



**BARNSLEY  
SIXTH FORM  
COLLEGE**

Prospectus 2017



Cogito Ergo Vincimus

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# Welcome

I'm delighted that you're interested in finding out about Barnsley Sixth Form College.

Our results and the feedback from our students tell us that this is an excellent place to study and prepare you for your future.

We offer a wide choice of subjects, all taught by A level specialists, and we have an impressive range of enrichment and enhancement activities. All of our work takes place in our beautiful new building right in the heart of Barnsley.

It is a wonderful place to study and make friends, with first class facilities, inspirational open learning zones and great social spaces. We love being here. A levels remain the key qualification to prepare you for higher education and we will work hard with you to make sure that you get to the best university possible. It is always a joy to see our students heading off to further academic success.

The main thing about us is our commitment to being the brightest and the best. We pride ourselves on being happy and hardworking, with a strong commitment to valuing everyone. No two people are the same and this is something that we celebrate on a daily basis.

I am very proud to be the Principal of Barnsley Sixth Form College. I love being part of this wonderful learning community and I know you will too.

**Come and join us!**

**Liz Leek**  
Principal  
Barnsley Sixth Form College



## Open Days

12 October 2016  
19 November 2016  
9 February 2017



# Your future is bright

- 99.3% pass rate
- 100% pass rate in 24 subjects, including History, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Sociology and Psychology
- 9 out of 10 students achieved 3 or more A Levels

## Subjects we offer:

- Art and Design
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilisation
- Computer Science
- Drama and Theatre Studies
- Economics
- English Language
- English Language and Literature
- English Literature
- Film Studies
- French
- Geography
- Government and Politics
- Health and Social Care
- History
- Information Technology (IT)
- Law
- Mathematics
- Further Maths
- Media Studies
- Physical Education (PE)
- Physics
- Psychology
- Religion, Philosophy and Ethics
- Sociology



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12 October 2016  
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Results quoted are 2015/16 cohort

# A Level reform

You may have seen in the news that A Levels are changing. This reform is driven by the Government and aims to better equip students for university and employment. The changes are part of a national initiative to ensure the value of A Levels into the future and began in September 2015.

## What is changing?

- AS qualifications (the first year of an A Level) will become standalone and not count towards A2 (the second year of an A Level).
- AS and A Levels will be assessed at the end of the course.
- Greater emphasis will be placed on exams as the most effective form of assessment.
- Some A Level subjects may disappear to prevent duplication.

## What is staying the same?

- A Levels will continue to be a two year course, as they always have been.
- The grading system (A\* to E) will stay the same.
- The value of A Levels are unchanged. The qualifications will still allow universities to accurately identify the level of achievement of students, provide a benchmark of academic ability for employers and act as an internationally comparable post-16 academic course of study.

## How will subjects be affected?

- Some subjects have already been reformed and others are being changed in September 2016 and 2017.
- Subjects which are already reformed are: Art and Design, Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, Economics, English (Language, Literature and Combined), History, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, Drama and Theatre Studies, Geography, French and PE.
- Subjects scheduled for 2017 reform are Mathematics and Further Maths.
- Other subjects are under review. We will keep you up-to-date on our website as details are released [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk)





# Pathways

As an inclusive Sixth Form College we are confident that we have a range of A Level courses suited to learners of all abilities. The good news is that as long as you are predicted to achieve a Progress 8 grade five at GCSE (including English and maths) you will be guaranteed an interview.

Some subjects also have their own additional entry requirements; please see the relevant

subject page for details. Students who achieve a Progress 8 score of five or better will be offered a place but must also meet individual course entry requirements to guarantee a place on each of their chosen subjects.

The table below indicates the number of subjects you will study on each pathway; our expert staff will help you choose the most appropriate course when you come to your interview.

4.8 - 5.5	5.5 - 6.2	6.2 + ABOVE
<p><b>Entry requirements:</b> A Progress 8 score between 4.8 and 5.5, including English and maths with a score of at least five (grade C). This equates to mostly Cs at GCSE.</p> <p><b>Programme:</b> This is a three year programme to complete three A Levels.  Choose four A Level subjects, one of which will be dropped at the end of the first or second year.</p>	<p><b>Entry requirements:</b> A Progress 8 score between 5.5 and 6.2, including English and maths with a score of at least five (grade C). This equates to mostly Cs and Bs at GCSE.</p> <p><b>Programme:</b> This is a two year programme to complete three A Levels.  Choose four A Level subjects, one of which will be dropped at the end of the first year.</p>	<p><b>Entry requirements:</b> A Progress 8 score 6.2 or above, including English and maths with a score of at least six (grade B). This equates to mostly Bs and As at GCSE.</p> <p><b>Programme:</b> This is a two year programme to complete three A Levels.  Choose four A Level subjects, one of which may be dropped at the end of the first year.</p>

## Progress 8 scores and GCSE grades

Progress 8 scores were introduced in schools for the 2016 summer exams. Qualifications will be graded as letters which equate to numbers.

Grade (GCSE Maths and English)	9-8	7	6	5-4	3	2	1	1
Grade (Other GCSEs)	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Score	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

Only Progress 8 subjects will count towards your score, these are as follows:

- English Language or English Literature (the highest grade of the two) and maths (these grades are counted twice, e.g. a grade B will have a score of 12).
- Three subjects from Sciences, Computer Science, Geography, History or Languages.
- Any three other GCSE subjects.

The scores for all eight subjects are added together, with English and maths counting twice, then it is divided by 10.

### Example:

Grace got English grade A, maths grade B, three As, two Bs and a C; this equates to 6.4

Calculation:  $(7+7)+(6+6)+7+7+7+6+6+5=64 \div 10 = 6.4$

# The Year 11 application process

1

## Step 1 - Search

Look for a course in this prospectus or online at  
🌐 [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk) or [www.ucasprogress.com](http://www.ucasprogress.com)

2

## Step 2 - Visit

Come along to one of our Open Days to find out more about the courses, meet tutors and take a tour of our building. You can apply to study with us without coming to an Open Day but we would recommend visiting us if you can. The dates for our 2016/17 events are **Wednesday 12 October, Saturday 19 November and Thursday 9 February.**

3

## Step 3 - Apply

You can apply from the beginning of October 2016 by completing the application form in the back of this prospectus, via the Barnsley Sixth Form College website or UCAS Progress. Your careers adviser at school will be able to help with your application should you need it.

4

## Step 4 - Interview

After you've applied you will be invited in to college to attend an interview with a tutor. Interviews take place on Wednesday afternoons and you will receive a letter advising you of the date and time that yours will take place. We work closely with schools and they are aware of our interview process so there should be no problem in taking time out of classes. The interview is nothing to worry about; it's very informal and is a great chance for you to ask any questions you might have about your choice of A Levels.

5

## Step 5 - Your offer

After your interview you will be offered a place on your chosen programme, usually conditional depending on your GCSE results, or referred to a more appropriate course.

6

## Step 6 - Taster

All students who apply before the end of March 2017 will be invited in to take part in a taster session to get a better idea of what their chosen subjects will entail.

7

## Step 7 - Summer School

All A Level applicants will be invited to our Summer School in June 2017. This full-day session will give you a chance to meet some of your fellow students and tutors and get a taste of life at Barnsley Sixth Form College.

8

## Step 8 - Enrolment

An invitation and enrolment pack will be sent to you in early August 2017 giving you all the information you need ready to enrol at the end of August.

**If you have any questions about the application process, our Admissions Team are here to help. You can reach the team on**

☎ **+44 (0)1226 216 106** or ✉ **[interviews@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:interviews@barnsley.ac.uk)**

# Sixth Form College life

Being a student at Barnsley Sixth Form College is about much more than just your classes. Studying here is different to school; there are no bells, no uniforms and you'll call your tutors by their first names. You'll be treated as an adult and really start to develop your own learning style.

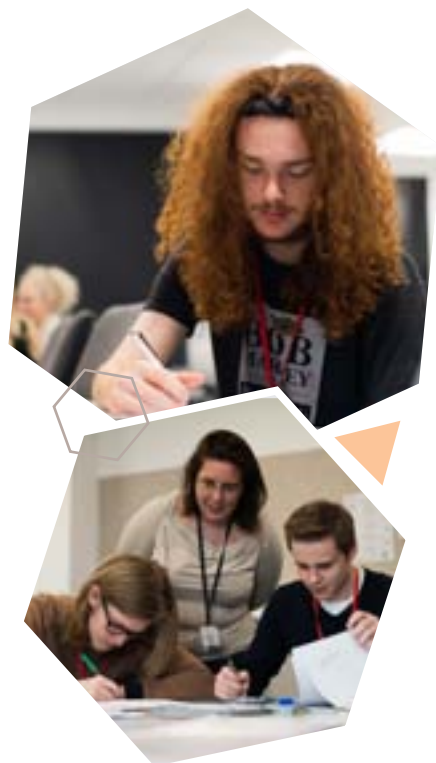
You will also have the opportunity to get involved in a range of activities, from the Students' Union to Enterprise, Learner Voice or Enrichment.

## Tutorials

When you start your A Levels you will be allocated a designated Personal Progress Mentor (PPM) to guide you through your time with us and help you reach your potential. Your PPM will monitor your progress against your target grades in all subjects, give pastoral and careers guidance and help you with study skills and UCAS applications.

## Timetable

Your own timetable will depend on the subjects you choose to study and will include time for Tutorials and independent study which we call 'Prep'. Below you can see an example of the kind of format your timetable will take:



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>CHEMISTRY</b> 09:00 - 10:00	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b> 09:00 - 10:10	<b>TUTORIAL</b> 09:00 - 10:10	<b>PHYSICS</b> 09:00 - 10:10	<b>MATHS</b> 09:00 - 10:10
<b>BREAK 10:00 - 10:15</b>	<b>BREAK 10:10 - 10:25</b>			
<b>MATHS</b> 10:15 - 11:15	<b>TUTORIAL</b> 10:25 - 11:35	<b>PHYSICS</b> 10:25 - 11:35	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b> 10:25 - 11:35	<b>CHEMISTRY</b> 10:25 - 11:35
<b>PREP 11:20 - 12:20</b>	<b>PREP 11:40 - 12:50</b>	<b>CHEMISTRY</b> 11:40 - 12:50	<b>PREP 11:40 - 12:50</b>	
<b>LUNCH 12:20 - 12:40</b>	<b>LUNCH 12:50 - 1:10</b>	<b>ENRICHMENT</b>	<b>LUNCH 12:50 - 1:10</b>	
<b>TUTORIAL</b> 12:40 - 1:40	<b>PHYSICS</b> 1:10 - 2:20		<b>MATHS</b> 1:10 - 2:20	<b>GEOGRAPHY</b> 1:10 - 2:20
<b>GEOGRAPHY</b> 1:50 - 2:50	<b>MATHS</b> 2:30 - 3:40		<b>CHEMISTRY</b> 2:30 - 3:40	<b>TUTORIAL</b> 2:30 - 3:40
<b>PHYSICS</b> 3:00 - 4:00				





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### Studying

As a Barnsley Sixth Form College student you can access a wide range of books and journals as well as computers, printing and photocopying in the Nucleus. You will get a chance to see these facilities when you visit us on our Open Days.

