, pet shops and sanctuaries.

Salary range - £21,000-£24,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Check animals daily and monitor their health and behaviour, clean out kennels, enclosures, cages or stables, prepare food and help out at feeding times, clean and groom animals, exercise animals regularly, look after sick or distressed animals, update records and deal with questions from colleagues or the public.*

Working environments:

You could work at an animal welfare centre, at a wildlife park, in kennels or at a store. Your working environment may be outdoors some of the time, physically demanding and dirty.*

DOG HANDLER

Dog handlers work with specially trained dogs to help detect and prevent crime, find lost or missing people and protect property.

Salary range - £23,000-£34,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Patrol premises and protect property, search for lost or missing people, detect drugs, firearms or explosives, control crowds, look after your dog in your own home and attend training courses with your dog.*

Working environments:

Your working environment may be outdoors in all weathers and physically demanding.*

In-demand power skills that commonly appear in job descriptions for roles within the animal care sector include:**

- Communication
- Management
- Customer Service
- Patience
- Positivity

*Information from National Careers Service 2026

**Information from Lightcast 2026

Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management

**NURTURE NATURE IN A STATE-OF-
THE-ART LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.**



UNIFORMS

You will be required to purchase a uniform as part of your programme further details can be obtained at interview.

HORTICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

With us, you can grow your skills and put your budding brain to use in our well-managed learning environments. Combine creativity with nature and science in our outdoor facilities by helping develop a conservation area to protect the rare, wild orchids growing in our 12-acre forest.

Grow a wide range of organic produce for sale at our on-site farm shop. Gain key environment management skills by working in our polytunnels. Students who have completed their qualifications with us are employed across a variety of professions and many have progressed on to Higher Education.

WHY STUDY HERE?

- Study in state-of-the-art facilities
- Taught by industry specialists
- Access to Guest speakers and have employer involvement
- Enrichment opportunities to increase employability skills

WHAT CAREERS OR STUDIES COULD I PROGRESS ON TO?

- Arborist
- Conservation Officer
- Farm Worker
- Game Keeper
- Landscape Gardener

PATHWAYS	
Level 1	Transition programme to Animal Care and Land-based
Level 2	Landscape Gardening and Ground Maintenance Landscaping and Horticulture (Part Time Adult) Award In The Principles of Safe Handling and Application of Pesticides Award In The Safe Application of Pesticides Using Pedestrian Hand Held Equipment Award in the Safe Application of Pelleted or Granular Pesticides using Mounted or Trailed Applicators



Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management

TRANSITION PROGRAMME TO ANIMAL CARE AND LAND-BASED

Whether your passion is animals, wildlife conservation or growing flowers and plants, this practical course will be the first step on the ladder to developing the core skills needed for further study or to work in land-based and/or animal care.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Assist with Maintaining of the Health and Wellbeing of Animals
- Introduction to Land Based Industries
- Assertiveness and Decision Making
- Healthy Living
- Group and Team Work
- Health and Safety in Practical Environment
- Improve Own Learning
- Personal Development



LANDSCAPE GARDENING AND GROUND MAINTENANCE

Would you flourish working in the outdoors? Growing your skills and gaining key environment management knowledge to progress in the future? Then our landscape gardening and grounds maintenance course may be for you.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Laying Hard Surfaces for External Landscaping
- Prepare Ground or Area for Planting
- Plant Out Container-grown Plants
- Plant a Tree
- Care for a Planted Area
- Prune Deciduous Spring-flowering Shrubs
- Propagate Plants by Stem Cuttings
- Erect a Garden Fence
- Maintain Turf
- Mow Turf Using a Pedestrian-controlled Mower

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.





Future Careers...

IN HORTICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT

The land-based sector is ideal for those who enjoy working outside in physically demanding settings.

TYPES OF ROLES AVAILABLE:

LAND SURVEYOR

Land surveyors measure the shape of the land, and gather data for civil engineering and construction projects.

Salary range - £20,000-£50,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Collect and analyse data to map the land for civil engineering and construction projects, carry out surveys and identify potential effects of construction on the environment.*

Working environments:

You could work in an office or on a construction site. You may need to wear safety clothing and use safety equipment.*

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER

Agricultural Engineers build, service and repair agricultural, horticultural and forestry machinery and equipment.

Salary range - £28,000-£50,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Assess the environmental impact of agricultural production methods, supervise building projects such as land drainage, reclamation and irrigation, solve engineering problems, test and install new equipment, use GPS, weather data and computer modelling to give advice on land use and plan service and repair programmes for machinery.*

Working environments:

You could work in an office, on a farm or in a laboratory. Your working environment may be outdoors in all weathers.*

In-demand power skills that commonly appear in job descriptions for roles within the land-based sectors include:**

- Willingness to Learn
- Functional Skills
- Positivity
- Enthusiasm

*Information from National Careers Service 2026

**Information from Lightcast 2026

English and Maths

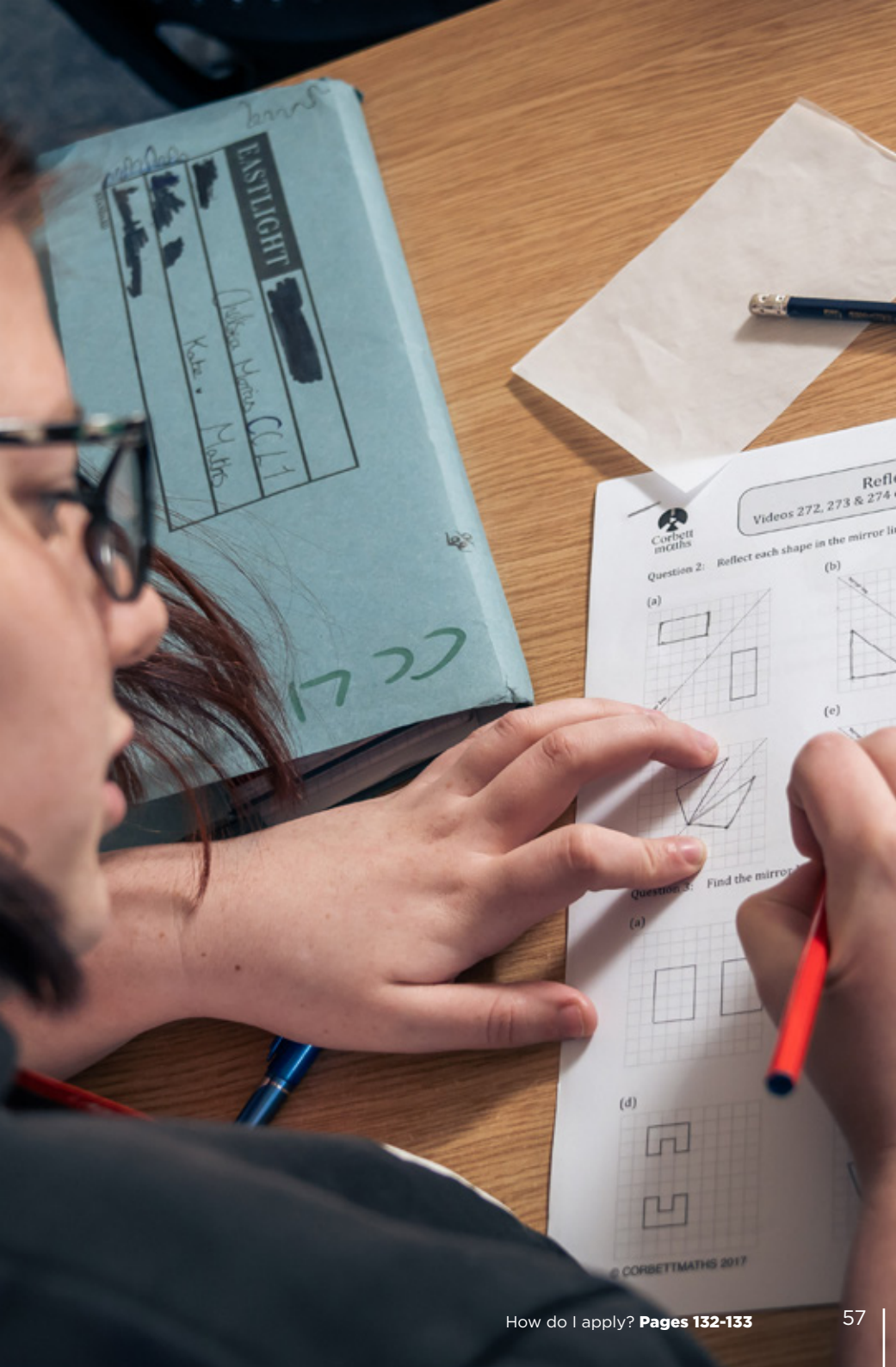
MAKE EVERYDAY LIFE EASIER WITH ESSENTIAL ENGLISH AND MATHS SKILLS.

English and maths skills are essential for work and every day life. That's why we offer a wide variety of courses in English and maths at Dearne Valley College.

Enabling you to move on to higher levels of Further Education, have better job prospects and more job security. We will fully support you to build your confidence in order to achieve your full potential and will ensure to personalise our programmes to suit your needs.

You'll be taught by our experienced team who will support and inspire you to build your knowledge in a way that best suits you, within our innovative and purposefully designed learning spaces.





English and Maths

ENTRY LEVEL

FUNCTIONAL SKILLS ENGLISH

This course will help you to build your confidence and independence at home and at work. With classes from Entry Level, these qualifications cover everything from the very basics to more advanced skills. This is a great course for those wanting to build on their ability to write professional letters, reports and CVs.

This course is free to those in receipt of a means tested benefit or those without an English and maths qualification. If you currently hold an English and maths qualification and would like to improve your grade there is a £362.00 cost per course.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Reading Skills
- Spelling
- Writing Skills
- Punctuation
- Communication Skills

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Students can progress onto studying their GCSEs or other Vocational courses. This course will help you move on to another course, enhance your current job opportunities or increase your chances of gaining employment.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- There are no formal entry requirements, but you will need to attend an initial assessment session to determine what level you are to be offered

GCSE

GCSE ENGLISH

This part-time course is perfect for those wanting to gain a qualification in English. If you already have a GCSE qualification in English below a grade 4, the course will be fully funded. You will be taught by our dedicated team who will support you in your learning so that you can develop your knowledge.

This course is free to those in receipt of a means tested benefit or those without an English and maths qualification. If you currently hold a maths and English qualification and would like to improve your grade there is a £362.00 cost per course.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Creative Writing
- Speaking and Listening
- Spoken Language Study
- Reading
- Writing
- Extended Reading

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Students can progress onto further study or Higher Education courses.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- You will need to complete an assessment which meets the entry criteria

ENTRY LEVEL**FUNCTIONAL SKILLS
MATHS**

This course will help you to build your confidence and independence at home and at work. With sessions from Entry Level, these qualifications cover everything from the very basics to more advanced skills. This is a great course for those wanting to progress in their career or support children with their homework.

