**14-16 Direct Entry Department Overview**

Barnsley College launched an exciting new provision in the summer of 2019, giving young people an opportunity to join College at the age of 14. The 14-16 Direct Entry provision is aimed at young people who are struggling to engage with mainstream schooling. They are referred to the college by their existing school and follow a more practical based curriculum than is on offer elsewhere. All students work towards GCSEs in English, Maths and Science, alongside studying in a vocational area and participating in other activities such as sport.

Park Road Campus, which is our dedicated 14-16 Centre is where the Direct Entry and Electively Home Educated cohorts are based. Due to the background of our learners, the environment at times is challenging, but always rewarding. We focus on supporting the learners to overcome the barriers that have prevented them from engaging in learning and develop the knowledge, skills and behaviours they need to allow them to progress in their education and on into work.

Effective and frequent contact with parent/carers is a key part of our strategy, as is providing the learners with access other support as appropriate.