### After A Levels – university and careers

We want all our students to continue achieving their potential after leaving Barnsley Sixth Form College so we provide guidance and research opportunities on career options and university applications. We arrange a programme of information sessions each year, including talks from different universities, advice on student finance and completing UCAS applications and visits to universities and UCAS Conventions.

### Learner Voice

Do you want to represent the opinions of your fellow classmates? You can become a learner representative and attend departmental learner forums to voice student opinions and potentially make changes to your course and college if necessary.

automatically become a member of the SU which is led by a group of students – the Students' Union Committee – who are elected by you and supported by the SU staff.

There are lots of volunteering opportunities available in the SU and a chance to be part of the student council as well as the elected position on the Committee. Being a part of the SU will help you develop some valuable skills and it looks great on UCAS applications and your CV. The SU is located in the Atrium in the lower ground floor at the Old Mill Lane campus.

### Enterprise

If you are interested in setting up your own business, we can offer support and guidance. There are opportunities to get involved in a number of different programmes and projects whilst building your skills in communication, team work, problem solving and creativity.

**You can contact the Enterprise team on**

☎ **+44 (0)1226 216 840**

or ✉ [enterprise@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:enterprise@barnsley.ac.uk)

### Equality and Diversity

We celebrate the diversity of people who learn and work in the college. We are opposed to any harassment or discrimination arising from: race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, age, disability, religion, faith or class. We will challenge any inappropriate attitudes or behaviour.

### Students' Union

The Students' Union is here to represent, support and advise you on all aspects of student life. When you enrol you'll



# Enrichment



Alongside your studies you'll get lots of opportunities to get involved in extra-curricular activities, known as Enrichment. This does just what it promises; it enriches your time at college, helps you develop new skills and can really boost your UCAS application and CV. Enrichment usually runs every Wednesday afternoon and is built into your timetable.

## Subject specific

Regardless of which A Levels you're studying you can get involved in exciting options including Philosophy Club, Drama, Chess Club or the Debating Society. Our Debating Society recently took part in a simulated United Nations Security Council meeting at the University of Sheffield where our students won certificates in a number of categories including: Best Warmonger, Best Delegate and Achieving the Impossible.

## Volunteering

There are opportunities to gain volunteering experience through Earn 2 Learn vacancies where you'll do work experience in departments at college in return for rewards such as high street vouchers or help with travel. See page 15 for more information.

Support is also available to apply to schemes such as National Citizen Service and university access schemes to help students interested in studying for careers in medicine or dentistry.

## Trips, visits and talks

In the past year our Geography students have been to Malham to study waterfalls and rivers. French and History students to the European Parliament while English students enjoyed a week in Paris.

Law students visited a magistrates' court and students visited the University of Sheffield to take part in a series of politics workshops. Previous talks have included sessions helpful to future study and careers, such as marketing yourself and routes into employment.





**Top:** Students took part in a Mock Parliamentary Debate.  
**Above:** Geography students visit Malham Tarn  
**Left:** Art and Media students visit Media City in Salford.



## Barnsley Sports Academy

You don't have to be studying sport to be part of the college's award-winning Sports Academy. State-of-the-art sports facilities are available at the Honeywell Sports Village including a 3G pitch, indoor sports arena and gym.

If you are keen to play in a team we have several Sports Performance Academies, including Football (male and female), Rugby, Netball, Cricket, Basketball, Refereeing, and an Individual Athlete Academy – all led by expert coaches.

☎ +44 (0)1226 216 347 ✉ [bsa@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:bsa@barnsley.ac.uk)





# Advice from our students

## JACK DOVE

*Former Netherwood School pupil*

"I wish I'd have known how big the gap is between GCSE and A Levels - my advice is to be well prepared and revise as early as possible."



## STEPHANIE BARNES

*Former Holy Trinity School pupil*

"I wish I'd have known how difficult it was going to be and how much time and effort it takes, but never give up, it's worth it. Take every opportunity you possibly can."



## NICOLE DIXON

*Former Barnsley Christian School pupil*

"Revise more! A Levels are harder than you think!"



## JACK SHEPHERD

*Former Dearne ALC pupil*

"Be prepared to put in extra time - go over your notes and books for everything, regularly, to keep in front."



## KATIE LOUISA GREEN

*Former Holgate School pupil*

"Make sure you choose your A Level subjects carefully and you won't go wrong!"



## INDIA FLORENCE BIRCHALL

*Former Horizon Community College pupil*

"AS level is just as important as A2 so don't slack off too much! Try not to get stressed and make use of the roof garden, it's beautiful in the sunshine."



## ELEANOR HOLMES

*Former Darton College pupil*

"Work hard even if there aren't many assignments or exams coming up - all your effort counts. I've learnt and experienced things I wouldn't have had the opportunity to otherwise."



## JACK MISZEWSKI-WALL

*Former Foulstone School pupil*

"Take the weekend off wherever possible, try to get your work done in the week then you can relax. It's a lot of effort but well worth it."



## Excellence Awards



Rhys Proud was nominated by his tutor for the Barnsley Sixth Form College Award at the Barnsley College Excellence Awards 2016. His nomination so impressed the judges that he was awarded the Overall Achievement Award, given to the student felt to have achieved the most in their time at the college. Rhys achieved A\* in Mathematics, A in Chemistry and A in Psychology, results which have gained him a place at Cambridge University.



# Supporting you

## Additional Learning Support (ALS)

We want every student to get the best out of their time with us. If you need any extra help, our ALS team can provide you with a range of support. The team work with students who have:

- Dyslexia
- Dyspraxia
- Autism or Asperger Syndrome
- ADHD/ADD
- Learning difficulties/disabilities
- Emotional or mental health support needs
- Sensory impairment
- Physical difficulties
- Medical conditions
- Temporary disabilities

If you would like to find out more about the support ALS can offer then please contact the team.

☎ +44 (0)1226 216 769

✉ [als@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:als@barnsley.ac.uk)

## Health and wellbeing

Making sure you lead a healthy lifestyle will help you do your best in your studies. We offer confidential advice and a range of health services, including:

- Contraception and sexual health advice
- Full STI screening
- Access to psychological therapies to deal with stress, depression and anxiety (IAPT)
- Counselling
- Referrals to Barnsley Stop Smoking Service
- Qualified Health Trainer
- Midwife
- Advice around drug and alcohol issues

You can contact an adviser on:

☎ +44 (0)1226 216 233

## Safeguarding and e-safety

We have dedicated staff to help keep you safe at college, outside of college and online. If you would like to discuss any safeguarding, child or adult protection issues, please contact:

### The Safeguarding Team

☎ +44 (0)1226 216 142

✉ [safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk](mailto:safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk)

**For e-safety information and advice visit:**  
[www.thinkyouknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkyouknow.co.uk)



# Money matters



You won't have to pay tuition or exams fees\* to study A Levels with us if you are aged 16 to 18 on 31 August 2017, if you are 19 or older and looking to study your first full Level 3 qualification or if you receive certain benefits. To find out more about tuition fees, call our Information Team on ☎ **+44 (0)1226 216 123**.

We know being a student can be an expensive time so we offer a range of options to help all our students, from our Learner Support Fund to the Earn 2 Learn scheme.

## Financial support

If your total annual household income is less than £35,000 you could be eligible for financial support through our Learner Support Fund for travel (up to £700), If your household income is below £20,000 you could be eligible for food, trips, printing, equipment and childcare. You don't have to pay this money back.

You can pick up a Learner Support Fund application form from Student Services on the ground floor at the Old Mill Lane campus.

## Guaranteed bursaries

If you are aged between 16 and 18 and currently living on your own, in care or leaving care, you could be eligible for a non-repayable bursary of up to £1,200 per year.\*

## Earn to Learn

If you are aged 16 to 18 and not eligible for any other financial support you could get involved with our Earn 2 Learn scheme. This provides excellent work experience opportunities within

college with departments including Marketing, Administration and Catering, and you will be 'paid' via a range of rewards including help with the cost of travel, trips and equipment or high street vouchers.

## Food

**You can get FREE** meals at college if your household income is less than £20,000 (16-18s) or £15,000 (19+). Speak to Student Services to find out more on ☎ **+44 (0)1226 216 267**

## FREE bus services!

We realise that getting to and from college might not be very easy for everyone so we have funded three free return bus services for our students. They go to and from the Old Mill Lane campus which is just a few minutes' walk from our Sixth Form college campus.

### Shelley > Old Mill Lane campus

### Stocksbridge via Penistone > Old Mill Lane campus

### Rotherham via Ecclesfield and Chapeltown > Old Mill Lane campus

These bus routes are completely free for our students and operate on a first come, first served basis. Each route operates to ensure students get to college before lessons start and a return service is provided after lessons finish. Please contact Student Services for details of pick-up points and times or go to:

🌐 [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/student-support/free-bus-service](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/student-support/free-bus-service)

\*Terms and conditions apply



£



# Keeping you and your parents/carers informed



Giving you and your parents or guardians regular feedback helps to ensure you stay on track to achieve your goals both at Barnsley Sixth Form College and beyond. You'll get weekly feedback from your tutors and we will involve parents and guardians at specific times throughout the year.

## Autumn term

In October each year we hold a welcome event for the parents and guardians of our new first year students which is a good opportunity to ask any questions about the initial few weeks at college.

In November, parents and guardians of second year students are invited in for our UCAS Progress event. This gives them information on how to best support students with UCAS applications.

The first of our Parents' Monitoring Events will also be held in November. This is an opportunity to meet tutors and discuss student progress. First reports are distributed at this event.

## Spring term

The second Parents' Monitoring Event is held in March and second reports will be distributed at this event.

In April we hold a UCAS Information Evening for parents or guardians of our first year students who will be thinking about applying for university from November. This will provide information on the UCAS application process as well as talks from universities on the benefits of a university education and student finance.

## Summer term

Exams for all students start in mid-May. First year students will re-enrol towards the end of June and then our second year students get their results in August.

## Parents' Portal

Parents and carers can use the Parents' Portal to access and track information on student's progress and attendance.

For more information visit

🔗 [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/parents/parents-portal](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/parents/parents-portal)

# Academic Ambition

At Barnsley Sixth Form College, we want all of our students to fulfil and exceed their potential. For our most able students, this means achieving A\* grades and progressing onto a prestigious university to further develop their passion for learning and their chosen subjects.

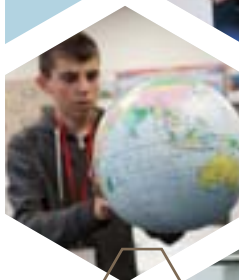
Our Academic Ambition pathway is open to students who arrive at our Sixth Form with strong GCSEs or those who flourish in A Level subjects and are identified by our team as being a high achiever.

As part of this pathway, you will receive first-class support and teaching as all of our students do, along with targeted opportunities which promote academic ambition and will encourage and guide you to your aspirational goal.

We will identify any appropriate Access to University schemes; organise specialist speakers from popular fields such as medicine, dentistry, English and law; assist in securing work experience to strengthen your application; offer weekly one-to-one coaching to sustain your motivation and oversee your achievement.

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is highly regarded by universities and carries additional UCAS points. Under the care of an academic supervisor, you will research, analyse and produce a report or product on a topic of your choice.