This course is free to those in receipt of a means-tested benefit or those without an English and maths qualification. If you currently hold an English and maths qualification and would like to improve your grade there is a £362.00 cost per course.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Addition
- Subtraction
- Multiplication and Division
- Calculating Area, Volume and Capacity
- Graphs and Charts
- Fractions, Decimals, and Percentages
- Problem-solving
- Measure and Ratio

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Students can progress onto GCSE maths or other vocational courses.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- There are no entry requirements needed but you will need to attend an initial assessment session to determine what level you are to be offered

GCSE**GCSE MATHS**

This part time course is perfect for those wanting to gain a qualification in maths. If you already have a GCSE qualification in maths below a grade 4, the course will be fully funded. You will be taught by our dedicated team who will support you in your learning so that you can develop your knowledge.

This course is free to those in receipt of a means tested benefit or those without an English and maths qualification. If you currently hold an English and maths qualification and would like to improve your grade there is a £362.00 cost per course.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Algebra
- Geometry and Measures
- Number
- Statistics and Probability
- Flexible Courses Tailored to Your Needs
- Support with Employability Skills

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Students can progress onto further study or Higher Education courses.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- You will need to complete an assessment which meets the entry criteria



AVERAGES AND RANGE
▶▶▶▶▶▶▶▶

MEAN
MODE AND
RANGE

Flex

LEARN THE SKILLS YOU NEED TO PROGRESS TO EMPLOYMENT OR VOLUNTEERING IN OUR FLEX DEPARTMENT.

Our FLEX Department is for students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or High Needs.

You can choose from one of our four, project-led pathways depending on your personal aims and ambitions; Horizons, Pre-internships or Supported Internships with each pathway intended to help you towards one of two key goals – adulthood and independence or employment. We'll also help you with your English, maths and IT skills.

Our dedicated FLEX area includes a relaxation area, sensory room, sensory room, kitchen area, classroom, computer room, break-out spaces for small group interactions.

At Dearne Valley College you'll learn in our purpose-built facility and have access to our on-site facilities including our gym, sports centre and outdoor facilities.

We work closely with all of the colleges in our Group to provide access to as many experiences as possible, so whichever one of our colleges you're based at you'll have the opportunity to meet people from other areas.

We have strong partnerships with local businesses and organisations and work with them to get involved in community projects. You'll also have the chance to take part in a wide range of health and wellbeing activities, from fitness classes to music and art therapy sessions.

Flex

FLEX

HORIZONS

The intent of this programme is to primarily support students who suffer with low self-esteem, are deemed vulnerable and who may have specific SEMH and/or behavioural needs.

This programme is designed for those students who are unclear of their career aspirations and who are not fully equipped with the knowledge, skills and behaviours required to progress onto a specific vocational area of choice.

This programme will provide students with the opportunity to experience 'taster' sessions within a range of vocational areas to get a feel of what sector they are interested in progressing in, whilst at the same time developing their employability and personal and social development skills towards adulthood. Students will attend College three days per week.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Employability Skills
- Personal and Social Development Skills
- Independence Skills
- Communication
- Study Skills
- Vocational Specific Units/Skills
- English, maths and ICT

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Students can progress onto another course with FLEX department such as Pre-Internships and Supported Internships. Students also have the opportunity to progress onto a Vocational Study Programme. An alternative progression route would be Semi-independent living or Supported living.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

You must have an EHCP in place

FLEX

ENGAGE

This course is open to Year 11 learners who have been NCC Home educated for a minimum of 6 months, and may be appropriate for those who have social, emotional and mental health needs, as well as those wanting to transition back into an educational setting.

Engage will provide you with the basic skills that are required to move you forward and offer you the chance to try different subject areas to help you select your chosen pathway.

This is a part time provision that is in addition to home education, it doesn't replace it.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will study a range of topics including:

- Developing skills for employment, training and personal development
- Introduction to vocational areas that interest you.
- Maths and English (if you haven't yet achieved that important grade 4).

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for provision at one of our Colleges, you must either have been in care of the local authority for more than 24 hours or, If you are Elective Home Educated, you must have been home educated for a minimum of six months.

FLEX**PRE-INTERNSHIPS**

Pre-internships are designed to introduce students with SEND and High Needs to working life and are offered in a range of different sectors including Construction, Business Administration, Health and Beauty and Motor Vehicle.

The aim is to support you to develop the confidence and knowledge, skills and behaviours to become employable in your chosen sector.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Employability Skills
- Personal Development and Independence
- While studying with us we will work with you to ensure that your maths, English, maths and ICT skills are the best that they can be

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

Students can progress onto another course with FLEX department such as Supported Internships. Students could also seek employment or undertake voluntary work.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

You must have an EHCP in place

FLEX**SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS**

A Supported Internship is a study programme aimed at giving young people (aged 16-24) with an Education, Health and Care Plan experience in the workplace within a supported environment.

It is a platform for you to further develop your skills and experience in a structured way.

You will take part in the programme with one of our partner employers and spend at least two days (10 hours) per week working in different areas to gain valuable experience with the support of an on-site Job Coach.

You will spend approximately one day at College each week.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Employability Skills
- Personal Development and Independence
- While studying with us we will work with you to ensure that your maths, English and ICT skills are the best that they can be
- This course has an emphasis on being out in the work place developing valuable employability skills, you will spend the majority of your time with an employer

WHAT CAN I DO NEXT?

After completing a Supported Internship, students can progress onto paid employment, undertake voluntary work, or an Apprenticeship.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- You must have an EHCP in place
- You must be committed to participating fully in a work placement, adhering to employers policies etc
- Good attendance and punctuality record
- Willingness to accept a suitable job offer

Construction Trades

Including Brick, Joinery and Plastering

OUR DEDICATED CONSTRUCTION CENTRE PROVIDES YOU WITH THE BUILDING BLOCKS FOR YOUR FUTURE.

At Dearne Valley College you can build your career in construction and learn a hands-on skilled trade that will prepare you for this exciting and varied industry.

We offer training in construction trades including courses and apprenticeships in bricklaying, carpentry and joinery and plastering.

There are fantastic opportunities to showcase your skills at competitions and get involved in real-life projects, which will help you develop your CV and enhance your employability. You'll be supported by industry experienced tutors and have the opportunity to complete an industry placement, which will help to develop your employability skills and build your network of contacts. All of our graduates will receive the relevant CSCS card.



BRICKLAYING

You'll learn all the key skills for being a Bricklayer: constructing half brick and solid walling, cavity walls, arches and solid wall piers, decorative fireplaces and chimney stacks. Other skills include, brick bonding, trowel skills and building complex masonry. Alongside practical skills you'll also study health, safety and welfare and site procedures in construction. You'll meet key employers in the trade and carry out work experience.

PLASTERING

Our construction centre offers an industry-standard learning environment where each trade has its own workshop space, fitted with both individual booths and large workspaces. After successfully completing one of our industry-recognised qualifications you can pursue a career in the building industry as a plasterer or further your knowledge and experience with an apprenticeship.

CARPENTRY AND JOINERY

You'll learn how to use wood machinery and power tools, explore all aspects of kitchen fitting, building partition walls, fitting door linings and fitting doors, modern truss roof construction, timber floor and roofing techniques and timber technology.

PATHWAYS

Level 1	Bricklaying
	Carpentry and Joinery
	Introduction to Plastering (Adult Course)
	Plastering
Level 2	Bricklaying
	Carpentry and Joinery
	Plastering
	Bricklayer Apprenticeship
Level 3	Carpentry and Joinery Apprenticeship
	Work-Based Plastering (Adult Course)
	Plastering
	Plastering Apprenticeship

UNIFORMS

You will be required to purchase a uniform, safety boots and PPE as part of your programme. Further details can be obtained at interview.

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you have not achieved Level 2 in both English and Maths you will study Functional Skills or GCSE English and Maths alongside your course.

Construction Trades

Including Brick, Joinery and Plastering

BRICKLAYING

Would you like to build on your skills and create a dream career within bricklaying? Our practical bricklaying courses will give you the skills you need to start, from learning the basic techniques to more advanced. You will have a solid foundation to begin your career.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Cavity Wall
- ½ Brick Wall
- Single Skin Block Wall
- Solid Walls
- T-Junction
- Handle, Move and Store Resources
- Construction Community Projects
- Personal Wellbeing
- Repair and Maintain Masonry
- Construct Cavity Walls
- Construct Solids Walls
- Setting out Masonry Structures
- Repair and Maintain Masonry
- Construct Masonry Cladding
- Construct Thin Joint Masonry
- Non-specialist Concrete: Placing and Finishing
- Lay Domestic Drainage
- Laying Modular Paving
- Mixing Construction Materials
- Construction Information Quantities and Communications
- Personal Skills in the Industry

BRICKLAYING APPRENTICESHIP

On this apprenticeship you will work towards a nationally recognised qualification in Brickwork. As an apprentice Bricklayer, you will lay bricks, blocks and other types of building components in mortar to construct and repair walls, foundations, partitions, arches and other structures such as chimney stacks. You may also work on refurbishment and restoration projects.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Health and Safety
- Customer Service
- Communication.
- Preparation of Material
- Safe Working
- Masonry Structures
- Radial and Battered Brickwork
- Feature and Reinforced Brickwork
- Building Technology

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you have not achieved Level 2 in both English and Maths you will study Functional Skills or GCSE English and Maths alongside your course.



Construction Trades

Including Brick, Joinery and Plastering

CARPENTRY AND JOINERY

Are you passionate about working in a practical environment? From building window frames to hanging doors, our carpentry and joinery course will be able to help you build a range of skills you will need to start a career in this industry.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Door Lining
- Hanging a Door
- Panel Door
- Roof Truss
- Skirting and Architrave
- Window frame
- Preparing and Using Carpentry and Joinery Portable Power Tools
- Handle, Move and Store Resources
- Perform Joinery Operations
- Undertake Structural Carcassing Operations
- First and Second Fix Carpentry Operations
- Maintaining Non-structural Carpentry Work
- Marking Out Routine Joinery Products from Setting Out Details
- Producing Setting Out Details for Routine Joinery Products
- Manufacturing Standard Joinery Products
- Personal Skills Within the Industry
- Environmental Awareness and Sustainability in Construction

CARPENTRY AND JOINERY APPRENTICESHIP

On this apprenticeship you will work towards a nationally recognised qualification in either Site Carpentry. You will work towards your qualification whilst attending college one day per week to carry-out your practical and written assessments.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Health and Safety
- Safe Working
- Preparation of Materials
- Prepare and Install Basic Building Components e.g. Doors, Straight Staircases, Wall and Floor Units.
- Erecting Structural Carpentry and Roof Structures on a Building Site or in Domestic and Commercial Premises.



