

Additional
Learning
Support

Studying A Levels at Barnsley Sixth Form College



BARNSELY
SIXTH FORM
COLLEGE



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Welcome to the Additional Learning Support (ALS) Guide for Barnsley Sixth Form College.

Moving to Further Education is an exciting but challenging time for everyone. We hope our guide will help ease any worries and give you assurance before you start your course at Barnsley Sixth Form College. Above all else, we want you to enjoy yourself whilst you are at College.

At Barnsley Sixth Form College, we care about you. We want to give you the knowledge, skills and experience that will help you to progress to the next stage in your career, whether that's university, an apprenticeship or employment.

We pride ourselves on transforming lives. Our Sixth Form College has a fantastic range of facilities so they can provide you with the best foundation upon which to build your future.



Getting to Barnsley Sixth Form College

Barnsley Sixth Form College can be found on St Mary's Place, which is just around the corner from Barnsley Town Hall. It is a short walk away from Barnsley Interchange.

As you arrive at the Sixth Form building, you will be greeted by a comfortable waiting area and a student reception. There are signs to help you find your way, as well as lifts to each floor.

The Sixth Form building is easily accessible by public transport and the College's free coach service. For details of pick-up points and times: ☎ www.barnsley.ac.uk/travel

While in College, you must always wear your student ID badge. You will need to scan your badge to enter through the barriers to access the building.



Different learning environments

at Barnsley Sixth Form College



Classrooms



Labs



EnRich Theatre



Media classrooms



IT classrooms



Life at Barnsley Sixth Form College

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 and no uniforms. 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 Students' Union and Enterprise to Learner Voice and 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.

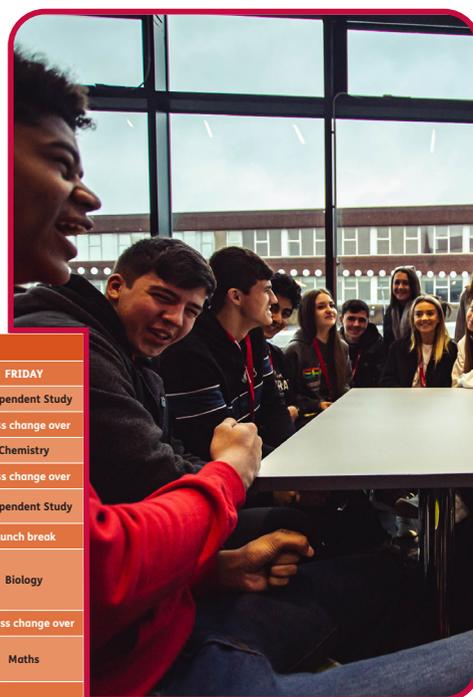
Example Timetable 2021-22				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Biology	Independent Study	Maths	Independent Study	Independent Study
Class change over	Class change over	Class change over	Class change over	Class change over
Independent Study	Biology	Maths	Chemistry	Chemistry
Class change over	Class change over	Class change over	Class change over	Class change over
Maths	Biology	Tutorial	Chemistry	Independent Study
Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break
Academic Coaching	Subject Support	Student Enrichment	Independent Study	Biology
Class change over				
Independent Study	Class change over	Student enrichment	Class change over	Class change over
Class change over	Independent Study		Independent Study	Maths
Chemistry			End of the day	End of the day
End of the day	End of the day			

Summer School

If you are applying for the next academic year, you will be invited to the Summer School event at the end of June.

The Summer School will give you a chance to find out more about the courses you are interested in, meet some of your fellow students and tutors and get a taste of life at Barnsley Sixth Form College.

In addition to experiencing a wide range of subject taster sessions, you can relax and get to know other students. The event will be over two days with an invitation sent to you nearer the time with all the details. You will need to confirm your attendance before the event.



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 Barnsley Sixth Form 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 activities

Regardless of which A Levels you're studying, you can get involved in exciting options including the Philosophy Club, Musical Theatre Society, Running Club or Debating Society.

Support is 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

Here at Barnsley Sixth Form College, we run a programme of trips, visits and talks throughout the academic year.* These activities are designed to supplement your knowledge of the subjects you are studying and enhance your cultural experience.