Find out more about Academic Ambition at Barnsley Sixth Form College by calling  
☎ **+44 (0)1226 216 256**



# Why choose Barnsley Sixth Form College?

## Five great reasons to study at Barnsley Sixth Form College:

- 1** We are recognised as outstanding by Ofsted.
- 2** The pass rate for our 2015/16 cohort was 99% which is above the national average. We also have a wide range of A Levels to choose from.
- 3** Last year, our students went on to study at some of the country's top universities including Cambridge, Sheffield, Surrey, York and Leeds.
- 4** Our new £18m Sixth Form building provides a first-class learning environment for our students.
- 5** We are really easy to get to – just a few minutes' walk from Barnsley bus and train station and you may be eligible for help with travel (see page 15).

### Open Days

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# **OUR COURSES**

# Art and Design

A Level Art and Design is a two year course which provides candidates with a range of opportunities to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms.

This experience lays a foundation for further study of Art and Design or related subjects in Higher Education. It is suitable for you if you want to develop your interest and enjoyment of art and design.

## Subject content

Art and Design encompasses a wide range of techniques and processes with a particular emphasis on drawing. Candidates are required to enrol to one of the following specialisms:

- **Fine Art**
- **Graphic Communication**

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade A\* - C in Art and Design (Fine Art or Graphics) or Graphic Design (Graphics only)

## Learning methods

Both Fine Art and Graphic Communication encompass an initial period of skills based practice and exploration to prepare each candidate for their first major project (Personal Investigation) which is worth 60% of the total A Level mark. The Personal Investigation begins half way through the first year of study and continues up until January of the second year to give each candidate the time needed to create individual, ambitious work with an in-depth exploration of a personal theme. This project is then followed by an Externally Set Assignment worth 40% of the total A Level mark and encompasses a fifteen hour formal exam element.

## Assessment

You will be assessed via portfolio work, assignments and examinations.

## Progression opportunities

You can progress to Higher Education to study a variety of art-related courses such as fine art, graphics, and advertising. The portfolio of practical work produced on this course will also be useful for interviews, employment and further study. Potential career routes include: fine art, graphic design, animation, illustration, product design, media, marketing and advertising.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## RICHARD KITSON

Richard is a practising artist with experience of exhibiting, working in art galleries and with arts professionals including curators and fellow artists. He is a Fine Art graduate of the University of Leeds and has been teaching for four years after gaining his PGCE from the University of Huddersfield.

Richard said: *“Studying Art and Design will teach you how to be a creative practitioner and develop your creative thinking skills. This will extend your experience from GCSE and introduce new techniques whilst giving you the freedom to express your own ideas in a variety of different artistic disciplines.”*

## CLASS OF 2016



### Lucy Dewsnap

**Achieved A\* in Art, B in Film and an AS Level in Media and progressed to Leeds Beckett University to study Fine Art.**

*"I really enjoyed being a student at Barnsley Sixth Form College, the new classroom facilities are great, my subjects have been interesting and I have had really good tutors. A Levels are really time consuming, I hadn't realised how much of my time it would take, but I just stayed calm and enjoyed the process."*

Former Darton College pupil

### Jack Miszowski-Wall

**Achieved an A in Maths, an A in Graphic Design and a B in Physics and progressed to the University of Sheffield to study Mechanical Engineering.**

*"I enjoyed everything about my time at Barnsley Sixth Form College, the tutors were amazing, I couldn't have asked for better."*

*"There has been a lot of thought gone into the new building, the graphics room is much better equipped than it was in the past and it's now all under one roof. I really want to be a Formula One engineer and studying at Barnsley Sixth Form College has been a great start."*

Former Kirk Balk Community College pupil



# Biology

If you are fascinated by how your body works and curious to know more about the interactions of living organisms then this is the course for you.

Biology is an experimental subject which provides opportunities to use practical activities to link theory to real life situations. It combines well with other science subjects as well as Maths, Psychology and PE.

## Subject content

The topics studied will build on prior learning at GCSE level and will cover a whole range of fundamental biological concepts applied to different situations to make the content interesting, relevant and current.

The main topic areas studied are: biological molecules, cells, exchange of substances between organisms and their environment, genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms, energy transfers in and between organisms, how organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments, genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems, DNA Technology and the control of gene expression.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade A\* - B in Biology and another science or Grade BB or above in GCSE Core and Additional Science.

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics plus an entrance test.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination. The Practical Endorsement is teacher assessed.

## Progression opportunities

This A Level lays the groundwork for further study in a range of courses across the biology spectrum, including zoology, ecology, genetics, nursing, biomedical sciences and medicine and it is accepted as an appropriate A Level for many other degree level courses.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## TRACY ROWLAND

Tracy has a BSc (Hons) degree in Applied Science, a PGCE from the University of Sheffield and has been teaching for 25 years.

Tracy said: *"Biology has such diversity of topics, there is always something new and exciting to be discovered and it provides an excellent grounding for learning as it is very factual. Students will learn a variety of transferable skills, including analysis, evaluation and how to apply knowledge."*



## ALUMNI



### Dr Julie Richardson

**Science Technician and PGCE student**

*"My A Levels helped me to move onto university to study the subject I enjoyed the most and gain a higher qualification and research experience after my undergraduate degree. Barnsley Sixth Form College has an excellent choice in courses and staff willing to help you to succeed."*

Following A Levels in Biology, Chemistry, Geography and Psychology at Barnsley Sixth Form College, Julie went on to study Molecular and Cellular Biology at the University of Huddersfield and completed a PhD in Ovarian Cancer at the University of Leeds. She now works as a Science Technician at Barnsley Sixth Form College and is undertaking a PGCE.

### Professor Chris Sammon

**Professor of Polymer Chemistry**

*"The thing I enjoyed most about Sixth Form was making the transition from being treated like a child to being treated like a young adult and all the challenges that entailed. On the one hand, you were not 'told off' for failing to do a piece of work, but on the other, you were made to realise that you were responsible for your own choices. Studying at college is different to studying at school, it fosters a greater degree of independence and self-awareness."*

Chris studied A Levels in Chemistry, Computing and Maths with Statistics at Barnsley Sixth Form College before going on to study a BSc in Chemistry and an MSc in Analytical Science at the University of Hull. After working in industry for a year as an Analytical Chemist, Chris returned to education and completed a PhD at Sheffield Hallam University (SHU). He now works at SHU, running a team of PhD students and post-doctoral researchers.





# Business Studies



Business Studies will provide an exciting insight into the dynamic world of business, and will allow you to examine topical news stories and case studies developing your skills in data analysis, making calculations, group activities, discussions, and debating, as well as encouraging creativity, enterprise, initiative and problem-solving techniques.

## Subject content

You will learn about a range of business techniques, including using calculations to assess the viability of a business, the importance of marketing to satisfy customer requirements, how to motivate employees to maximise their output and how every business decision has financial implications. The course also provides a focus on the contemporary business world that allows students to examine current news stories and case studies in relation to the theoretical knowledge and skills that they are developing.

## Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as case studies, activities, group work, lectures, debates, focus groups, multimedia, virtual learning environments and individual study.

## Assessment

AS Business is assessed at the end of year one over two examination papers. Successful AS Business Studies students may then go on to study A Level Business in year two.

A Level Business is assessed at the end of the second year by examination over three papers.

## Progression opportunities

Higher Education courses are available in many universities. Degree level programmes include: business management, business and finance, logistics and supply chain, personnel management, events management and enterprise.

Higher level apprenticeships are also available, leading to business or business administration careers.

Opportunities for graduates include business ownership, sales and marketing executive positions, chartered accountancy, human resource management, logistics and supply chain management, systems analyst positions, retail management, insurance underwriter positions, public relations, teaching, and events management.

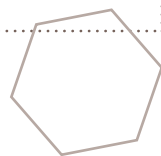


Meet the  
tutor

## JILL BARRACROUGH

Jill has a BA (Hons) degree in Sociology from the University of Leeds, a Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Level 6 qualification, and a PGCE in Business from the University of Huddersfield. She has 16 years of teaching experience and before moving into education held senior roles in procurement and supply chain management.

Jill said: *"Business provides commercial knowledge and the skills required for analytical or management roles in the private, public, or voluntary sector at a local, national or international level."*



# Chemistry

A Level Chemistry is a highly regarded and useful qualification for Higher Education and employment in a wide range of areas, particularly for those who wish to pursue a career in science or medicine. The course will allow you to develop a greater understanding of the world around us by an in-depth study of the composition of substances, the investigation of their properties and reactions, and the use of such reactions to form new substances.

## Subject content

The course is split into six modules. You will study a variety of topics including: the development of practical skills, foundations in chemistry, periodic table and energy, core organic chemistry, physical chemistry, transition elements, and organic chemistry and analysis.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade A\* - B in Chemistry and another science or BB or above in GCSE Core and Additional Science.

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics plus an entrance test.

## Learning methods

Our new sixth form campus includes purpose-built laboratories where you will be taught through a mixture of teacher-led sessions, group activities, independent study and practical based learning.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination. The Practical Endorsement is teacher assessed.

## Progression opportunities

Studying A Level Chemistry can lead to many exciting careers in healthcare, such as medicine, pharmacy, dentistry and veterinary medicine. It can also be extremely useful for careers in the biological sciences, physics, mathematics,

engineering, pharmacology and analytical chemistry. For students who wish to go straight into employment, there may be opportunities in laboratory work, the food industry, the health service and the chemical industry.



Meet the  
tutor

## STEPHEN SHAW

Stephen has a degree in Chemistry with Chemical Engineering from the University of Huddersfield and has been teaching for five years.

Stephen said: *"By taking Chemistry you will develop some very useful skills that can be applied well outside of the subject discipline. These include problem solving, numeracy and practical skills as well as a broad scientific background. As a result, Chemistry is a highly respected and useful qualification for Higher Education and employment in a wide range of areas such as medicine, pharmacy and forensics."*





# Classical Civilisation

Discover another world and become inspired by the ancient cultures of Greece and Rome, studying both the culture and the people. Classical Civilisation is a subject which complements many other popular A Level subjects, such as English Literature, Philosophy, Languages, Government and Politics, Law, History and Drama and Theatre Studies. Throughout the course you will find that studying primary classical sources (including physical remains) encourages you to develop critical and evaluative skills.

## Subject content

At the end of your two years of studying Classical Civilisation you will have developed an understanding of sculpture and architecture in both Athens and Augustan Rome, engaging with examples designed to allow you to compare and contrast the cultural and political contexts in which they were made. In addition to this, you will have had the opportunity to study the *Iliad* by Homer, where you will have assessed the role of the gods, the depiction of war and heroic values. You will also have evaluated four Greek tragedies (*Oedipus rex*, *Antigone*, *Hippolytus* and *Medea*), considering the literary representation in these texts of human suffering, destiny and belief in the gods. You will also gain an appreciation of both Plato and Aristotle, focusing on virtue, drama, reason, emotion and the human condition.

Finally, you will have considered Virgil's *Aeneid*. By studying the *Aeneid* you will develop skills enabling you to evaluate the use of narrative, descriptive techniques and the role of destiny. You will also develop an understanding of the foundation of Rome.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Literature

## Learning methods

Learning on the course is all about active experience as well as academic writing and you will take part in class discussions, debates, mock trials, presentations and group work.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination.