Construction Trades

Including Brick, Joinery and Plastering

PLASTERING

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

If you would love to work hands on in a construction environment then plastering may be for you. Level up your skills and learn the trade to start your dream job.

- Apply Plaster Around an Opening
- Apply Plaster to Non-solid Internal Backgrounds
- Form Sand and Cement Screeds
- Prepare and Fix Plasterboard and Set
- Produce Components from Moulds
- Apply Plaster to Solid Backgrounds
- Apply Plaster to Internal Surfaces
- Apply Render to External Surfaces
- Preparing Background Surfaces for Products
- Forming Sand and Cement Screeds
- Produce Cement Castings
- Repair and Maintain Plasterwork
- Produce Cement, Position and Secure Fibrous Plaster Components
- Analysing Technical Information, Quantities and Communication
- Analysing the Construction Industry and Built Environment
- Apply Plaster Materials to Produce Complex Internal Surfaces

- Apply Render to Produce Complex External Surfaces
- Prepare and Run In-situ Moulds
- Construction Health and Safety

PLASTERING APPRENTICESHIP

This apprenticeship is the ideal starting point for those looking to start their own business or any career within the world of plastering. The apprenticeship will provide you with a nationally recognised qualification, give you an introduction to the construction industry and support you in continuing to develop your practical plastering skills and a thorough understanding of the underpinning knowledge needed in industry.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Internal Plastering
- External Plastering (traditional, modern and spray render methods)
- Fibrous Plastering
- In-situ Moulds (both plaster and sand and cement)
- Dry Lining
- Interior Systems
- Heritage Plastering Systems

SAFETY PPE

You will be required to purchase Safety Boots as part of your programme. Further details can be obtained at interview.

ADULT COURSE INTRODUCTION TO PLASTERING

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Health & Safety and PPE
- To Cut and Fix Plaster Board to Walls and Ceilings
- To Tape Standard and Internal Joints
- To Cut and Fix Angle Beads around Windows and Reveals
- To Prepare Surfaces Before Plastering Using Bonding Plaster and Finishing Plaster, Ensuring a Flat Finished Surface Ready for Decorating
- To Mix Plastering Materials
- To Skim Walls
- To Skim Ceilings
- To Apply PVA Adhesive Unibond to Existing Surfaces.

ADULT COURSE WORK-BASED PLASTERING

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Applying Finishing Plaster to Prepared Surfaces in the Workshop
- Apply Solid Render to Background Surfaces and Producing Finishes in the Workplace
- Conforming to General Health, Safety and Welfare in the Workplace
- Conforming to Productive Working Practices in the Workplace
- Moving, Handling and Storing Resources in the Workplace
- Producing Internal Solid Plastering Finishes in the Workplace
- Installing Direct Bond Dry Lining Systems in the Workplace
- Installing Mechanically Fixed Plasterboard in the Workplace



CASE STUDY

Joel

Joinery

“This course has been extremely helpful in improving my skills and knowledge and did provided me with all the support I needed.”

.....

Future Careers...

IN CONSTRUCTION

The construction sector is ideal for those who like working outside, enjoy working practically and the ability to use their own initiative.

CARPENTER

Carpenters make, install and repair wooden items like wall panels, flooring, door and window frames, roof rafters, staircases, cabinets and furniture.

Average salary - £24,000 to £40,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Discuss plans and job instructions with clients or site managers, cut timber for floorboards, doors, skirting boards and window frames, make and fit staircases, door frames, roof timbers and partition walls, assemble fitted and free-standing furniture, install kitchen units, cabinets and shelving, construct wooden supports, called shuttering, which hold concrete in place while it sets, fit interiors in shops, bars, restaurants and offices and build stage sets for theatre, film and TV productions.*

Working environments:

You could work in a workshop, on a construction site, at a client's business or at a client's home.*

BRICKLAYER

Bricklayers build houses, repair walls and chimneys and refurbish decorative stonework. They also work on heritage and restoration projects.

Average salary - ££25,000 to £45,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Read and follow building plans for each job, measure work areas and set out the first rows of bricks or blocks, mix mortar by hand or with a mechanical mixer, use a trowel to lay mortar and place bricks, shape and trim bricks using hammers, chisels and power tools, check rows are straight using a spirit level, laser level or plumb line, repoint brickwork to repair old or damaged mortar joints and build architectural and ornamental brickwork features.*

Working environments:

You could work on a construction site or at a client's home. Your working environment may be physically demanding, outdoors in all weathers, at height and you'll travel often.*

In-demand skills that commonly appear in job descriptions for roles within the construction sector include:**

- Communication
- Customer Service
- Detail Oriented
- Planning
- Problem Solving

*Information from National Careers Service 2026

**Information from Lightcast 2026

Motor Vehicle

Including Vehicle Repair and Renewable Alternative Energies

GEAR UP FOR YOUR FUTURE IN OUR HANDS-ON, STATE-OF-THE-ART WORKSHOPS.

Our Motor Vehicle courses give you access to modern professional-standard workshops where you can learn from industry-experienced tutors in environments that reflect real-world working environments. As well as top-quality workspaces you'll have the chance to gain sought-after skills and work on emerging technologies such as electric and hybrid vehicles. You can choose to specialise in either vehicle maintenance or vehicle repair, opening up a breadth of career choices in an evolving industry.

MOTOR VEHICLE

The motor vehicle teaching team has a passion for all things automotive, creating an energetic and rewarding learning environment. Within our industry-standard, state-of-the-art workshops, you'll be hands-on working on real vehicles, to gain the knowledge and skills that will enable you to achieve your aims and ambitions within the motor vehicle industry.

Our experienced staff will provide you with the experience of vehicle maintenance, vehicle fitting, body repair, hybrid and electric vehicle awareness and automotive refrigerant handling.

UNIFORMS

You will be required to purchase safety boots and overalls as part of your programme. Further details can be obtained at interview.

PATHWAYS - MOTOR VEHICLE

Level 1	Vehicle Accident - Multi Trade
Level 2	Vehicle Fitting
	Body
	Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair
	Hybrid/Electric (Adult Course)
Level 3	Introduction to Hybrid/Electric (Adult Course)
	Autocare Apprenticeship
	MOT Technician
	F-Gas (Adult Course)
	Light Vehicle Maintenance and Repair
Level 4	Vehicle Service and Maintenance Technician Apprenticeship
	Hybrid/Electric (Adult Course)
	Vehicle Accident Repair
	MOT Manager
Level 4	Hybrid/Electric (Adult Course)

WHY STUDY HERE?

You can fuel your future in our state-of-the-art motor vehicle workshop at Dearne Valley College. If you're interested in a career in motor vehicles you can train in our high-spec facilities, which reflect those used in industry.

This includes working on modern electric and hybrid vehicles where you can learn key power skills that will prepare you for the ever-evolving motor vehicle industry.

WHAT CAREERS OR STUDIES COULD I PROGRESS ON TO?

- Mechanic
- Auto Electrician
- Vehicle Maintenance Technician
- Body Repair Technician
- Diagnostic technician

Motor Vehicle

Including Vehicle Repair and Renewable Alternative Energies

VEHICLE ACCIDENT REPAIR (MULTI-SKILL)

This course provides the opportunity to develop essential motor vehicle body repair skills needed by employers in today's workplace.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Health and Safety in the Workplace
- Tools, Equipment and Consumable Materials for Vehicle Maintenance
- Engine Cooling System Components and Maintenance
- Steering System Components and Maintenance
- Braking System Components and Maintenance
- Vehicle Electrical Circuits and Components
- Remove and Replace Interior and Exterior Trim
- Vehicle Damage Assessment
- Introduction to Metal Preparation
- Panel Removal and Refitting
- Minor Panel Damage Repairs
- Vehicle Welding Techniques
- Adhesive Bonding and Mechanical Fastening
- Primer Preparation and Application Techniques
- Vehicle Interior, Exterior Valeting and Detailing



VEHICLE FITTING

This course engages and motivates students who do not have any formal entry qualifications and are interested in developing skills specific to the maintenance of motor vehicles and the various roles that are available in the retail motor industry.

The delivery model focuses on developing a combination of knowledge, skills and behaviours with the flexibility to learn and make progress in manageable steps.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Health, Safety and Good Housekeeping in the Automotive Environment
- Supporting Career Roles in the Automotive Environment
- Materials, Fabrication, Tools and Measuring Devices Used in the Automotive Environment
- Inspection, Repair and Replacement of High-Performance Light Vehicle Tyre
- Inspection, Testing and Replacement of Vehicle Batteries and Related Components Inspection, Adjustment and Replacement of Light Vehicle Braking Systems and Components

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.

LIGHT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Health, Safety and Good Housekeeping in the Automotive Environment
- Supporting Job Roles in the Automotive Environment
- Materials, Fabrication, Tools and Measuring Devices used in the Automotive Environment
- Routine Light Vehicle Maintenance
- Removing and Replacing Light Vehicle Engine Units and Components
- Light Vehicle Engine Mechanical, Lubrication and Cooling System Units and Components
- Removing and Replacing Light Vehicle Electrical Units and Components
- Removing and Replacing Light Vehicle Chassis Units and Components
- Removing and Replacing Light Vehicle Transmission and Driveline Units and Components
- Diagnosing and Rectifying Vehicle Auxiliary Electrical Faults
- Diagnosing and Rectifying Light Vehicle Engine Faults
- Diagnosing and Rectifying Light Vehicle Chassis System Faults
- Diagnosis and Rectification of Light Vehicle Chassis System Faults
- Diagnosis and Rectification of Light Vehicle Transmission and Driveline Faults

Motor Vehicle

Including Vehicle Repair and Renewable Alternative Energies

VEHICLE ACCIDENT REPAIR PAINT

Our courses in Vehicle Accident Repair will provide you with practical automotive skills and underpinning theory and knowledge needed to repair a range of motor vehicles, delivered within our specialist automotive workshops.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Health, Safety and Good Housekeeping in the Automotive Environment
- Knowledge of Support for Job Roles in the Automotive Environment
- Tools and Equipment Used in Vehicle Refinishing
- Applying Fillers and Foundation Materials
- Preparing Metal and Pre-Painted Surfaces
- Knowledge of Repairing Minor Paint Defects
- Removing and Fitting Non-Permanently Fixed Motor Vehicle Body Panels
- Preparation and application procedures
- Diagnosis and rectifying of paint faults
- Working with plastic materials and components
- Preparing metal and pre-painted surfaces
- Establishing paint defects
- Applying topcoats and completing refinishing
- Colour matching

AUTOCARE APPRENTICESHIP

On this apprenticeship you will carry out a range of services and repairs to cars, car derived vans and light goods vehicles, working in an Auto-care or a 'Fast-Fit' centre, which may be part of a national chain or operated by a regional/local independent group/owner. Upon completion, you will attain a nationally recognised qualification.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Tyre Legislation and Technical Information
- Fundamentals of Specific Vehicle Systems
- Vehicle System Component Replacement
- 4-wheel Geometry Principles and Operations
- Basic Consumer Legislation
- Health and Safety Legislation
- Hybrid/Electric Vehicle Systems

SAFETY PPE

You will be required to purchase Safety Boots and Overalls as part of your programme. Further details can be obtained at interview.