Previous trips have seen our Geography students inspired on a visit to Iceland; English Students visit Paris to immerse themselves in language and culture; Film and Media students learning about the development of media technology at the National Science and Media Museum; and our Politics students visiting Parliament in London.



*subject to Government COVID-19 guidance.

Support

If you have an Education, Health and Care Plan, the Additional Learning Support (ALS) team will put support in place to help you during your lessons.

Both the support workers and your tutors will know your needs and will work with you to achieve your goals. Our support will be tailored to you and will be discussed during your initial assessment. If you do not have an EHCP, your support will be provided by the Sixth Form team instead of ALS.

How do I get support?

When you apply online at www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk you will be asked if you have a learning disability/difficulties. If you have, your information will be sent to ALS.

When you declare a learning need ALS will contact you to organise an initial assessment.

The initial assessment is where you meet one of the ALS Co-ordinators, who will discuss your learning needs and how to best support you while in College.

After the initial assessment, a plan highlighting the support that will be provided will be produced for you.

This support plan will be passed onto the Sixth Form team and we will also send a copy to you at home.



Before you start College

The Learner Support Fund for students aged 16-18 and 19+

You can apply online at:
learnersupportfund.barnsley.ac.uk
Contact the Student Services Team by emailing:
studentsupport@barnsley.ac.uk



Step 1 - Search

Search for a course in the A Level course guide, online at www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk or via your school's application system.



Step 2 - Apply

You can apply for the course of your choice via the College website or your school's application system. If you have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) tick the box on the application form stating you have an EHCP.



Step 3 - Assessment

The ALS team will invite you for an initial assessment to discuss your support needs before you start College – ALS will refer you to Learning for Living and Work at this point, if appropriate. This is before your course interview if you have an EHCP.



Step 4 - College interview

You are invited to an interview with a tutor from your chosen subject(s). Interviews usually take place on Wednesday afternoons between 3.30pm and 4.30pm. 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 subjects.



Step 5 - College place

After the interview, you will either be offered a place on your study programme or referred to a more appropriate one.



Step 6 - Subject taster

You may be invited into College to take part in a taster session in the subject you have chosen.

Step 7 - Enrolment

An invitation and enrolment pack will be sent out at the beginning of August 2022 giving you all the information you will need to enrol onto your study programme at the end of August 2022.

For more information contact our Admissions Team on

01226 216 106 or interviews@barnsley.ac.uk



What to expect during your

First week at Barnsley Sixth Form College

At Sixth Form College, your first two weeks will be induction. You will be expected to attend all the sessions. During induction:

- You will be given a tour of the Sixth Form College campus, where you will get the chance to familiarise yourself with the building, see where you will be studying and find out about the different services that are available.
- You will have lessons where you will meet your group, allowing you to make new friendships and meet your tutors.
- The Sixth Form staff will share what they expect of you during the course and any upcoming events.

- You will be given your timetable.
- You will be introduced to key people such as the Safeguarding Representative and your Tutorial Learning Mentor (TLM).

During induction, Support Workers will be in the sessions to provide help. This initial support will settle down once timetables have been finalised.

The Support Worker that you meet during induction will usually remain the same throughout the year.



Do you have an

Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)?

Each academic year you will have an annual review of your Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which takes place at College.

The meeting will include you, your family members or advocate, Targeted Information, Advice and Guidance Service (TIAG), staff from College and other professionals.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the progress you are making at College, your mid and long-term plans, what is working well, what you might require support with and your aspirations for the future.

We will also review your EHCP to see if anything needs updating. The meeting can take anything from one to two hours.

Are you a looked after child?

You will have a meeting three times a year at College, which is called a Personal Education Plan meeting (PEP). The meeting will include you, your carers or advocate, TIAG, staff from College and other professionals.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the progress you are making at College, your mid and long-term plans, what is working well, what you might require support with and your aspirations for the future. The meeting lasts approximately an hour.

Every looked after child at College is entitled to claim the guaranteed bursary which is a payment of £1,200 pro rata across the academic year. The purpose of the guaranteed bursary is to facilitate access to education and provide financial support towards such things as travel, food, equipment and kit.