## Progression opportunities

A Level Classical Civilisation can enhance your chances of being accepted into university. If you intend to go into employment after completing your studies, this course will teach you to think logically, to evaluate evidence and to express yourself clearly and succinctly both orally and in writing.

Career paths for students of this subject are diverse and include journalism, law, public relations, politics, drama, the arts and media. Of course, you could even find yourself digging through antiquity as an archaeologist or a historian.



# Computer Science

A Level Computer Science encourages students to develop the broad range of knowledge, understanding and skills needed to progress to Higher Education or the workplace. This is a technical subject; you'll need mathematical ability, a logical mind and a genuine interest in how computers work. You will learn to design and code computer programs; this is a creative activity, very satisfying when successful, but requiring determined and tenacious problem-solving.

## Subject content

You will develop an understanding of, and the ability to apply, fundamental principles and concepts of computer science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms and data representation. You will also develop the ability to analyse problems in computational terms, through practical experience of solving such problems, including writing programs, as well as the capacity for thinking creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically.

Successful students have the capacity to see relationships between different aspects of computer science and the mathematical skills that underpin them. Key mathematical techniques include complexity of algorithms, Boolean algebra and Binary representation of data.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics plus an entrance test.

## Learning methods

You will be taught through a variety of methods, including presentations, lectures and group

work. There will be regular programming sessions where you will learn and practise independent coding skills.

## Assessment

Assessment is by two formal examinations and an individual project.

## Progression opportunities

This A Level will prepare you for a range of degrees including courses in computer science and software engineering. It also provides transferable skills for a range of other scientific and technical subjects. Career pathways could include: database analyst, website designer, software developer, network administrator and programmer.



# Drama and Theatre Studies



Over two years you will have the opportunity to study and research a range of published plays, communicating clearly a director's or performer's perspective, with fully justified reason to support your practical ideas within a dramatic written response. You will also create practical group performances in preparation for a practical performance exam. Regular visits to the theatre will be expected to draw inspiration for both your practical and written work.

## Subject Content

The course is comprised of three components. Component One includes the study of two set plays and the analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers. Component Two involves creating and performing devised drama. Component Three involves practical exploration and interpretation of three script extracts from different plays. One of which is performed as a final assessed piece.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade A\*- C in Drama or equivalent performance based qualification/experience.

## Learning methods

You will learn through discussions, independent research, group work, practical performance and audience feedback.

## Assessment

Assessment is by a written paper for Component One, performance and working notebook for Component Two and a performance and written report for Component Three.

## Progression opportunities

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies will train you from both a practical performance and an academic point of view. Students have gone

on to study a range of different courses at university, including English, sociology, nursing, teaching and degree courses in drama or acting. Many students also enter the professional industry of performing arts.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## JO DAVIES

Jo has 20 years teaching experience and studied a BA (Hons) degree in Dance and Drama at Bretton Hall followed by a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University.

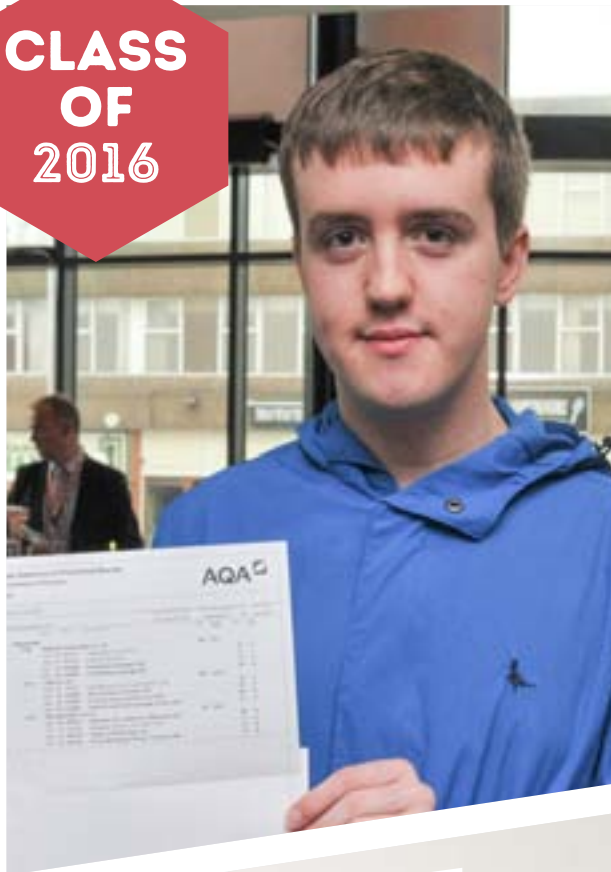
Jo said: *"Drama and Theatre Studies is a creative subject which offers a lot of transferable skills which will help at university and in any future career. The course offers the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and confidence in various elements of theatre. You will take part in practical classes to create performances, view a range of live theatre and learn about plays, practitioners and performance styles through research and discussion."*

The fully reformed specification for AQA Drama and Theatre Studies was not available at the time of print.

See [www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk](http://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk) for the most up-to-date information.



## CLASS OF 2016



### Nathan Hough-Mellor

**Achieved an A\* in Law, B in Psychology and C in English Language and progressed to the University of Sheffield to study Law.**

*"I've had a really good time at Barnsley Sixth Form College, it's been a challenge, but worth it in the end."*

*"The tutors are really helpful and I have had great support from my Personal Progress Mentor. I was really surprised when I collected my results as I did much better than I expected."*

Former Kirk Balk School pupil

### Amie Bassinder

**Achieved an A in Biology, a B in Psychology and a C in Law and progressed to the University of Huddersfield to study Midwifery.**

*"I chose to study at Barnsley Sixth Form College as it is in a great location and the staff are really friendly."*

*"It has been great to meet new people and I have made lots of new friends. The new college campus is much more spacious and the rooms are great to study in."*

Former Horizon Community College pupil



# Economics



Economics is about choice and the impact of choices made. It relates to every aspect of our lives, from the decisions we make as individuals or collectives to the structures created by governments and firms.

The credit crunch, international trade, global warming, sustainable development and inequalities between countries – these are all issues to which economics can be applied to provide solutions to global problems.

## Subject content

You will develop a critical approach to economic models and methods of enquiry. The course will focus on the economic problem of too many wants and too few resources, the operation of markets (demand and supply) and market failure, as well as looking at how price is determined in competitive and concentrated markets.

You will discuss government intervention into the market, for example to reduce the consumption of demerit goods such as alcohol. You will analyse the macroeconomic performance of national economy by measures such as: GDP, inflation, unemployment and the balance of payments (international trade), in a global context. You will gain a good knowledge of developments in the UK economy and government policies over the past fifteen years.

## Additional entry requirements

Grade 6 or above in Mathematics plus an entrance test.

## Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as: case studies, activities, group work, lectures, debates, focus groups, multimedia, virtual learning environments and individual study. Question papers use a variety of assessment styles including real-life case studies and data exercises.

## Assessment

AS Economics assessment is at the end of one year over two examination papers. Successful AS

Economics students may then go on to study A Level Economics in year two. A Level Economics is assessed at the end of the second year by examination over three papers.

## Progression opportunities

Higher Education courses are available in many universities.

A degree in economics provides a wide array of both subject-specific and transferable skills, all of which are highly sought after by employers. Jobs directly related to an economics degree include: stock market trader, chartered certified accountant, chartered public finance accountant, economist, financial risk analyst, investment analyst, statistician, actuary, civil service fast streamer, diplomatic services operational officer, local government officer, management consultant, and quantity surveyor.



Meet the  
tutor

## OWEN MEREDITH

A University of Sheffield Business Management graduate, Owen also has a PGCE (Economics and Business Studies) from Staffordshire University.

Owen said: *“Economics is closely related to everyday life and can form a great grounding for many further study options and careers. It allows you to critically analyse why things are done in particular ways and is highly thought of by universities and prospective employers.”*

# English Language

This course has relevant, engaging and up-to-date content that reflects contemporary language study. With exciting text and data-based sources of language, the specification introduces the study of English in its various forms and contexts, with the learning of methods for analysing language underpinning all elements of the course.

## Subject content

One component of the course involves the study of language in relation to the individual and society. This includes analysing and comparing a wide variety of texts, and studying children's spoken and written language development from 0-11 years. Another component focuses on wider themes of language diversity and change, with essay-writing about these topics and analysis of texts presenting ideas, attitudes and opinions about them.

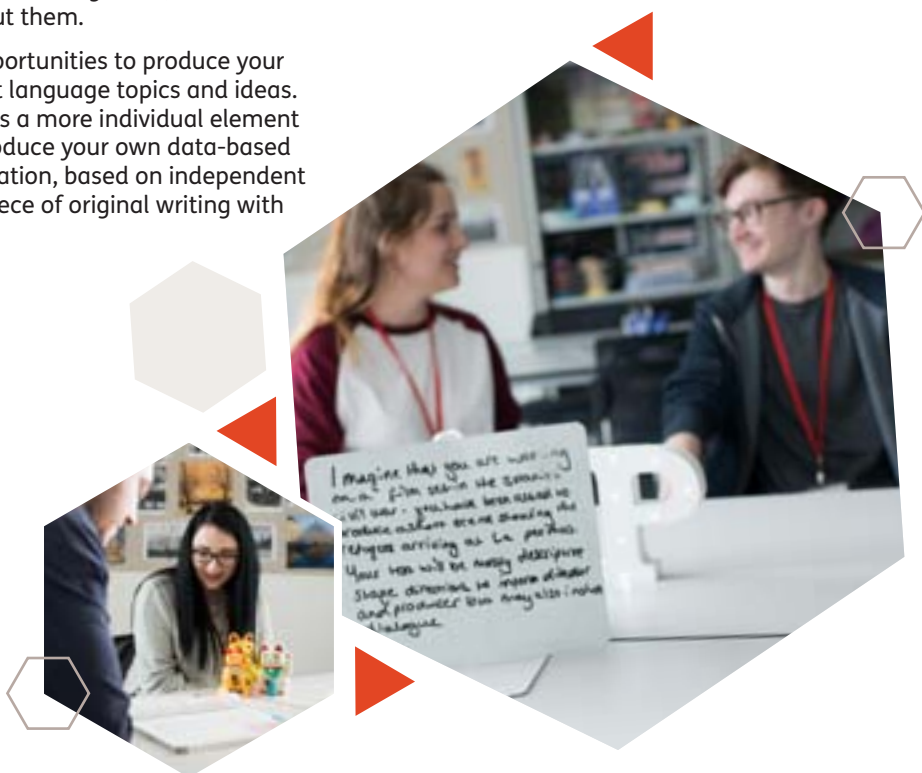
There are also opportunities to produce your own writing about language topics and ideas. In addition there is a more individual element where you will produce your own data-based language investigation, based on independent research, and a piece of original writing with a commentary.

## Assessment

This subject will be assessed by external examination and coursework (the language investigation).

## Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Language is valued by both Higher Education establishments and employers, since it shows a high level of communication skills and the ability to think analytically. Popular career choices include teacher (primary/secondary/further education or Teacher of English as a Foreign Language), speech therapist, lawyer, librarian, journalist, or roles in media and communications.