AND MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN APPRENTICESHIP

On this apprenticeship you will carry out a range of services and repairs to cars, car derived vans and light goods vehicles. You will work on all the systems found within the vehicle, including replacing simple parts to solving complex faults with the use of diagnostic methods and equipment. Upon completion, you will attain a nationally recognised qualification.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Routine Servicing and Inspection Procedures
- Steering and Suspension Geometries
- Electrical Circuit Requirements and Calculations
- Common Fault Types, Causes and Effects
- Vehicle Emissions and Legal Requirements
- Alternative Fuels and Hybrid and Electric Systems

ADULT COURSE

HYBRID AND ELECTRIC

The content of these qualifications have been designed to give the learners the knowledge and skills required to work safely on Electric/Hybrid vehicles whilst carrying out diagnostic, testing and repair activities.

This may include vehicles that may have or had damage to their high energy/electrical system.

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.



Future Careers...

IN MOTOR VEHICLE

The Motor Vehicle sector is ideal for those who have an enthusiasm for repairing cars, have problem-solving skills and the ability to use their own initiative.

TYPES OF ROLES AVAILABLE:

MOTOR MECHANIC

Motor Mechanics repair and service cars and vans.

Average salary - £22,000 to £42,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Find and diagnose faults using hand tools or a computer, advise customers on what repairs are needed, including costs, carry out regular maintenance, and repair or replace faulty parts, test vehicles on the road to check repairs, monitor stock levels and update vehicle service records and work with high voltage batteries, if you deal with hybrid or electric vehicles.*

Working environments:

You could work at a garage. Your working environment may be noisy, dirty and physically active. You may need to wear safety clothing and use safety equipment.*

ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE TECHNICIAN

Roadside Assistance Technicians help people whose vehicles have broken down.

Average salary - £30,000 to £55,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Respond to breakdown calls from a control centre, make sure the vehicle, driver and passengers are safe, examine the vehicle to find and diagnose the fault, carry out roadside repairs, tow or transport the vehicle to a garage if major repair work is needed, arrange transport for the driver of the broken down vehicle and complete record sheets for each job.*

Working environments:

You could work at a garage, from a vehicle or on call-out to wherever the car owner is. Your working environment may be outdoors some of the time and you'll travel often. You may need to wear protective clothing.*

In-demand skills that commonly appear in job descriptions for roles within the motor vehicle sector include*:

- Customer Service
- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Detail Oriented
- Diagnostic Skills

*Information from National Careers Service 2026

**Information from Lightcast 2026

Esports

LEVEL UP YOUR FUTURE WITH OUR AMAZING ESPORTS COURSES.

Esports is one of the fastest growing participation sports in the world. Esports is a fusion of gaming, business, events and health and wellbeing subjects brought together under one roof.

Our Level 1, 2 and 3 courses are a brilliant blend of Computing, Business Studies, Sports and Social Media, so you're equipped with the best chance for your dream career in the rapidly expanding Esports sector.

Esports allows you to express your passion for gaming and apply it to a multitude of roles within this developing and exciting industry.

Our programmes encourage you to develop skills in gaming and equip you with the skills for success across a whole range of supporting roles within the sector. Completing our Level 3 Access course also opens the door to exciting degree level studies at DVC and level 4 and level 5 programmes to enable you to access higher-level employment.

Core units of study at all levels include: Introduction to Esports, Esport Skills, Strategy and Analysis, Enterprise and Entrepreneurship in Esports, Health, Wellbeing and Fitness, Live Streaming, Branding, Social Media, Shoutcasting, Esports and Coaching.

UNIFORMS

You will have to purchase an Esports shirt as part of your programme, further details can be obtained at interview.

PATHWAYS	
Level 1	Transition Programme - Esports
Level 2	Esports
Level 3	Esports
Level 4/5	HNC in Esports HND in Esports

WHY STUDY HERE?

Dearne Valley College has invested heavily in new Esports facilities in order to give you the experience you deserve at College.

Our high spec machines can run the most demanding of Esports experiences including a fully equipped F1 Simulation Racing arena. This coupled with our retro console area, our motivational learning spaces and access to our gym and wellbeing facilities makes Dearne Valley College an excellent choice to pursue a career in this fast moving industry.

WHAT CAREERS OR STUDIES COULD I PROGRESS ON TO?

- Professional Gamer
- Events Manager
- Journalist/Content Creator
- Marketing/PR Executive
- Developer



CASE STUDY

Rio Darlington

Level 3 Esports

“The College has helped grow my confidence in social skills by leaps and bounds, my ability to communicate and present myself is now second nature.”

.....

Esports

TRANSITION PROGRAMME TO ESPORTS

Would you like to work within the exciting world of Esports? This course is designed as a first step into the area of Esports and acts as a route into this thrilling and inclusive industry. It is designed to build your confidence and enable you to make an informed decision on your next step in your career.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- College Induction
- Assertiveness and Decision Making
- Healthy Living
- Group and Team work
- Health and Safety in Practical Environment
- Improve Own Learning
- Personal Development
- Communication for Esports
- Enterprise for Esports
- Using the Internet
- Website software

ADULT COURSE ACCESS TO ESPORTS

Begin your career in the modern and broad arena of Esports with our access course. You will learn a range of skills from competitive gaming to marketing and everything in between to start your dream career.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Competitive Gaming
- Video Production
- Esports and Social Media
- Research Esports Event Production
- Live Esports Event Production
- Business Studies, ICT, Marketing, Graphic Design or Psychology
- Academic Study Skills

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.



ESPORTS

Develop your dream job with our course in Esports. Learn all the ins and outs of this immersive subject and gain vital skills in areas such as coaching, events, live streaming and much more.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Introduction to Esports
- Ethical and Current Issues in Esports
- Enterprise and Entrepreneurship in the Esports Industry
- Games Design
- Esports Skills, Strategies and Analysis
- Health, Wellbeing and Fitness for Esports Players
- Nutrition for Esports Performance
- Establishing an Esports Organisation
- Plan for an Esports Event
- Establishing an Esports Enterprise
- Streaming for Esports
- Positive Health and Wellbeing in Esports
- Live-streamed Broadcasting
- Shoutcasting
- Esports Events
- Customer Immersion Experiences
- Esports Coaching
- Business Applications of Esports in Social Media
- Psychology for Esports Performance
- Corporate Social Responsibility in Sport



UNIFORMS

You will have to purchase an Esports shirt as part of your programme, further details can be obtained at interview.



CASE STUDY

Deanna McKellar

Level 3 Esports - Former Student of The Growth Education Centre

“Esports is a very friendly environment and the tutors are great! After my course, I plan to take my skills to the next level and focus on my YouTube career.”

.....

Future Careers...

ESPORTS

The esports sector is ideal for those who are interested in working in the competitive gaming sector and can motivate others in a fast-paced challenging environment.

ESPORTS GAMER

Esports gamers compete against other players in tournaments, leagues and events, with matches often streamed online to audiences around the world.

Average salary - Variable*

Day-to-day tasks:

Practise daily, compete in tournaments and competitions, attend one-to-one and team training sessions with games coaches, work with content creators to produce material for your team's online channels, take part in promotional activities and interviews, spend time away from home with your team at tournaments and mentor new team players.*

Working environments:

You could work at a sports arena, at a conference centre or at events. Your working environment may be physically and emotionally demanding and you may spend nights away from home.*

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Social Media Managers co-ordinate online content and communications strategies for their clients.

Average salary - £25,000 to £50,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Develop strategies and campaigns to increase audience size and participation, co-ordinate updates to your social media channels, create and edit content like articles, blogs, video clips and reels, respond to social media posts, discussions and customer feedback, use social media tools to manage multiple sites, analyse data to check the effectiveness of campaigns and to spot trends, produce reports, detailing insights and recommendations and work closely with marketing teams.*

Working environments:

You could work at a screen in an office with other marketing staff.

In-demand power skills that commonly appear in job descriptions for roles within the esports sector include:**

- Organisational Skills
- Communication
- Management
- Detail Oriented
- Planning

*Information from National Careers Service 2026

**Information from Lightcast 2026

Health and Science

DEVELOP THE IN-DEMAND SKILLS NEEDED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO SOMEONE'S LIFE.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

The care sector is one of the biggest and most important industries in the UK. If you are a caring person and interested in a career in Health Care, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Social Care or Clinical Practice, we will provide you with the best learning experience and industry-relevant qualifications to unlock your potential and succeed in your chosen career as a Health Science Professional.

You will need to be flexible and committed to the values and principals of care for our growing and ageing population.

Studying with us will provide opportunities for you to learn from highly skilled tutors with expertise in Clinical Practice, Health Care and Social Work.

Dearne Valley College is the Hub for Higher Skills in Health and Social Care and we have developed a Health and Science Laboratory, simulated Clinical Suite and Medical Assessment Ward and new sector related technologies. You will be able to complete a variety of enrichment programmes and competitions to develop employability and personal development skills.

You will also be able to take part in a range of Educational Visits, Volunteering and organise community events.

Job opportunities are vast, varied and very much in-demand; you could go on to become a Nurse, Operating Department Practitioner, Social Worker, Support Worker, Midwife or Carer.

Our nationally recognised qualifications provide you with sought-after, transferable skills for a successful career to begin your journey in the health and social care sector.

WHY STUDY HERE?

- Study in state-of-the-art facilities
- Taught by industry specialists
- Access to guest speakers and have employer involvement
- Enrichment opportunities to increase employability skills

WHAT CAREERS OR STUDIES COULD I PROGRESS ON TO?

- Ambulance Care Assistant
- Assistant Practitioner
- Care Worker
- Emergency Care Assistant
- Healthcare Assistant
- Midwife
- Nurse
- Occupational Therapist
- Operating Department Practitioner
- Palliative Care Assistant
- Physiotherapist
- Paramedic
- Social Worker

UNIFORMS

You will have to purchase a uniform as part of your programme, further details can be obtained at interview.