You can apply for the guaranteed bursary via Student Services.



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is about doing everything we can to make sure you and everyone else in College is kept safe and protected from harm.

At Barnsley Sixth Form College we pride ourselves on going above and beyond to make College a safe, happy and thriving environment for all.

It is important to us that anyone coming into College is treated with respect and dignity, and feels safe and listened to.

Reporting a safeguarding concern

If you feel unsafe, you can contact our team on ☎ **01226 216 142** or ✉ **safeguarding@barnsley.ac.uk**

Or you can talk to the Sixth Form's Safeguarding Representative if you are concerned about your welfare or someone else's. They will be introduced during induction.

Tutorials

All students will have a detailed tutorial programme looking into a range of themes such as bullying, healthy relationships, mental health, radicalisation and cyber safety.

You will also have one-to-one meetings with your Tutorial Learning Mentor throughout the year to review your progress.



College services

Barnsley Sixth Form College students can access facilities at the Old Mill Lane campus, we have a number of services which you can use.

These are:

- Health and Wellbeing Centre
- Information Unit
- Students' Union
- Student Services

Health and Wellbeing Centre

Our award-winning Health and Wellbeing Centre is available to everyone and offers confidential advice and a range of health services. We have a dedicated team of people including NHS nurses who will provide advice on counselling, Mental Health Access Team, diet and nutrition advice, contraception and sexual health services, help to stop smoking, and support with drugs and alcohol issues.

They also hold events across College throughout the year to raise awareness of health issues and update you about the services they offer.

You can speak to someone in confidence by contacting the Health and Wellbeing Team on ☎ **01226 216 233**.



Information Unit

Please contact our friendly Information team for advice and guidance on our A Level courses or any other course you may be interested in studying by emailing ✉ **info@barnsley.ac.uk**



Students' Union

You will find the Students' Union in the atrium on the lower ground floor at the Old Mill Lane campus. The Union runs lots of activities, societies and a volunteering scheme.



Student Services

Student Services is located in the Old Mill Lane campus. The staff will be able to help you with financial support through the Learning Support Fund, information on the free College coach services and the concessionary travel pass.



Cash-free Campus

You don't have to carry cash on you. You can load money onto your student ID badge and pay for food, drinks and other items available at the College through our cashless system.

The Learner Support Fund for students aged 16-18 and 19+

You can apply online at:
🔗 learnersupportfund.barnsley.ac.uk
Contact the Student Services Team by emailing:
✉ studentsupport@barnsley.ac.uk



Facilities

The Nucleus

The Nucleus is Barnsley Sixth Form College's independent study space – it can be found on the first floor. The Nucleus provides you access to a wide range of books and journals as well as computers, printing and photocopying facilities. You will get a chance to see these facilities when you visit us on our open days.



Open Learning Zones

All floors throughout the Sixth Form College have open learning zones with IT facilities. There are also printing facilities on each floor for you to print your work. You will be given your own log-in details to access the computers on induction.



Social areas*

The Sixth Form College has plenty of areas for you to sit and meet with your friends, as well as break out areas for you to go when you need some quiet time. Students who want to take a break from their studies are also welcome to use the GAINSPACE mindfulness zone.



Places to eat/free meals

Students at Barnsley Sixth Form College can eat at our food outlets on any campus.

At the Old Mill Lane campus, there are a number of cafés that offer a wide selection of hot and cold foods and a selection of drinks. These cafés include the Zest Café and Starbucks in the Atrium and the Cookie Crumbs and Crumbs Cafés on the first floor. There is also a Zest Café on the ground floor of the Sixth Form building.



If you are aged 16-18 and have a household income of £20,000 - £35,000 or under per year you may be eligible for free meals at College.

Apply online at:

🔗 learnersupportfund.barnsley.ac.uk

*Please follow the government guidelines in relation to COVID-19 and social distancing.





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Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 2SR

☎ 01226 216 123
✉ als@barnsley.ac.uk
🌐 www.barnsley.ac.uk



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All photography in this booklet was
taken before the COVID-19 pandemic.