## ALUMNI

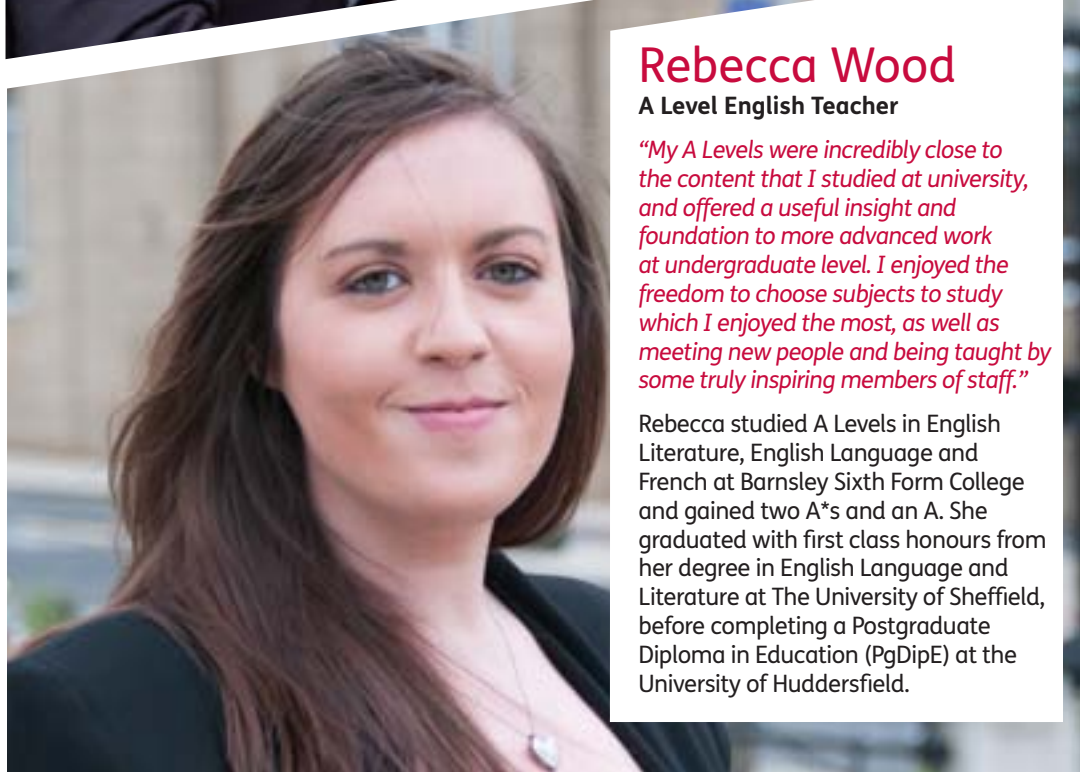


### Joe Beardsall

Journalist at Dearne FM

*"Coming to Barnsley Sixth Form College was the greatest decision I ever made. I wouldn't be working on the radio and doing the job that I love if it wasn't for the college and its staff. It's a college full of tutors who are dedicated and passionate about helping students achieve their goals."*

Joe studied A Levels in Media, English Language, Graphic Design and Photography before completing Level 3 Apprenticeships in Design and Journalism at Barnsley College.



### Rebecca Wood

A Level English Teacher

*"My A Levels were incredibly close to the content that I studied at university, and offered a useful insight and foundation to more advanced work at undergraduate level. I enjoyed the freedom to choose subjects to study which I enjoyed the most, as well as meeting new people and being taught by some truly inspiring members of staff."*

Rebecca studied A Levels in English Literature, English Language and French at Barnsley Sixth Form College and gained two A\*s and an A. She graduated with first class honours from her degree in English Language and Literature at The University of Sheffield, before completing a Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PgDipE) at the University of Huddersfield.



# English Language and Literature



This course brings together aspects of two other English A Levels: A Level English Literature and A Level English Language, which you have probably studied as separate GCSE subjects at school. There are real advantages in continuing your English studies on an integrated course. If you are as interested in non-fiction and non-literary texts as you are in poetry, plays and novels then this may well be the best choice for you if you do not want to take two full and separate English A Levels.

## Subject content

In the first year you will study the anthology 'Paris' and a selection of poems by Carol Ann Duffy alongside 'The Lovely Bones', a literary text. You will develop your skills in adapting and shaping original material, evaluating your own writing and integrating language analysis into your studies. The two examinations at the end of the first year are 'Views and Voices' and 'People and Places', each exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes.

In the second year the focus is on 'Telling Stories' and 'Exploring Conflict', in addition you will produce a personal investigation exploring a specific theme using a favourite book as your starting point. If you cannot make up your mind about a text you will be directed to 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' by John Boyne. This assignment will be marked by your tutor and externally moderated by the awarding body. When analysing conflict you will explore the role of the individual in society and relationships with others and produce some re-creative writing based upon your set text 'The Great Gatsby'. There are two examinations at the end of your second year.

## Assessment

The course contains regular assignments, with deadlines agreed by your tutor. Final assessment is by examination and coursework.

## Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Language and Literature is valued by both Higher Education establishments and employers, since it is evidence of both a high level of literacy and the ability to think analytically. Future careers and professions include: teacher, author, publisher, librarian, lawyer, journalist and media related roles.



Meet the  
tutor

## KAREN PENTY

University of Sheffield Politics and English graduate Karen has been teaching English for 15 years. She completed her PGCE at the University of Huddersfield and has a Master's degree in Literature.

Karen said: *"English Language and Literature is an excellent core subject to study at A Level. It provides a great grounding for many progression routes at university and in employment, including law, history, psychology, journalism, media and teaching. As well as skills in reading and research you'll also develop social skills through analysis of speech."*



# English Literature

The study of A Level English Literature will focus on reading and analysing texts within a shared context.

You will be encouraged to explore the relationships between various texts and the specific contexts within which they are written, received and understood. Studying these poetry, prose and drama works enables you to investigate and connect them, drawing out patterns of similarity and difference using a variety of reading strategies and perspectives.

## Subject content

The first topic area, Love Through the Ages, leads to an exam on poetry, prose and Shakespeare set texts as well as unseen items. The Texts in Shared Contexts topic area gives you the opportunity to explore aspects of literature connected through a period of time. Again the exam here includes set texts of all three genres as well as unseen material.

## Assessment

This subject will be assessed by external examination and coursework (a 2,500 word independent critical study based on a thematic comparison of two texts across time).



## Progression opportunities

An A Level in English Literature is highly regarded by universities and so provides a pathway to a wide range of degree programmes. Research shows there are a huge variety of jobs on offer for those with an academic background in English Literature. Career options could include copywriting, public relations, journalism, animation, teaching, design and TV production.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## GRAEME STABLES

After studying a BA (Hons) degree in English Studies, Graeme completed an MA in Contemporary Writers and a PGCE. He has 22 years' teaching experience.

Graeme said: *"A Level English Literature students will gain valuable skills in research, analysis using the appropriate terminology, structured arguments, speaking and listening in debate, accurate writing, critical thinking and a knowledge and understanding of a variety of literary texts in their historical and cultural contexts."*

# Film Studies

This course is designed to deepen your understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of film. We will study a range of films produced in a variety of different eras and contexts. The social, cultural, political and historical contexts of film are explored, along with how filmmaking techniques can create meaning for the spectator.

A creative project allows students to create an idea for a short film of their own and to plan and produce a screenplay and photo storyboard for this.

## Subject content

### American Film Hollywood since the 1960s

This section allows students to explore the difference in filmmaking over time. Films such as *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *Blade Runner* are compared with more recent releases, such as *No Country for Old Men*, *Inception* and *Django Unchained*. Students compare these films in terms of context, narrative and style.

### Contemporary American independent (one-film study)

This module gives an insight into independent filmmaking and focuses on American independent films produced after 2010. Texts such as *Winter's Bone*, *Frances Ha*!, *Beasts of the Southern Wild* and the award-winning *Boyhood* are studied for how they create meaning and generate response, and how they function as a medium of representation.

### European film British film (comparative study)

Students embark on a comparative study of two British films from different historical periods and explore questions about what may be distinctive about British cinema. Choices of films for comparison are: *Brief Encounter* and *Atonement*, *A Matter of Life and Death* and *Brazil*, *The Third Man* and *The Constant Gardener* and *Sapphire and Secrets and Lie*.

### Non-English language European film (one film study)

The final module offers the opportunity to explore a film with a distinctive European context and theme. *Pan's Labyrinth* is set in the middle of the Spanish civil war, themes of corruption and surrealism and fantasy are explored in the film's narrative. Students are introduced to a film from a different country to expand their awareness of films from different cultures.

## Learning methods

You will learn through group work, lectures, practical work, research projects and film screenings.

## Assessment

Assessment is 70% examination, 30% internal assessment.

You will be assessed by: written essays, creative projects and presentations.

## Progression opportunities

Film Studies is an excellent complement to Media, English Literature, Psychology, Sociology, Politics, Law, History, and Art and Design.

Students on the Film Studies course can progress onto a variety of Film or Media related careers such as a producer, director, cinematographer, editor, set designer, audio engineer, foley artist, teacher, screenplay writer as well as the chance to study Film Studies/Film and Media Production at Higher Education level.



# French



This course will help you develop your knowledge of the French language and your understanding of French culture and society through the study of authentic and current articles, modern literary texts and films. The study of French at A Level will enable you to develop excellent communication and critical thinking skills, explore a wide range of topics about French contemporary society and give you the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice.

## Subject content

In Year 1 you will focus on technological and social change within French society such as the changing nature of family or the 'cyber society'. You will also study either a modern literary text or a film and learn about highlights of French artistic culture including music and cinema. Throughout the two-year course you will build on your knowledge of the grammar learnt for GCSE and study the grammatical system and structures of the language.

In year two you will cover further aspects of French society such as multiculturalism and diversity, life for the marginalised and how criminals are treated. You will also look at aspects of political life in France including how young people engage with politics. You will also study a second literary text or a film. You will be given the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of your choice. The study of grammar will continue.

To really help you develop your speaking skills and increase your confidence, you will be asked to attend a 30-minute speaking session each week, either on an individual basis or in a small group.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE grade A\*- B in French.

## Learning methods

You will experience a wide variety of methods of learning, such as paired work and group work on a particular topic, traditional lessons, individual work such as listening activities, research work on a topic of your choice and literary analysis on a novel or a film. You will practise different skills every lesson, such as speaking, listening, reading and writing.

You will be expected to use websites such as Kerboodle, Languages Online, YouTube and others to support your learning. You will also use the AQA endorsed textbook which will be supplemented by the Elan grammar book.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination.

Paper 1 is a Listening, Reading and Translation paper which will assess the topics covered during the course.

Paper 2 is a Writing paper which will assess the texts and/or film studied during the course.

Paper 3 is the Speaking exam which assesses the individual research project and some of the topics studied.

## Progression opportunities

This course is suitable for students who wish to progress to employment or further study at university. There are many courses at university where you can combine languages with another subject, for example business, law, teaching or travel and tourism.