T LEVEL IN HEALTH

The T Level in Health course has been developed by employers so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares learners for work. This course is a Level 3 qualification equivalent to 3 A Levels and is delivered over two years and includes an industry placement.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Working in the health and science sector
- Health, safety and environmental regulations
- Managing information and data
- Principles of good scientific and clinical practice
- Core science concepts including the structure of cells, tissues and large molecules, genetics, microbiology and immunology
- Understanding the healthcare sector providing person-centred care
- Supporting Health and Wellbeing
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Human Anatomy and Physiology and Diseases and Disorders

PATHWAYS - HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Level 1	Introduction to Health and Social Care
Level 2	Health and Social Care
Level 3	Access to HE Health Science Professions (Adult Course) Health and Social Care T Level in Health
Level 4/5	FdSc Assistant Practitioner (HTQ)

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.

Health and Science

INTRODUCTION TO HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

If you want to learn more about the Childcare or Health and Social Care Industries, this course provides an excellent basis for you to begin working towards a career within nurseries and children's centres, as a Teaching Assistant or in a range of roles within the Health and Social Care sector.

You will develop care-specific skills as well as transferable skills which will allow you to move onto your chosen progression route.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- College induction
- Assertiveness and Decision Making
- Healthy Living
- Group and Team work
- Health and Safety in Practical Environment
- Improve Own Learning
- Personal Development
- Craft Activities
- Introduction to Health & Social Care
- Presentation Skills
- Safeguarding
- Health Psychology
- Human Musculoskeletal System
- Psychological Disorders
- Infection and Immunity
- Values, Diversity and Rights
- Human Circulation and Gas Exchange

ADULT COURSE

CERTIFICATE IN MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

This qualification aims to raise awareness of mental health and a range of mental health conditions. It is designed to increase your understanding of mental health, the causes of mental ill-health, and how to effectively support individuals experiencing these challenges.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

You will successfully complete 10 mandatory units. Topics of study include:

- Understanding what is meant by mental health and mental ill-health.
- Understanding stress, anxiety, phobias, and depression.
- Understanding conditions such as bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and dementia.
- The impact of mental health conditions on individuals, their families, and society.

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.



Health and Science

ADULT COURSE

ACCESS TO HE HEALTH SCIENCE PROFESSIONS

This Level 3 qualification prepares adults, without traditional qualifications, with the knowledge, skills and behaviours for higher-level study at university, to study Nursing, Midwifery, Physiotherapy, Paramedic Science and many more courses.

Awarded by Skills and Education Group Access, you will be assessed in a variety of ways, testing the attributes you need in both the workplace and higher-level study, including: written assessments, presentations and practical/skills assessment (the list is not exhaustive and subject to change).

This course can be done either part time or full time.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Biology
- Psychology
- Health
- Social Policy
- Study Skills

ADULT COURSE

FDSC ASSISTANT PRACTITIONER (HTQ)

In healthcare settings, there is a recognised need for adults with a higher level of training and skills than healthcare assistants but not as extensive as registered nurses or allied health professionals.

This Level 5 qualification, awarded by Sheffield Hallam University, assesses you in a variety of ways, testing the attributes you need in the workplace, including: written assessments, presentations, practical/skills assessment and work-based learning (the list is not exhaustive and subject to change).

This course can be done either part time or full time.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- You will learn the essential sciences that underpin care
- Skills to succeed both as a higher education student and employability skills to make you more employable.

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.



CASE STUDY

Diamond

Access to HE Diploma (Health Science Professions)

“It can be difficult for me because I work and also study alongside it. It’s really not easy, but I am determined to get this. I believe that if someone is determined you do whatever it takes to achieve.”

.....



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ULTRA-DOP PRESSURE CUFFS

Future Careers...

HEALTH SCIENCE AND CARE

The health science and care sector is ideal for those who have a passion for caring for others and includes jobs in personal care and healthcare.

TYPES OF ROLES AVAILABLE:

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSE

Occupational health nurses care for the health and wellbeing of people at work.

Average salary - £32,000 to £57,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Carry out pre-employment medical checks, assess and treat employees who are injured or become ill at work, provide counselling and support, give advice on health education, health and safety and sickness absence, carry out risk assessments and keep employee health records.*

Working environments:

You could work in an NHS or private hospital or at a client's business. Your working environment may be physically demanding.*

SOCIAL WORKER

Social workers help to protect vulnerable children and adults from harm or abuse and support people to live independently.

Average salary - £32,000 to £48,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Meet individuals and families to review their needs, make support plans, help clients develop and maintain independent living skills, keep clients safe and take action to protect them when necessary, work closely with communities, health professionals and other agencies, keep records, write reports and discuss cases with your supervisors.*

Working environments:

You could work in an office, in the community, at an adult care home, at a children's care home or in an NHS or private hospital. Your working environment may be emotionally demanding.*

In-demand power skills that commonly appear in job descriptions for roles within the health science and care sector include:**

- Communication
- Management
- Compassion
- Decision Making
- Planning

*Information from National Careers Service 2026

**Information from Lightcast 2026

Public Services

DEVELOP THE KEY SKILLS NEEDED TO CARE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY.

If a career working in a frontline or supporting role for the emergency services or armed forces sounds like the job for you, a course in public services could give you a head start.

Studying Public Services at Dearne Valley College you'll develop skills sought-after by employers including teamwork, initiative, leadership and communication so that you can achieve your dream career in the uniformed and non-uniformed public services industry. There's also the opportunity to gain additional qualifications alongside your studies including emergency first aid, canoeing and mountain biking.

With us, what you learn is what you'll use. Our talented team of tutors bring with them experience of working in the public services sector. They bring passion and professional expertise to your learning, so you're safe in the knowledge that learning with us means you have what it takes for a role in public services.

UNIFORMS

You will be required to purchase a uniform as part of your programme, further details can be obtained at interview.

PATHWAYS - PUBLIC SERVICES

Level 2	Entry to Uniformed Services
Level 3	Uniformed Protective Services
Level 4/5	Crime and Criminal Justice FdSc Youth Justice Practitioner Higher Technical Qualification

WHY STUDY HERE?

- Study in state-of-the-art facilities
- Taught by industry specialists
- Access to Guest speakers and have employer involvement
- Enrichment opportunities to increase employability skills
- You can develop your skills in action-packed activities and pursuits using the local brilliant facilities such as Manvers boathouse and lake, granting access to a range of land and water sports.

WHAT CAREERS OR STUDIES COULD I PROGRESS ON TO?

- Armed Forces
- Police Service
- Fire Service
- Ambulance Service



Public Services

TRANSITION TO SPORT AND PUBLIC SERVICES

This course is designed for those interested in a career in sport and public services sectors. As part of this course, you will acquire and develop generic, transferable and career specific skills to complete tasks and demonstrate a level of achievement that enables your progression.

You will complete a range of sport and public service-related units, study an appropriate English and maths qualification and develop transferable employability and communication skills.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- College Induction
- Assertiveness and Decision Making
- Healthy Living
- Group and Team Work
- Health and Safety in Practical Environment
- Improve Own Learning
- Personal Development
- Sports Activity
- Law and Order
- Research Skills
- Presentation Skills

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.

FDSC YOUTH JUSTICE PRACTITIONER HIGHER TECHNICAL QUALIFICATION (HTQ)

The qualification is designed to explore the diverse and changing context of youth justice, whilst supporting learners to develop knowledge and understanding of the specific needs of children and young people, including the issues impacting their identity and development, with a specific focus on crime, criminal behaviour and responses to these issues

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Introduction to Youth Justice
- Child First' Youth Justice
- Assessment and Decision Making
- Contextual Safeguarding
- Professionalism and Collaborative Practice





UNIFORMED PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Whichever uniformed career you are interested in we can help you achieve your dream, from working within Policing, Prison services or Armed Forces, we will help you develop the skills to need to succeed.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Citizenship
- Team Work
- Introduction to Criminology
- Physical Preparation
- Behaviour and Disciplines
- Personal Development
- Professional Development
- Planning and Responding
- Outdoor Activities
- Custodial Care
- Government
- Global Affairs
- Expedition
- Fitness

ENTRY TO UNIFORMED SERVICES

Whether you are interested in Policing, Criminology, Prison Services, Armed Services, Fire Rescue, Forensic Science, Paramedics or Law and the Criminal Justice System, we will provide you with the best learning experience and industry relevant qualifications to 'unlock' your potential and succeed in your chosen career.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Outdoor Activities
- Health and Safety
- Physical Fitness
- Equality and Diversity
- Service Routine
- Land Navigation
- Team work



Future Careers...

IN PUBLIC SERVICES

The protective service sector is ideal for those who want to work in a fast-paced environment, have an interest working frontline supporting the public and have a passion for fitness.

TYPES OF ROLES AVAILABLE:

POLICE OFFICER

Police Officers respond to incidents, investigate crimes and work closely with communities to keep them safe.

Average salary - £30,000 to £48,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Respond to calls for help from the public, investigate incidents, crimes and offences, collect witness statements, intelligence and evidence, interview suspects and make arrests, give evidence in court, control traffic and crowds at large public events and gatherings and advise the public on personal safety and crime prevention.*

Working environments:

You could work on a patrol, at a police station. Your working environment may be outdoors in all weathers and physically and emotionally demanding. You may need to wear a uniform.*

FIREFIGHTER

Firefighters respond to emergency call outs, search and rescue incidents and road traffic accidents. They also give advice on fire safety.

Average salary - £28,000 to £42,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Carry out practice drills and respond to emergency call outs, control and put out fires, rescue people and animals from burning buildings, deal with natural disasters like floods or storm damage, manage hazardous substance spills, give presentations to schools and community groups and inspect buildings to make sure they meet fire safety regulations.*

Working environments:

You could work at a fire station, at a client's home or at a client's business. Your working environment may be at height and physically and emotionally demanding. You may need to wear safety clothing.*

In-demand power skills that commonly appear in job descriptions for roles within the protective services sector include:**

- Communication
- Investigation
- Problem Solving
- Professionalism
- Resilience

*Information from National Careers Service 2026

**Information from Lightcast 2026

Sport

STRENGTHEN YOUR SKILLS FOR AN ACTIVE AND EXCITING CAREER IN SPORT.

With professional players and industry-experienced coaches, you'll join a winning team with us. Whether you are interested in Sports Therapy and Coaching, Sport and Outdoor Adventurous Activities or Fitness Instructing and Personal Training, we will provide you with the best learning experience and industry-relevant qualifications to unlock your potential and succeed in your chosen career.