Knowledge of a foreign language will definitely improve your job prospects and career opportunities. Employers value language skills highly and language graduates are always much sought-after.

## CLASS OF 2016

### Joseph Wilson

**Achieved an A in Maths, an A in Chemistry and a B in Biology and progressed to Sheffield Hallam University to study Physical Activity, Sport and Health.**

*"I immediately felt comfortable at Barnsley Sixth Form College when I visited an open day. I enjoyed the whole experience of being at the college, particularly the excellent teaching. The new building is great with the open-plan nature as you don't feel closed in or under pressure."*

Former Darton College pupil



### Millie Sadler

**Achieved an A in Chemistry, an A in Psychology and a B in Maths and progressed to the University of Sunderland to study Cosmetic Science.**

*"I decided to study at Barnsley Sixth Form College as it was local, the new campus is great and has lots of study space. The tutors are really supportive and helpful."*

*"I wish I had known just how demanding A Levels are, I'd suggest to new students that you need to practice, practice, practice to get the best out of your time at college."*

Former Holy Trinity School pupil





# Geography

Geography is a far reaching and all-encompassing subject that focuses on diverse issues relating to the human and physical world in the past, present and future. It is relevant to all aspects of our lives and explores largely contemporary issues with reference to a range of scales including local, national and global.

Consequently, it is an extremely exciting and dynamic subject, which combines approaches from both social and physical sciences.

## Subject content

At A Level you will study a balance of human and physical geography topics over the two years. In physical geography you will study tectonic processes and hazards, coastal landscapes and change, the water cycle and water insecurity, and the carbon cycle and energy security. In human geography you will study globalisation, urban regeneration, superpowers, and health, human rights and intervention. You will also complete an individual investigation which must include data collected in the field. The investigation must be based on a question or issue defined and developed by you relating to the specification content.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade A\* - B in Geography.

## Learning methods

The course includes a mixture of teacher-led and student-led strategies including group work, presentations, independent research, fieldwork and the use of ICT and GIS (Geographical Information Systems). Geography is a subject that demands hands on, practical approaches, as well as the academic rigour that makes it such a high status subject.

## Assessment

For AS geography the course is assessed by two exams, one human paper (50%) and one physical paper (50%). To complete the full

A Level you will complete three exams, one physical (30%), one human (30%) and one based on a geographical issue linking the course content (20%). The remaining 20% will be assessed through coursework.

## Progression opportunities

Geography combines equally well with both arts and science subjects, so our students go on to study a number of different courses at university including geography, biology, environmental sciences, law, philosophy, sociology, business, medicine and architecture. Geography students are in great demand by employers due to the wide range of transferable skills that they acquire. Career areas could include sustainability, energy supply, retail location, urban regeneration and urban design, managing hazards, climate change, marine biology, global economics, teaching, human rights, construction and conservation.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## JAMES DAVIES

With five years' teaching experience, James has a degree in Geography from the University of Sheffield and a PGCE from the Institute of Education, University of London.

James said: *"If you want to learn about the world around you along with a balance of physical and human concepts in geography then this is the subject for you. You'll hone your skills in statistics and in the collection and analysis of data in the classroom and in the field – all great qualities to take forward to university or into employment."*



# Government and Politics



We don't always like politicians and the things that governments do, but the business of politics touches every aspect of our lives. Whilst we might criticise governments for some of their policies, it has to be better than having no government at all. Society wouldn't function without an elected body to decide what taxes will be levied, how those taxes will be spent on things like health and education or how the country will be defended. But no matter whether a government makes you feel angry or reassured, it's worth having knowledge of how the whole process of an elected government works and an understanding of the theories that inform the processes and institutions that govern us. A-Level Government and Politics enables you to develop your critical thinking skills and enhance your ability to interpret, evaluate and comment on the nature of politics.

## Subject content

In the first year of Government and Politics students study two main themes. The first theme is, 'People, Politics and Participation' which covers issues like: how is voting behaviour changing in elections? Do pressure groups strengthen or weaken democracy? The second theme of study is, 'Governing Modern Britain'. This covers issues such as: what is parliament's role in the UK political system? Do we have a prime ministerial government in the UK?

In the second year of the course students will study 'Political Ideologies' such as Socialism, Conservatism and Fascism. In this unit students study the ideas that inform political parties and institutions with a particular focus on the key thinkers. The second unit builds on this with 'Political Issues: Ideologies in Action'. This topic asks students to consider approaches to contemporary political issues such as ethnicity and gender, the economy, education and the environment.

If you want to learn about people power, how government works and how to make a difference in society then this A Level is for you.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE grade 6 or above in English Language.

## Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods such as lectures, activities, multimedia, discussion and debate, reading texts which develop political vocabulary, participating in group projects and writing essays in response to stimulus material. Classroom debate is perhaps the most appealing part of this course; a level of sophistication of informed and independently minded students make this one of the most interesting subjects available, provided that you are interested in learning about the political world.

## Assessment

You will be assessed by examination

## Progression opportunities

Students who have taken the A Level in Government and Politics often go on to study a range of subjects at university including Politics, Philosophy, Sociology, Economics, PPE, Journalism, History, Geography and Business.

Politics provides a range of transferrable skills which are desirable to many employers. Students may look forward to a career in politics, research, social policy, local government, civil service, Think Tanks, education, journalism, business, international development, the police and the charity sector.



# Health and Social Care

Health and Social Care provides an opportunity to explore how health affects individuals in society and investigate areas of health promotion such as sexual health, alcohol and drug abuse and smoking, as well as the chance to be involved in a small health promotion campaign. You will also meet health professionals through talks and visits to universities.

## Subject content

In the first year you will explore promoting quality care, communication in care settings and promoting good health. You will also explore medical and social models of health, government initiatives related to health promotion, job roles in health promotion and preventative measures used by health promotion practitioners.

In your second year you will look at care practice and provision, looking at the concept of 'needs' at a local and individual level.

You will explore mental health issues and the influence the media has on society's treatment of individuals with mental health needs, as well as evaluating social trends in health and social care in relation to patterns of family life.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination and portfolio.

## Progression opportunities

This course has a wide range of progression opportunities, which can lead to Higher Education in social work, nursing and social science degrees. It complements other A Level subjects and will equip you with the skills needed for Higher Education and the world of work. In combination with other Science subjects, you could go on to pursue a career in nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy, occupational therapy or teaching, plus most subjects linked to medicine.



# History

We study history in order to learn about the past but often what is most evident is how powerfully the past and present are connected.

To be a good historian at A Level you will need to be able to explore both sides of an argument and see alternative points of view before developing your own evaluation of the facts and documents of the time. This is a highly interpretative subject and class activities encourage independent thinking, very high level reading skills and a thirst for synthesising information from a range of sources, before attempting to evaluate them and reach conclusions of your own.

## Subject content

You will study European and British history, covering a period of 200 years. The main focus will be on the 19th and 20th centuries. In the first year you will study a broad period of British history which will give you the opportunity to assess and evaluate historical interpretations. You will also study in depth the history of Russia from 1894 to 1924, focusing on the end of the Tsarist regime, the Russian revolutions of 1917 and the beginning of the world's first communist country.

The second year concentrates on Germany from the unification of the German states in 1871, through to the rise of the Nazis, the impact of the Second World War and the consequent division of Germany into East and West. The course ends with the reunification of Germany in 1990. In addition, you will develop your analytical, evaluative and research skills through the coursework enquiry you will undertake which focuses on the historical controversy of the responsibility for the outbreak of war in 1914.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade A\*- B in History.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination and coursework.

## Progression opportunities

A Level History is a highly valued subject at university and beyond. The development of your skills as a historian may enable progression into careers as diverse as law, journalism, media, marketing, management and teaching. More specialist careers might include museum curator, archaeologist, archivist or researcher.

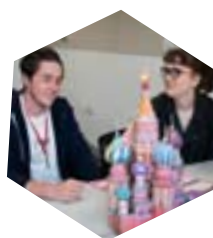


**Meet the  
tutor**

## SHERRIDAN COCKER

Sherridan has an Honours degree in Combined Humanities from the University of Sheffield, a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University and has been lecturing at degree level and teaching A Levels since 2003.

Sherridan said: *"History is a core subject that fits in really well with other A Levels. It will give you the desirable skills you need for progression onto university or work, including research, extended writing and an understanding of topical and historical issues."*



# Information Technology (IT)



Almost 90% of new jobs require digital skills to some degree. The relentless pace of emerging digital technologies has already transformed the way we communicate and work. The proportion of people using IT in their job is now at 77%, with an estimated 22m people using technology at work. As a result of emerging technologies, there is a growing demand for high level digital skills in areas such as cyber-security, cloud and mobile computing and data analytics.

This course is for learners who want to study IT in a context that allows them to learn and be assessed in ways that are practical and relevant to the IT sector.

## Subject content

In the first year all learners will study the following two mandatory units; Fundamentals of IT and Global information. These units provide learners with an insight into the IT sector, as they investigate the pace of technological change, IT infrastructure, and the flow of information on a global scale, as well as the important legal and security considerations.

In the second year learners will explore application design and develop a prototype to meet user requirements. Learners will then take two optional units. The optional units could include: cyber security, product development, mobile technology, social media and digital marketing, games design and prototyping, internet of everything or web design and prototyping.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination and coursework.

## Progression opportunities

This qualification will give learners a range of specialist knowledge and transferable skills in the field context of applied IT, providing them with the opportunity to progress to a related HE

course, enter an apprenticeship or move directly into employment.

Students may go on and study relevant IT degrees such as, Computing and IT, Computing Science, Software Development, Software Engineering, ICT and Computer Networks, Business Information Systems or Digital Media.

Past students have progressed into a variety of career paths, from system developers, web designers, IT support, to teachers and digital marketers. An IT qualification will prove valuable regardless of your chosen career path.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## ALEX MELHUISH

After completing a degree in Software Engineering at Sheffield Hallam University, Alex did a PGCE before starting his teaching career six years ago.

Alex said: *"Whatever job you hope to do in the future you'll likely be interacting with technology and this course will teach you how to be a competent user of it. It looks at the impact and issues which arise from the use of technology for individuals, society and organisations as well as investigating future technologies."*



# ALUMNI



## Richard Keys

**Technical Director and Business Owner**

*"I'd definitely recommend studying at Barnsley Sixth Form College. The facilities available are excellent and the college has a lot to offer students, no matter what kind of course or subject they're interested in pursuing."*

After A Levels in Classical Civilisation, Psychology and Law, Richard went to the University of Leeds to study Computing. He then worked at a digital marketing agency for three years before moving back to Barnsley to start his own design agency business, Genius Division, with two of his friends.

## Jamie Barton

**Solicitor**

*"I would certainly recommend studying at Barnsley Sixth Form College. I enjoyed my studies there and am proud to say that I went on to achieve my career goal and get a good job through hard work. The support I received from staff throughout my A Levels was second to none. I feel that the freedom college offered meant that I was more prepared for moving away to university."*

After A Levels in Law, Psychology, Geography and PE at Barnsley Sixth Form College, Jamie completed a Law degree at the University of Liverpool and a Legal Practice Course at the College of Law in York. She is now head of the Criminal Department at Howard & Co Solicitors.





# Law



A Level Law is interesting and informative for students who would like to enter a career in law or want to study a subject that will give enormous insight into the legal framework that underpins our society. This is a course that deals with complex key principles and requires an ability to understand highly detailed cases and apply this knowledge to examination questions.

## Subject content

In the first year you will learn about the nature of law, including the sources of law and the differences between criminal and civil law. You will also explore the English legal system, for example the courts, how law is made and reformed, and how you can qualify as a lawyer. You will be introduced to two areas of law, criminal law and tort law, and will learn to apply legal principles and cases to problematic situations.

In the second year you will focus on problem solving in criminal law, tort law and contract law. You will also explore the role of law in society, study the relationship between law and morality and consider whether the law always achieves justice.

During the course you will have the opportunity to visit the Magistrates' Court and Crown Court, attend talks from visiting speakers and visit university law departments.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Language.

## Learning methods

You will learn through a variety of methods including lectures, group work and individual research.

## Assessment

There will be regular tests and exam question practice. Assessment is by examination.

## Progression opportunities

Most learners progress to university to study a wide range of degree courses, including Law. After successful completion of a qualifying Law degree, you can then decide to continue training to become a solicitor or a barrister. Other career options could include the civil service, police, accountancy, the probation service and qualifying as a legal executive through the CILEX route.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## DEBORAH DARIAN

Deborah graduated with a LL.B (Hons) degree in Law from the University of Leeds and completed her PGCE at the University of Huddersfield. She has been teaching A Level Law for 18 years.

Deborah said: *"Law is relevant to everyone as it affects every area of all our lives, from your rights when buying something in a shop to legalities around relationships with others. You will develop excellent problem solving skills, learn how to devise and present a strong argument and increase your confidence in dealing with a range of people and situations."*

# Mathematics

Maths should be studied for its fascinating sophistication and its inherent elegance as a way of viewing the world around us. Over two years, you will study and investigate a wide range of mathematical concepts. If you enjoyed the challenge of problem solving in your Maths GCSE, you will definitely find A Level Mathematics an appealing choice.

## Subject content

**Pure Maths:** Extends work covered at GCSE on proof, algebra, graphs, sequences, trigonometry as well as introducing brand new topics such as logarithms, calculus and vectors.

**Mechanics:** Describes the motion of objects and how they respond to forces, from cars in the street to satellites revolving around a planet. Understand how modelling can turn a complicated physical problem into a simpler one that can be analysed and solved using mathematical methods.

**Statistics:** Allows us to investigate real-world data. From this we are able to make predictions and assess the validity of certain statistical models used to analyse the ever-changing world around us.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics plus an entrance test.

## Learning methods

You will discover and explore maths by discussion and group work as well as independent research and practical work.

## Assessment

In the first year (AS Level) there are two exams: Pure with Mechanics and Pure with Statistics

In the second year (A Level) there are three exams: Pure, Pure with Mechanics and Pure with Statistics. The content from both AS and A Level are examined in these three papers.

## Progression opportunities

Maths is a versatile A Level choice and is highly regarded by Higher Education establishments. Maths is a key component of many degree courses, including computer science, engineering, natural sciences, economics, medicine, geography, architecture and of course, mathematics itself.

Graduates go on to have a wide range of careers in any job where logical thought and problem solving are required such as business, accountancy or computing.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## LUKE MODIRI

Luke has a first-class Master's degree in Maths from the University of Leeds and previously worked in accountancy before completing his PGDipE at the University of Sheffield. He also has an MA in Education.

Luke said: *"This is the A Level to choose if you are interested in maths and performed well at GCSE level. The course allows you to deepen your mathematical understanding whilst profiting on its desirability in other career areas, from medicine to computing."*

## CLASS OF 2016

### Oliver Pickles

**Achieved an A in Maths, B in Economics and B in Geography and progressed to Loughborough University to study Economics.**

*"I struggled a little with my GCSEs and found it hard to get a place to study A Levels, Barnsley Sixth Form College gave me a chance and were really helpful. The teaching is great and there is a fantastic infrastructure of support. The new building is really open and spacious, but there are small rooms for quiet study if needed."*

Former Kettlethorpe High School pupil

### Alex Hartley

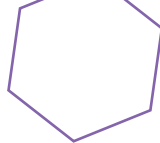
**Achieved an A in Maths, A in Biology and A in Physics and progressed to University of Leeds to study Accounting.**

*"Barnsley Sixth Form College has a good reputation with great facilities. It's a really friendly atmosphere and has helpful tutors. There are lots of places to do independent study and the new campus is light and airy."*

*"Don't worry about meeting new people, everyone is really friendly."*

Former Carlton Community College pupil

# Further Maths



This course is an additional A Level in Mathematics, expanding upon the many areas of study met in A Level Mathematics.

A genuine love of maths and an enquiring mind are essential for students wishing to take this course. You must be confident with the algebra studied at higher level GCSE and show an enthusiasm to overcome the challenges that A Level Further Maths provides.

## Subject content

**Pure Maths:** This builds on the knowledge and understanding of algebra from GCSE and extends the content introduced in A Level Mathematics. You will meet new topics such as complex numbers, matrices, proof, hyperbolic functions, polar coordinates and further calculus.

**Mechanics and Statistics:** These extend the content introduced in A Level Mathematics. You will meet new topics such as centres of mass, circular motion, Poisson distribution and continuous random variables.

**Discrete Maths:** Learn how to solve problems involving networks, graph theory, linear programming and a range of algorithms which enable particular problems in science, business and industry to be tackled using a very modern approach.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics plus an entrance test.

A Level Further Maths is a second A Level in maths; therefore you must also be studying A Level Mathematics

## Learning methods

You will deepen your understanding of maths by discussion and group work as well as independent research and practical work.

## Assessment

For AS Level there are three exams: compulsory Pure and two optional modules chosen from Mechanics, Statistics, Discrete Maths and Additional Pure Maths.

For A Level there are three exams: compulsory Pure and two optional modules chosen from Mechanics, Statistics, Discrete Maths and Additional Pure Maths. The content from both AS and A Level are examined in these three papers.

## Progression opportunities

A Level Further Maths is a highly regarded and prestigious subject. Many university degree courses in maths, physics and engineering now ask specifically for Further Maths to at least AS Level. Graduates go on to have a range of careers from accountancy and computing, to scientific research and medicine.



Meet the  
tutor

## LANE STEPHENSON

After graduating with a first-class Master's degree in Maths and Statistics from Newcastle University, Lane worked in finance before completing a PGCE at the University of York.

Lane said: *"Maths is a fantastic core subject which provides you with a way of solving complex problems in a systematic and logical way. It is a great foundation for a number of undergraduate degree courses and is highly regarded by universities."*



# Media Studies

Media Studies encourages students to critically engage with media texts. You will study a range of areas from representation in TV drama to practical film-making. The portfolio of practical work produced on this course will also be desirable for use in interviews for employment and further study.

## Subject content

In the first year, representation in TV drama is explored through analysing short TV clips. Issues of ownership in the film industry are explored through comparing an American mainstream company to a British independent film company. The practical section covers an introduction to film-making and editing and the planning and production of a short sequence from a film. You will be given the opportunity to use high quality equipment and produce an online portfolio to display your work.

The second year builds on the production skills learnt in year one and involves creating a short five-minute film. You will be given the opportunity to use high definition (HD) cameras and more advanced software. The second year also involves the production of a film poster and a radio trailer to support the main piece. The theory covered focuses on how contemporary media is regulated in TV and films (for example, the classification and censorship of films, and controversial television programmes). Debates of why media regulation is needed in a modern society and issues the internet raises for contemporary regulation are studied in detail.

## Learning methods

You will learn through creative projects, debates, group work, lectures and the practical application of the skills you have acquired.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination and the portfolio you will create as part of the course.

## Progression opportunities

Students can progress to Higher Education to study a variety of media-related courses, such as film and media production, photography, advertising, marketing, PR and media studies.

Possible careers include broadcaster, camera operator, computer animator, film producer, film editor, journalist, presenter, production designer, scriptwriter and sound operator.





# Physical Education (PE)

A Level Physical Education will build on your experience at GCSE to enhance your knowledge and increase understanding of the factors that affect performance and participation in physical education.

The qualification aims to equip you with the skills and knowledge required for Higher Education or the world of work. The content of this course addresses topics such as: anatomy and physiology, sports psychology and the use of technology in sport to enhance performance.

## Subject content

A Level PE offers a holistic and in-depth insight into a wide range of important and interesting topics. Section A is the sports science based content. Section B looks at Sports Psychology and Section C looks at how Sport has influenced and changed society.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade A\* - B in Biology or Grade BB or above in Core and Additional Science.

Additionally success in A Level PE is heavily reliant on students playing competitively or coaching regularly in sport.

## Assessment

You will be assessed at the end of the A Level course by various examinations. Paper 1 applies to Applied Anatomy and Physiology, Skill Acquisition, and Sport and Society. Paper 2 covers Exercise Physiology and Biomechanics, Sport Psychology and Technology in Sport. You will also be assessed practically in your chosen sport.

## Progression opportunities

You will develop the skills, knowledge and understanding to prepare you for sports-related courses in Higher Education. Alternatively, you may wish to progress into employment within the sports industry.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## JOE PALMER

After completing a Level 3 course in Development, Coaching and Fitness at Barnsley College, Joe secured a football scholarship at New York's Genesee College where he obtained an Associate Degree in PE before undertaking his BSc (Hons) degree in Sports Coaching at Leeds Beckett University. He also has a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University.

Joe said: *"You will be assessed through practical sessions and exams and really develop your passion for sport. PE complements other A Levels very well and particularly works with Biology and Psychology. You may also have the chance to complete officiating and coaching qualifications alongside your A Levels."*



# Physics

A Level Physics is a challenging course but if you possess a deep interest in how things work then it is also immensely rewarding.

You will study the physics of the smallest particle, the galaxies and the universe itself. A Levels simply do not get bigger in scope than this one.

## Subject content

In the first year you will learn about particles, quantum phenomena and electricity, as well as fundamental particles, from protons to photons, this is always an exciting part for new students and underpins what you do next. The next topic is quantum phenomena where you will enter the world of the small and the weird! We will explore electricity where you will learn about circuits, how we use electricity, explore electrons and ions, and consider how we have been making electricity work for us since 1887.

Topics in the second year include: fields and further mechanics, looking at imaginary lines of force that apply across the entire universe, how they work and why they are so important, and explaining all types of motion. You will also study nuclear, thermal and cosmological physics.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade A\*- B in Physics and another science or BB or above in Core and Additional Science.

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics plus an entrance test.

Given the fundamental underpinning of maths, you will need to take A Level Mathematics alongside Physics.

## Assessment

Assessment is by examination. The Practical Endorsement is teacher assessed.

## Progression opportunities

Studying Physics can be a springboard to a number of careers and you could progress into Higher Education to study astronomy, dentistry, engineering, forensic science, medicine, sound recording, veterinary science or finance.

Career possibilities include architect, biotechnologist, communications worker, computer technician, electrician, energy sector worker, engineer, medical physicist, patent lawyer, science journalist or teacher.

A Level Physics shows a university admissions tutor, or an employer, that you have a keen logical mind and are mathematically very capable, both skills that are highly sought after.