Studying with us will provide opportunities for you to learn and train within state-of-the-art sports facilities including a fully equipped commercial sports centre, fitness suite, a full-size football pitch, two astro turf pitches and a sports therapy clinic. We are currently developing an Exercise Science Laboratory and high quality outdoor recreational activities set within the college's 42 acres.

You will also have access to the nearby Manvers boathouse and lake with access to canoeing, open-water swimming, mountain biking, orienteering, windsurfing, sailing and raft building.

As a Sports student, you will be able to join our Dearne Valley Sports Academies and take part in local, regional and national leagues, in addition to Dragon Boat racing and Water Sports Academy at Manvers Lake and Boat House. You will also be able to take part in a range of residential and expeditions, educational visits and events.

PATHWAYS - SPORT

Level 2

Sports Therapy and Outdoor Activities
Certificate in Gym Instructing (Adult Course)

Level 3

Diploma in Personal Training (Adult Course)

We offer a range of courses, so you can progress from entry level right up to degree level. You'll gain sought-after skills including sport, nutrition, anatomy and physiology, fitness testing, leadership and much more.

Our expert tutors bring with them real-world experience and passion to their teaching, so what you learn with us is what you'll use in the world of work. You'll also have access to cutting edge equipment including our sports GPS system, timing gates and Hi Cam Telescopic Mast Filming System, for measuring fitness and performance.

WHAT CAREERS OR STUDIES COULD I PROGRESS ON TO?

- Coach
- Sports Scientist
- Sport Management
- PE Teacher



Sport

SPORT, THERAPY AND OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

Whether you are interested in Sport Therapy and Coaching or Sport and Outdoor Adventurous Activities or Fitness Instructing and Personal Training, we will provide you with the best learning experience and industry relevant qualifications to 'unlock' your potential and succeed in your chosen career.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Introduction to Health and Exercise
- Sport Massage
- Sport Injuries
- Participation
- Outdoor Activities
- Sports Coaching

UNIFORMS

You must purchase outdoor kit including a polo neck t-shirt and shorts and/or tracksuit bottoms for your practical and work placements as well as the relevant work books to support your studies.

ENGLISH AND MATHS

If you haven't achieved GCSE English and maths at grades 4 or above you will undertake these qualifications alongside your main programme.

ADULT COURSE PERSONAL TRAINING

This qualification is designed to provide qualified Gym Instructors the opportunity to pursue a career in the health and fitness sector as a Personal Trainer or enable learners to become self-employed running their own personal training business.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Functional Kinesiology
- Fitness
- Client Consultations
- Gathering and analysing to promote behaviour change.

ADULT COURSE GYM INSTRUCTING

This qualification will enable learners to work unsupervised as a Gym Instructor to prescribe, plan and deliver safe and effective exercise programmes within a gym or health club environment.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

- Customer Service
- Awareness of health and safety in relation to the exercise and fitness environment.





Future Careers...

IN SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The sports sector is ideal for those who have a passion for fitness and wish to share that drive with others.

TYPES OF ROLES AVAILABLE:

SPORTS COACH

Sports Coaches teach sports skills to individuals and teams of all abilities.

Average salary - £19,000 to £28,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Plan fun, engaging and safe coaching activities and sessions, give feedback on performance and how to improve skills and technique, motivate and inspire your students to fulfil their potential, offer advice on nutrition, lifestyle and preparation, design advanced programmes for elite sportspersons and support performers at events and competitions.*

Working environments:

You could work at a fitness centre, on a sports field, at a university, at a school or at a college. Your working environment may be physically demanding and outdoors in all weathers.*

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Sports Development Officers organise projects and training to encourage people to take part in sport and have a healthier lifestyle.

Average salary - £23,000 to £35,000*

Day-to-day tasks:

Plan and tailor schemes for different groups, manage staff and volunteers on projects, promote and run sporting programmes and activities, monitor and review the progress of schemes, identify funding sources and sponsorship, manage a budget, carry out risk assessments on activities and write reports on the outcomes of particular projects.*

Working environments:

You could work in an office, at a school, on a sports field, at a fitness centre or at a college. Your working environment may be outdoors some of the time.*

In-demand skills that commonly appear in job descriptions for roles within the sport sector include*:

- Coaching
- Teaching
- Communication
- English Language
- Enthusiasm

*Information from National Careers Service 2026

**Information from Lightcast 2026

Careers Index

If you have a dream job or career in mind, you can find progression routes to the below professions on their corresponding page numbers.

ANIMAL CARE **PAGES 40-49**

- Animal Care Assistant
- Animal Technician
- Assistant Zookeeper
- Kennel Assistant
- Livestock Manager
- Pet Store Manager
- Rescue Centre Manager

CONSTRUCTION TRADES **PAGES 64-73**

- Bricklayer
- Carpenter
- Construction Manager
- Domestic Heating Engineer
- Electrician
- Kitchen Fitter
- Labourer
- Plasterer
- Plumber
- Shop Fitter

MOTOR VEHICLE **PAGES 74-81**

- Motor Vehicle Fitter
- Technical Engineer
- Vehicle Technician
- Welder

ESPORTS **PAGES 82-87**

- Admin
- Broadcaster
- Coach
- Cyber Security Analyst
- Event Manager
- Finance Manager
- Journalist
- Events Host
- Professional Player
- Social Media Manager

HEALTH AND SCIENCE **PAGES 88-95**

- Care Worker
- Clinical Support Worker
- Health Care Assistant
- Health Visitor
- Midwife
- Nurse
- Paramedic
- Physiotherapy Assistant
- Radiographer
- Social Worker

HORTICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND LAND MANAGEMENT **PAGES 50-55**

- Ground Worker
- Junior Ranger
- Landscape Gardener
- Livestock Manager

PUBLIC SERVICES **PAGES 96-101**

- Army Officer
- Border Force Officer
- Coastguard
- Firefighter
- Mountain Rescue
- Police Officer
- Prison Officer
- Ranger
- Royal Navy Officer
- Youth Leader

SPORT **PAGES 102-107**

- Gym Instructor
- Leisure Manager
- Outdoor Activity Instructor
- Performance Coach
- Personal Trainer
- Sports Coach
- Sport Therapist
- Sports Development Assistant
- Sports Nutritionist



Travelling to College

**WE ARE EASILY ACCESSIBLE
BY BUS, TRAIN AND CAR.**



TRAVELLING TO US...

BY BUS

Our colleges are close to many bus routes across South Yorkshire.

Rotherham Interchange bus station, which is conveniently located close to our town centre campus, also provides great travel access to and from surrounding areas.

The Traveline journey planner can help you plan a route and get information about public transport services: **traveline.info**

We also run a college bus service, which you can view on the next page.

BY TRAIN

Rotherham College is located a short walk from Rotherham Central train station (RMC). Rotherham Central also operates a tram-train service between Sheffield City Centre and Rotherham.

The closest train station to Dearne Valley College are Bolton-upon-Deane (BTD), Mexborough (MEX) and Swinton (SWN).

If you travel a lot by train you could benefit from a railcard.

A 16-17 saver railcard gets you 50% off standard anytime, off peak, advance and season tickets. It is just £30 and is valid for one year or until your 18th birthday, whichever comes first. For more information visit **16-17saver.co.uk**

A 16-25 railcard can get you 1/3 off rail travel for everyone aged 16-25 for just £30 for one year or £70 for three years. For more information visit **16-25railcard.co.uk**

Mature students can also apply for a one-year railcard, which can be extended with evidence of continuing to study every year.



BY CAR

A number of public car parks are located within easy walking distance of Rotherham College and the Construction Centre including Drummond Street and Percy Street.

Dearne Valley College offers free car parking for students and visitors.

TRAVEL PASSES

There are free travel passes available to students, offering cheaper fares on public transport networks in South Yorkshire.

The 16-18 travel pass allows young people to travel on buses and trams for as little as 80p per journey and half-fare travel on Northern trains. Passes are valid all year round for up to two years.

There are also 18-21 passes available to those who live in South Yorkshire which also offer 80p travel in South Yorkshire to those aged 18 to 21.

Applications for a travel pass can be made online at:

travelsouthyorkshire.com/1618

There are tickets available for fares in South Yorkshire that range from 1, 7, 28 day or annual period to make travelling to college cheaper.

If you are aged over 18, an 18-22 card is available regardless of where you live, for travel in South Yorkshire. The card offers 15% off the price of 1, 7 or 28 day TravelMaster tickets.

Student Bus Service

HOP ON BOARD!

We have a number of student only bus routes making it easier to get to Rotherham College and Dearne Valley College from a range of areas.

Each service will run first thing in the morning getting you into College for your first lesson and will return at the end of the College day.

There is a small charge per day or multiple travel passes can be purchased for a discounted price.

You may be eligible for funding to pay for your journey to and from College, more information on Financial Support can be found on page 19.

For more information on our Student Bus Service and details on how to book once you have enrolled, please visit:

**[rotherham.ac.uk/information/
student-support/student-bus-service](https://rotherham.ac.uk/information/student-support/student-bus-service)**
**[dearne-coll.ac.uk/information/
student-support/student-bus-service](https://dearne-coll.ac.uk/information/student-support/student-bus-service)**

Please note our bus timetables are subject to change. Check our websites for the most up to date information.



SCAN HERE TO VIEW
BUS TIMETABLES



HOW TO BOOK



1

Visit Zeelo website

Visit zeelo.co/rides/rotherham-college-and-dearne-valley-college



2

Select your pass

Choose between a multi-ride travel pass (10, 20, 30 or 50 journeys) or a one day pass (single/return journey)



3

Confirm pass and create Zeelo account

Enter your desired pick-up and drop-off locations and confirm. Follow the steps to create your Zeelo account



4

Select your journeys (travel pass only)

For multi-ride travel passes only, visit 'My Rides' (zeelo.co/my-zeelo), select your pass & book onto the journeys you would like to travel



5

Your coach is booked

You will receive an email before your journey with your tickets, or you can find in 'My Rides'



6

Check your tracking link on the day

You'll receive this via SMS and will also be able to see it via the app. Ensure you arrive 5 mins early to your stop

Our Facilities

AT DEARNE VALLEY COLLEGE LEARNING IS ABOUT SO MUCH MORE THAN THE CLASSROOM - IT'S AN EXPERIENCE.



Land-based Facilities

We pride ourselves on investing in your future. All of our courses are delivered in industry-standard facilities with excellent equipment.

Our on-site Animal Care department houses many different species ranging from skinks to snakes, and meerkats to mice. We are also one of a few colleges in the UK to have our very own Porcupines!

At our Academy of Sport, you can really raise the bar by using facilities such as our on-site sports and fitness centre, multisport cages, AstroTurf pitches and the nearby Manvers boathouse and lake. Explore our outdoor low ropes activity centre to practice team building skills and agility.

You can also fuel your future in our motor vehicle workshop housing hybrid and electric vehicles. You can also craft key skills in our workshops dedicated to trowel occupations, carpentry and joinery and plastering.

Delve into our state-of-the-art Health facilities where we have simulated wards which offer students invaluable hands-on practice. Gain access to cutting-edge technology in Esports with our top-spec computers and immersive F1 Williams simulator racing rigs.

Outdoors, you can cultivate your land-based skills in our fantastic facilities including our 12-acre forest, polytunnels and more.

Your time with us is about more than learning. We want you to enjoy your experience with us - whether this be through socialising with your new peers or being able to relax whilst you study, we have plenty of social spaces for you to do so.



Animal Care Facilities



Sports Facilities

Commercial Outlets

DEARNE VALLEY COLLEGE

REFINE YOUR SKILLS IN REALISTIC WORKING ENVIRONMENTS

In our on-site commercial outlets, students can put their passion into practice by working with real customers in real working environments.

You can also visit any one of our outlets as a customer - whether you're getting your nails done, grabbing some gourmet grub or exercising in one of our state of the art fitness areas, there is something for everyone - at a fantastic, discounted price.



FITNESS 63 AND DVC SPORTS

With newly refurbished AstroTurf pitches, an on site gym and sports hall, we are fully kitted out with the latest fitness machines and equipment.

Discounted memberships are available to students. Students also have access to the Manvers Lake offering a range of water sports and activities.

01709 513315

dvcports@dearne-coll.ac.uk



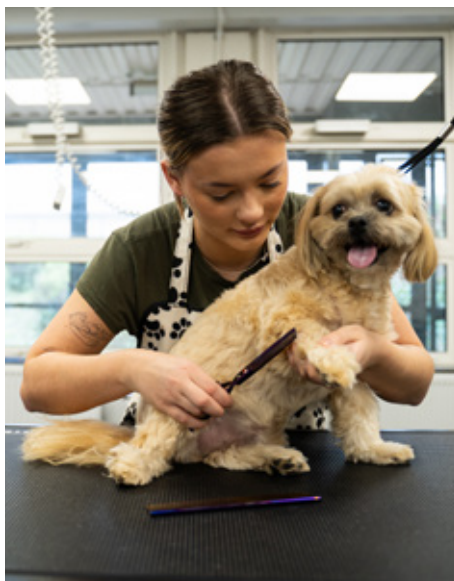


THE FARM SHOP

At Dearne Valley College, we have our very own on-site farm shop that is fully stocked with ethically sourced products produced by local businesses and the students themselves.

Shop local! Our on-site shop stocks a huge range of locally sourced produce including eggs from hens farmed on-site as well as veg boxes containing locally grown salad and other vegetables. We also sell a range of products made by the College students themselves including sweets and Dog Treat bags.

collegeco-operative@rnngroup.ac.uk



DOG GROOMING

Dog Grooming community outlet, level 2 and level 3 people can pay to bring their dogs in to get them groomed.

katie.worker@rnngroup.ac.uk or
rachel.new@rnngroup.ac.uk



Commercial Outlets

ROTHERHAM COLLEGE



HAIR AND BEAUTY SALON

Rotherham College's salon offers a premium salon experience at an affordable price.

Kitted out with state-of-the-art equipment, our hair, beauty and make-up salons are the perfect destination to treat yourself at a fraction of the cost.

01709 722776

innovates65.rotherham.ac.uk



THE WHARNCLIFFE

Pop into our fantastic on-site restaurant to refresh yourself with a morning coffee, unwind with friends for a relaxing drink or even enjoy a delicious three course meal.

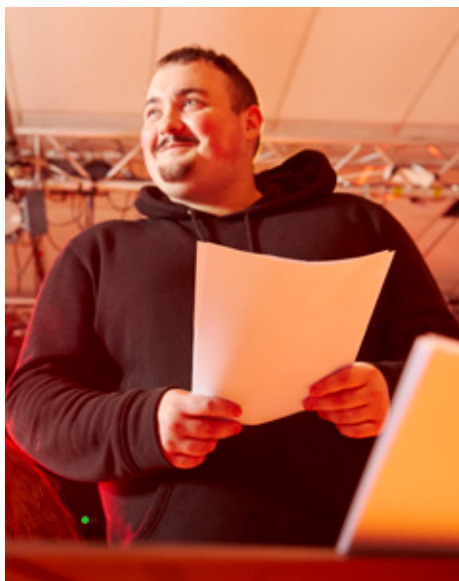
Operating as Rotherham College's training restaurant, The Wharncliffe has an excellent reputation for outstanding food and service, provided by our learners under the watchful eye of their tutors.

01709 722767

thewharncliffe.co.uk



NORTH NOTTS COLLEGE



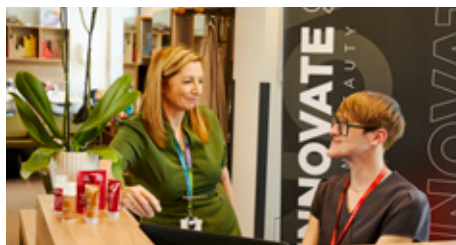
STUDIO THEATRE

Enjoy a play, panto, or music concert at our College Studio Theatre, performed by our students or external companies.

Whether you're looking for some light-hearted fun or the next cutting-edge drama, the Studio Theatre accommodates for all interests with a calendar brimming with events. Encompassing a diverse range of performing arts genres, the Theatre is equipped with the industry-standard facilities needed to create an immersive experience for its audience.

01709 722721

theatre@rotherham.ac.uk



HAIR AND BEAUTY SALON

North Notts College's salon offers a premium salon experience at an affordable price.

Kitted out with state-of-the-art equipment, with the calibre to match any high street salon, our hair, beauty and make-up salons are the perfect destination for some well-earned 'me time'.

We're proud to say that healthy, happy hair is something of a passion of ours, so your locks are in very good hands.

We believe that the enthusiasm and creativity of our students combined with the experience of the highly qualified tutors is what makes us a cut above the rest.

An extensive list of beauty treatments are also available so there's no excuse not to spoil yourself with a new set of nails, indulge in a facial treatment or treat yourself to a professional makeover.

01909 504501

nnc.ac.uk/innovates81



Rotherham College

YOUR CAMPUS

Based in the heart of Rotherham's town centre, we specialise in providing career-focused training and education. We have industry-standard facilities and courses which are designed alongside local employers so that you can learn the most sought after skills required within your chosen industry and start your career a step ahead.

We serve a variety of local communities and provide an easy-to-use student bus service. Studying in the centre of town also gives the opportunity to have fun with your new peers, through exploring local cafes, shops and social spaces.

STUDY WITH US

Our courses include a variety of levels to suit all abilities - from entry-level to degree-level - as well as a range of apprenticeships.

You can choose from a wide range of subjects including:

- Art, Graphic Design and Fashion
- Business, Retail and Tourism
- Catering and Hospitality
- Computing and Digital
- Construction (Bricklaying, Carpentry and Joinery, Plumbing and Electrical)
- Education and Childcare Services
- Engineering
- English and Maths
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- FLEX - Dedicated department for students with Special Educational Needs
- Games Design
- Hair and Beauty
- Health and Social Care
- Media Make-up
- Media and Photography
- Music
- Performing Arts



APPRENTICESHIPS

Many of these courses are offered as apprenticeships, which you can find at [**rotherham.ac.uk/apprenticeships**](http://rotherham.ac.uk/apprenticeships). Apprenticeships are a great way to earn while you learn, as well as being a fantastic opportunity if you are more of a hands-on learner. Whether you stay within the company after your apprenticeship, or move on to somewhere new, it is an easy way to get your foot in the door in a well-paid career.

YOUR FACILITIES

Our courses are delivered within industry-standard facilities, which allows students to develop practical experience preparing them to thrive in their chosen career. Learning within these environments will ensure you are workplace ready and allow you to:

- Build confidence and perfect your performance within our in-house theatre
- Prepare for a culinary career in our commercial training restaurant, The Wharnccliffe
- Hone your hairdressing, beauty therapy and nails skills in our commercial on-site training salon, Inspire
- Build foundations for a successful career in bricklaying, joinery, plumbing or electrical installation, some of which are housed in our dedicated construction centre

For more information about Rotherham College, please visit [rotherham.ac.uk**](http://rotherham.ac.uk)**

As well as excellent courses and learning facilities, we offer plenty of spaces for you to relax and socialise with friends. There are two on-site cafes serving a wide range of food and drinks (including Starbucks), and a theatre where you can watch our music and performing arts students put on shows and perfect their craft. The town centre also has a local market and plenty of independent shops and cafes to explore.

HELPING YOU SUCCEED

All courses are delivered by specialist tutors, many of which have worked or still work in the industry they teach. They bring invaluable expert knowledge and a breadth of experience to their teaching, and a passion for the development and achievements of their students.

We work extensively with employers within key industries to ensure our courses meet local and regional skill needs. This not only means students are equipped with the skills employers are looking for when they finish college, but also offers them the opportunity for work experience and potential future employment.

As well as plenty of support to launch your dream career, we provide a direct pathway to Higher Education at University Centre Rotherham (UCR), also part of the RNN Group, for those interested in studying a degree close to home with familiar tutors. UCR is a dedicated university centre offering degree-level courses and professional training to the local community of Rotherham.

North Notts College

HANDS-ON LEARNING IN THE HEART OF WORKSOP.

At North Notts College, what you learn is what you'll use. Every year, our technical courses and apprenticeships help to educate, develop and prepare thousands of local people to achieve their dreams.

YOUR CHOICE

Our courses and apprenticeships are designed together with local employers to make sure that whatever your dream career is, we'll make sure you're prepared. Choose from a wide range of subjects including:

- Business
- Computing
- Construction
- Education and Childcare Services
- Engineering
- English and Maths
- FLEX - Dedicated department for students with Special Educational Needs
- Hair and Beauty
- Health and Social Care
- Media Make-up
- Motor Vehicle
- Public Services
- Sport



YOUR FACILITIES

Across our two campuses in the heart of Worksop, we take learning beyond the classroom. Our campus in Worksop is just a five minute walk from the train station and offers engaging learning environments such as our Hair and Beauty salon (open to members of the public), our purpose-built construction workshops, kitted out with all the tools you need to succeed and our state-of-the-art gym.

We provide courses in Media Make-up and Sport, where our students have access to cutting-edge equipment and spacious facilities.

Located in Worksop town centre is our Bridge Skills Hub campus, where we deliver Higher-Level qualifications alongside our sister university, University Centre Rotherham.