Meet the  
tutor

## JONATHAN ISON

Jonathan has a BEng degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the University of Leeds and has been teaching for 23 years. He also has a PGCE (Science) from Bangor University.

Jonathan said: *"Physics is a vital course for the future of innovation in the UK. It covers challenging ideas from researching the beginning of time through to designing electronics, transport and green energy. The skills you will develop can open doors to a wide range of careers, particularly in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) companies."*

# Psychology

Psychology is the study of human behaviour and human experience. A Level Psychology offers an engaging and effective introduction to the field. On this course you will find out about the methods used by psychologists and the theories that underpin their explanations of human behaviour and human interactions with the world. Psychologists apply their theories and explanations to understand different areas of everyday life and this is also a focus for students of A Level Psychology.

## Subject content

The content of the course includes approaches and methods related to the core areas of psychology: cognitive, social, biological, developmental, individual differences and research methods, as well as explanations from different theories, along with psychological issues and debates.

In addition, there is the opportunity to see how psychology is applied in real life when we study forensic psychology, stress and relationships.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in Mathematics plus an entrance test.

## Assessment

Assessments employ a variety of types of question such as multiple choices, short answer and extended writing/essays which test the skills of knowledge and understanding, application and evaluation.

## Progression opportunities

This course develops skills that are useful in a number of jobs and professions including law, business, medicine, journalism, marketing, advertising, personnel work, management and many more. A Level Psychology also enables progression into further study of a wide range of other subjects at university, such as health, education and social work.



**Meet the  
tutor**

## HANNAH PATERSON

Hannah studied a BSc in Psychology at the University of Leicester and a PGCE at Sheffield Hallam University.

Hannah said: *"Most students haven't studied Psychology before they come to college so it's an exciting new subject that can strengthen skills in a range of areas, including analysis, essay writing, maths and science."*

# Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

In Religion, Philosophy and Ethics you will explore life's 'big questions'.

Philosophers and theologians throughout history have asked questions which still challenge minds today. In Religion, Philosophy and Ethics you will critically study the nature of reality and explore ethical dilemmas.

## Subject content

In the religious strand of the course you will study Christian theology. You will take an academic approach to studying the origins of the Christian tradition and the development of Christian belief. You will study how contemporary Christianity has engaged with modern society, including its responses to feminism, pluralism and secularism.

In Philosophy you will study metaphysical questions, such as: is there a God? Can we trust our senses? Is there an ultimate reality? What is the nature of evil?

In ethics you will study ethical theories and inquire into the nature of human morality. Is there such thing as an objective source of morality? Are we free to make moral decisions? Does the end always justify the means? Are any actions always wrong?

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE grade 6 or above in English Language

## Assessment

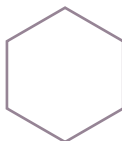
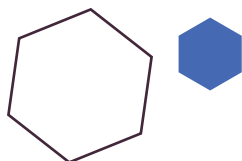
Assessment is by examination at the end of 2 years.

## Progression opportunities

Students studying this subject at A Level often go on to study history, theology, philosophy and other related humanities subjects at University.

Students may go onto careers in teaching, journalism, medicine, ministry, social work and politics and many more.

Famous students of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics include Martin Luther King, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Ricky Gervais, David Cameron and Ed Miliband.





## CLASS OF 2016



### Megan French

**Achieved A\* in Law, A in Business and B in Psychology and progressed to the University of Leeds to study Management with Marketing.**

*"I chose to study at Barnsley Sixth Form College as it offered the subjects I wanted and the building and facilities are fantastic."*

*"The courses I studied were really interesting and my tutors were really supportive."*

Former Kirk Balk School pupil

### John Richardson

**Achieved an A\* in Maths, A in Further Maths and A in Physics and progressed to Imperial College London to study Design Engineering.**

*"I came to Barnsley Sixth Form College as it had an excellent reputation and great facilities. The people are friendly and it is a really happy and warm environment, the open study areas are great."*

*"If I was to give any advice to a new student it would be to be really organised with your notes, this will help you with your studies."*

Former Hall Cross Academy pupil



# Sociology



A Level Sociology provides an exciting opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the world around you and reflect on social issues that are often relevant to your own experiences. It opens up opportunities for frequent and fascinating discussions, considering questions like: what impact do digital forms of communication have on social relationships? How do sociologists investigate inequality in society? And what are the patterns and trends of crime in relation to social class?

## Subject content

You will acquire detailed theoretical knowledge and a critical understanding of social processes and changes. You will be able to develop a broad set of essential academic skills that are valued by universities and employers, including the ability to analyse and formulate clear logical arguments and evaluate using a range of theoretical perspectives.

In the first year you will study Culture and Identity and the sociology of Education. You will explore how culture has traditionally shaped our identity and how in a globalised world we increasingly construct our own identities through consumer choices. You will then deepen your sociological understanding through in-depth study of the role of education in society and how inequalities of class, gender and ethnicity affect educational achievement. You will also learn how to carry out sociological research and how to apply those skills to the context of education.

In the second year you will deepen your theoretical understanding of sociology and research skills, alongside the study of Crime and Deviance and Beliefs in Society. This will engage you in debates about which social groups commit more crime and why, as well as ways of tackling the problem of crime in society. You will then explore the role of religion in society and how it contributes to social change. This will include the debate between science and religion and the changing levels of participation in religious practice in modern society.

## Additional entry requirements

GCSE Grade 6 or above in English Language.

## Learning methods

You will engage in group work, write essays, give presentations and develop creative approaches to explaining your theoretical understanding to your peers.

## Assessment

This course uses the AQA exam board and is a linear A Level. You will be assessed by examination on all content at the end of your two years of study.

## Progression opportunities

The skills acquired whilst studying A Level Sociology are highly relevant and transferable to a wide number of degree courses such as History, Geography, English, Law, Politics, Business, Philosophy, Media Studies, Journalism, Social Work, Nursing and Criminology.

Sociology students often go on to careers in teaching, law, research, politics, police and probation services, counselling, events management and business.



Meet the  
tutor

## DR KIM REDGRAVE

Kim has a first class BA (Hons) degree in Politics and Sociology and a Master's degree in Political Philosophy from the University of York, a PhD in Political Philosophy from London Metropolitan University and a PGCE from Sheffield Hallam University.

Kim said: *"Sociology will help you to learn more about your place in society and help you understand people from different backgrounds. You will also learn many transferable skills valued by universities, including how to put across an argument and back it up with evidence, research methods and essay writing skills."*





# How to apply

## Open Evenings

12 October 2016  
19 November 2016  
9 February 2017

Complete the attached application form by filling in ALL relevant sections clearly in black ink and return to:

**FE Admissions**  
**Barnsley Sixth Form College**  
**PO Box 266**  
**Church Street**  
**Barnsley**  
**South Yorkshire**  
**S70 2YW**

### IMPORTANT

It is important that you provide a telephone number so we can contact you about your application form if we need to.

### REMEMBER

If your details change after you have completed the form you need to tell us. Contact the Admissions team on ☎ **+44 (0)1226 216 106** or email ✉ **interviews@barnsley.ac.uk**

### When should I apply?

The earlier the better as it gives you the opportunity of an early interview.

### What happens next?

Your application will be acknowledged. You will then be sent an interview date and will receive important information by post, including financial support and travel information.

### What happens at interview?

The interview is a meeting between yourself and a tutor. It's an opportunity to get more detailed course information and help you decide if A Levels are the right choice for you.

### Can I change my mind?

Yes, there is no formal commitment at this stage. If you'd like to change your choice of A Levels just call us on the number below.

### Can I apply for a vocational course as well as A Levels?

You are welcome to apply for both A Levels and vocational courses and make your decision later about what to study. You'll just need to complete a vocational application form which can be found in the Barnsley College vocational course guide.

### What happens if I don't get the right grades?

Don't panic! We have a place for you. Contact our Information Team on the number below and they will advise you on what to do.

### Want some more information?

Come along to one of our Open Days, speak to an Information Adviser in school, come into college and see our Information Team on the ground floor at the Old Mill Lane campus or call them on the number below. You can visit or contact us as many times as you need to.

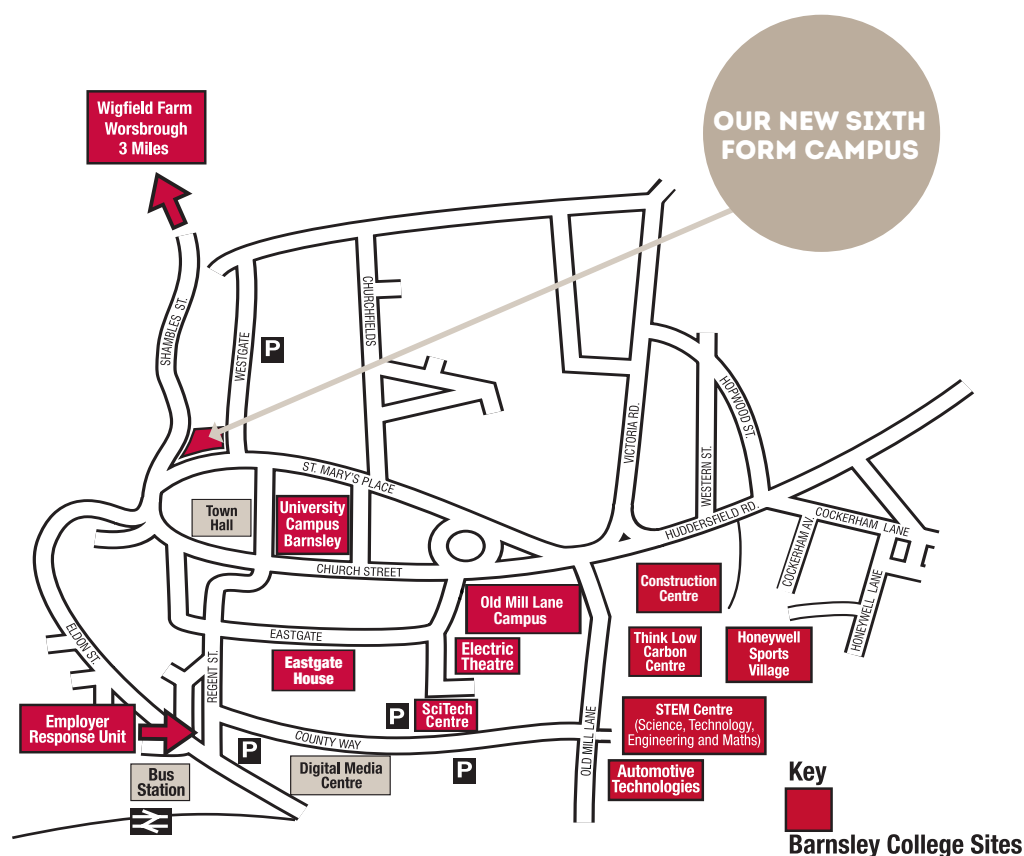
### Information Team

☎ **+44 (0)1226 216 123**

✉ **info@barnsley.ac.uk**



# How to find us



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Every care has been taken to ensure the information within this booklet is accurate at the time of print, however we cannot be held responsible for changes that occur. This course guide is available in alternative formats including audio, braille and large print on request.

The Barnsley College family