To find out more about higher-level qualifications in the heart of Bassetlaw, please visit

nnc.ac.uk/bridge-skills-hub

For more information about North Notts College, please visit: nnc.ac.uk





STUDY Smart, Local

WHO ARE WE?

At University Centre Rotherham, we offer full and part-time higher-level and degree courses in the heart of Rotherham and at our partner college sites across South Yorkshire and North Nottinghamshire.

The Bridge Skills Hub, in the centre of Worksop, also offers several of our Higher Education courses. To find out more, refer to our website.

We're part of the RNN Group alongside Rotherham College, North Notts College, Dearne Valley College and a number of other subsidiary training organisations.

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE IN?

Your professional and personal fulfilment is at the heart of everything we do. Whether you're continuing your studies, changing career path, or returning to education, we're here to help you succeed.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT?

Studying with us is a rewarding and fun learning experience which is all about you. By studying a higher-level qualification on your doorstep you will have access to:

- State-of-the-art facilities
- Industry-experienced staff
- Lower fees
- Fantastic student experience
- Small, friendly community
- Degrees accredited by top universities
- A supportive and caring learning environment
- Flexible learning

OPEN EVENTS

Our Open Events are access all areas to give a real feel for what University Centre Rotherham offers for your next steps into Higher Education. Visitors can tour our campus and fantastic facilities, meet our support staff, Student Ambassadors and speak to our industry-experienced tutors from every department area.

VISIT US:

Wednesday 30 September 2026
4.30pm - 6.30pm

Wednesday 10 February 2027
4.30pm - 6.30pm



Wednesday 19 May 2027
4.30pm - 6.30pm

To book a place at an event please visit: ucr.rotherham.ac.uk/open-events
You can also visit our on-demand Open Event website at: ucrevents.rotherham.ac.uk

Bridge Skills Hub

HIGHER EDUCATION (HE) COURSES IN THE HEART OF WORKSOP.

North Notts College delivers a variety of Higher Education (HE) courses at The Bridge Skills Hub

OUR COURSES

Whether you are looking to switch careers, retrain, or further your education, our committed tutors will be there to help you every step of the way. With courses from level 3 up to level 6, The Bridge is the perfect place to begin your university education.

Our degree courses are accredited by top universities, meaning you can access the same high-quality education, without having to pay travel or accommodation expenses! We boast strong industry links in the local area and this is reflected in the diversity of the courses we have on offer across health, childcare, and business.

OUR FACILITIES

The state-of-the-art Education Centre houses six classrooms, several breakout spaces, private offices, an auditorium, two clinical teaching rooms, and its very own clinical suite and mock ward.

These facilities offer students exposure to real-world environments while providing a safe space for learning.





CASE STUDY

Nigel Kajan

Access to HE - Health Science Professions

“Dearne Valley College is a great place to study and the tutors are incredibly supportive and friendly. After I complete my course, I plan to progress to Higher Education.”

.....

HOW TO Find us

DEARNE VALLEY COLLEGE



Manvers Campus

Manvers Park
Wath-upon-Dearne
Rotherham
S63 7EW

ROTHERHAM COLLEGE



Town Centre Campus

Eastwood Lane
Rotherham
S65 1EG

SITE KEY

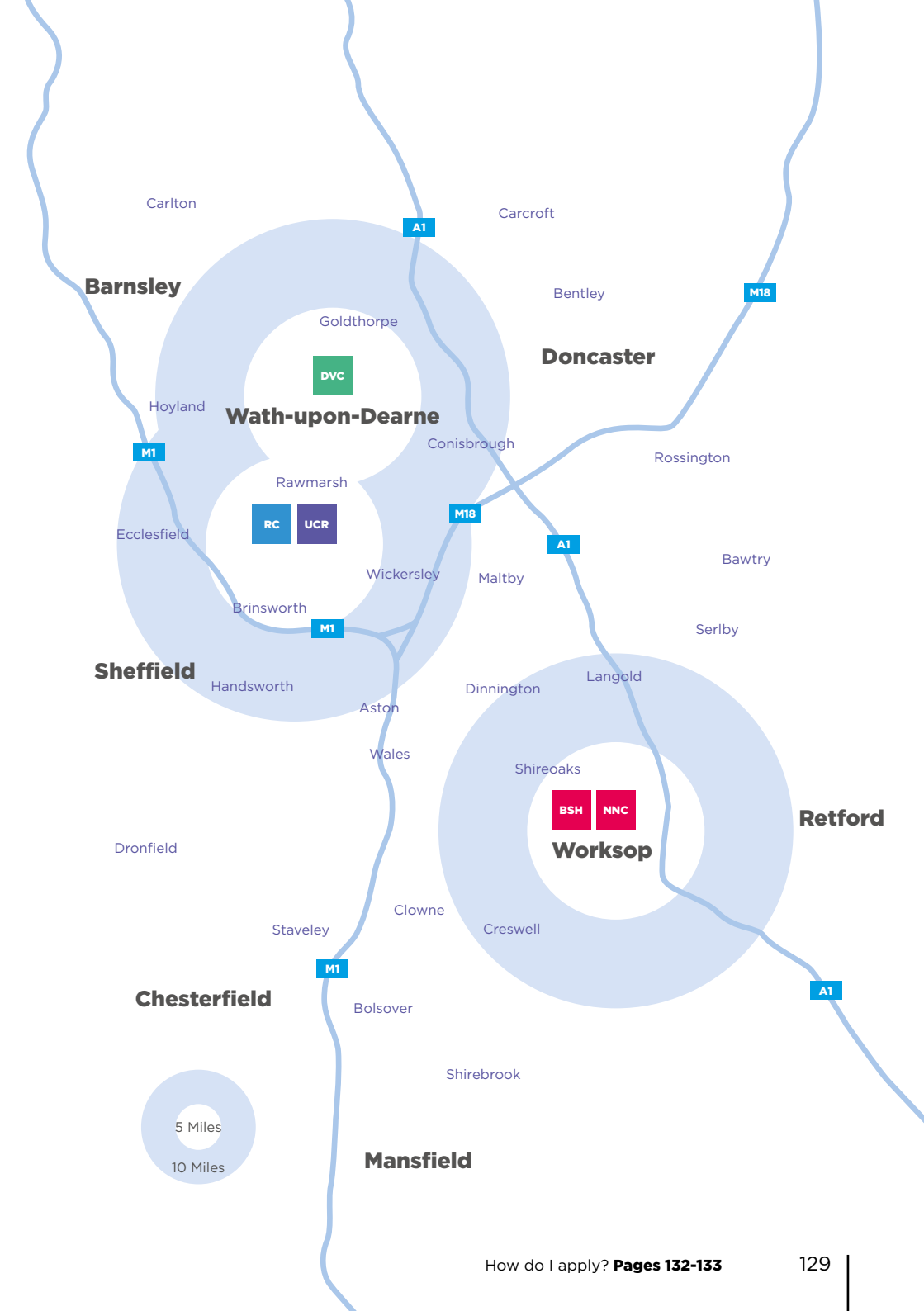
DVC	Dearne Valley College Dearne Campus
RC	Rotherham College Rotherham Campus
UCR	University Centre Rotherham
BSH	Bridge Skills Hub
NNC	North Notts College Workshop Campus

NORTH NOTTS COLLEGE



Workshop Campus

Carlton Road
Workshop
S81 7HP



Open Events

**EXPLORE OUR CAMPUS AND FIND OUT
MORE ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF STUDYING
WITH US AT ONE OF OUR OPEN EVENTS.**



DEARNE VALLEY COLLEGE

Saturday 21st November 2026
9.30am-1pm

Saturday 30th January 2027
9.30am-1pm

Saturday 20th March 2027
9.30am-12pm

Wednesday 16th June 2027
3pm-6:30pm

WE INVITE YOU TO:

- Learn more about our wide range of courses
- Meet our industry-experienced tutors
- Speak to our Student Ambassadors about their experience at college
- Explore your career options
- Attend tours of our industry-standard facilities
- Get a feel for the courses available with our interactive demos
- Ask any questions and make an application



INTERESTED IN ATTENDING?

To pre-register please visit:

dearne-coll.ac.uk/open-events

CAN'T ATTEND AN EVENT?

We are always happy to talk with you about your future. We can provide tours of our facilities and individual talks to assist with your decision making.

Arrange a visit by contacting:

schoolevents@rnngroup.ac.uk

You can also find lots of useful information on our on-demand Open Event websites, including our tutors speaking about their subject specialisms at:

events.dearne-coll.ac.uk

GET IN TOUCH

www.dearne-coll.ac.uk

01709 513355



@DearneValleyCollege



@dvcollege



@DVCollege

How to Apply

Use our checklist to complete your application and start your College journey.

1. RESEARCH

- ☐ Identify subjects you find interesting in our course guide
- ☐ Visit our websites for useful information and to explore your career options
- ☐ Come along to an Open Event to meet our Tutors and get a feel for our college campus

If you would like a more personalised visit, please email
schoolevents@rnnnngroup.ac.uk

2. APPLY

- ☐ The quickest way to apply is online via our website:

Dearne Valley College:
dearne-coll.ac.uk/apply-now

Once we receive your application you will get a confirmation email. Within five days you will receive login details to the online Admissions Manager where you can track the progress of your application.

Please include your personal email address and mobile number and update us of any changes so that we can keep in touch with you.



3. ATTEND

☐ You will be invited to attend an interview to ensure that the course is right for you

☐ If you have stated you have any learning needs we will also invite you in for an Additional Learning Support assessment

Note: Some courses may require you to bring a portfolio of work and/or audition as part of the interview process.

4. ENROL

☐ When you have received your exam results in August you will be sent an email to enrol online

☐ You will also be invited in to complete your enrolment process by bringing in your GCSE certificates. You will receive your college badge, start date and timetable ready for September

CONTACT US

We are here to support you:

Our Learner Recruitment Team can provide more course information, assistance when completing your application and support you with any unexpected exam results.

To change any details on your application (including your course) you don't need to complete another form, simply contact us or visit our campus.

Dearne Valley College

01709 513355

learn@dearne-coll.ac.uk

Manvers Park

Wath-upon-Dearne

S63 7EW

OPEN EVENTS

Saturday 21st November 2026

9.30am-1pm

Saturday 30th January 2027

9.30am-1pm

Saturday 20th March 2027

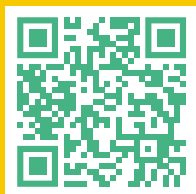
9.30am-12pm

Wednesday 16th June 2027

3pm-6.30pm

Pre-register at:

dearne-coll.ac.uk/about/events



Scan here to
register for one of
our open events.



**Rotherham College
North Notts College
Dearne Valley College**

Part of
RNN GROUP

These courses may
be funded through



**Education & Skills
Funding Agency**