Additional Learning Support

Horticulture

Professional Gardening

Barnsley College



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Welcome to Barnsley College



Welcome to the Additional Learning Support (ALS) Guide for Horticulture.

Moving to College 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 in Horticulture. Above all else, we want you to enjoy yourself whilst at Barnsley College.

At Barnsley 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. Horticulture has a fantastic range of facilities and we can provide you with the best foundation upon which to build your future.





Getting to Wigfield Farm

The Wigfield Farm campus is a working farm and visitor attraction in Worsbrough, on the outskirts of Barnsley.

Wigfield Farm is easily accessible by public transport and the College's free coach service. For details of pick-up points and times for the College's free coach service visit:
www.barnsley.ac.uk/travel

While in College you must always wear your student ID badge. You will need to scan your student ID badge to get access through the barriers and gain entry to the Teaching Barn and the Connect Hub. The Wigfield Farm campus is accessible for all.



Wigfield Farm expectations

The Horticulture department has high expectations for all students. For every practical session we expect you to:

- Wear your student ID badge at all times.
- Tie long hair back.
- Remove all jewellery and false nails.
- Wash your hands before and after practical work.
- Bring all equipment needed for practical lessons.
- Clean all the equipment used and your boots after each session.



Uniform

When working in the polytunnels, glasshouses and the outside areas at the farm, you will need to wear your protective equipment. This includes:

- Barnsley College Wigfield Farm overalls
- Steel toe cap boots
- Ear protection, a visor or safety glasses when using machinery or tools (these will be provided)

Horticulture protective equipment can be ordered through College and costs approximately £30.

You will be expected to wear your protective equipment to every practical session and it can be kept in your locker which will be given to you during induction. The lockers can be found throughout Wigfield Farm.

If your household income is less than £37,000, you can get help with the cost of equipment via the Learner Support Fund. You can apply for this by visiting: **learnersupportfund.barnsley.ac.uk**







Different learning Environments

in Horticulture



Polytunnels



Glasshouses



Teaching Barn



Lessons

Theory lessons

You will have approximately two hours of theory lessons each week. These will be classroom-based at Wigfield Farm.

In these theory lessons, you will work through assignments with support from your tutor. This will include producing a plant portfolio and explaining different gardening techniques.

Practical lessons

Horticulture has a lot of practical work, and different jobs to do throughout the year.

Horticulture students maintain a lot of the areas at Wigfield Farm and all College campuses, by cutting the grass, keeping the borders and raised beds planted up throughout the year, as well as pruning shrubs and hedging. The equipment you use for these jobs will be provided by the department.

Do I need to do English and Maths?

If you have a grade 4 or above in GCSE English and Maths, you will not have to study them at College.

If you have a GCSE in English and Maths below a grade 4 you will need to attend two GCSE Maths and/or two GCSE English lessons each week. These will be on your timetable. If you are working below this level you can do Functional Skills instead.

If you have an Education, Health and Care Plan it may be possible to be exempt from English and Maths. You can speak to your tutor or ALS about this.





Before you start College

The Learner Support Fund provides financial support 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 in the vocational course guide, online at **www.barnsley.ac.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. 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 giving you all the information you will need to enrol onto your study programme at the end of August.

For more information contact our Admissions Team on
01226 216 106 or interviews@barnsley.ac.uk

Support

If you have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), 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, or if you are on an apprenticeship, your support will be provided by the Horticulture team instead of ALS.

How do I get support?

When you apply online at **www.barnsley.ac.uk/apply**

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 to you will be produced.

This support plan will be passed onto the Horticulture department and we will also send a copy to you at home.





What to expect during your

First week in Horticulture

In Horticulture, your first two weeks will be induction.

You will be expected to attend all the sessions. During induction:

- You will be shown around College allowing you to become familiar with the College and shown 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 Horticulture staff will share what they expect of you during the course and explain all the Health and Safety information.
- 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 support. This initial support will settle down once timetables have been finalised.

Your Support Worker for the rest of the year will usually be the same person who was with your group during induction.





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 and Guidance (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 will take 1-2 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 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 your department's Safeguarding Representative if you are concerned about your welfare or someone else's. They will be introduced during induction.

Tutorials at Barnsley College

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.

We adhere to all safeguarding guidance and it is important to us that all College users are treated with respect and dignity and feel safe and listened to. Barnsley College has the skills, knowledge, and expertise to deal with a range of safeguarding incidents.



College services

In 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.

The team also hold events across College throughout the year to raise awareness of health issues and update you about the services on 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 more information on your course, or any other course you are interested in 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 Learner 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 card and pay for food, drinks and other items available at the College through our cashless system.



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You can apply online at:

learnersupportfund.barnsley.ac.uk

Contact the Student Services Team by emailing:

studentsupport@barnsley.ac.uk

*Conditions apply.

Facilities

At Wigfield Farm there are lots of areas for you to sit and meet with your friends as well as quieter areas for you to go when you need some quiet time



If you are aged 16-18 and have a household income of less than £37,000 per year you may be eligible for free meals at College. Apply online at: learnersupportfund.barnsley.ac.uk



Health and Wellbeing

The Health and Wellbeing Centre

Location: Old Mill Lane campus

If you're feeling anxious, stressed or like you need to take time out, visit The Health and Wellbeing Centre. This is a safe space where you can speak with a member of our team, meet our fish and explore The Sanctuary.

The Sanctuary

Location: The Health and Wellbeing Centre, Old Mill Lane campus

If you're feeling anxious, stressed or like you need to take time out, you can also visit The Sanctuary. This is a safe space with sensory aids such as fidget toys, stress balls and weighted neck wraps to help you relax and recuperate.

Wellbeing Garden

Location: The Upper Atrium, Old Mill Lane campus

Our Wellbeing Garden is an open space where you can engage your senses and find peace within nature.

The Oasis

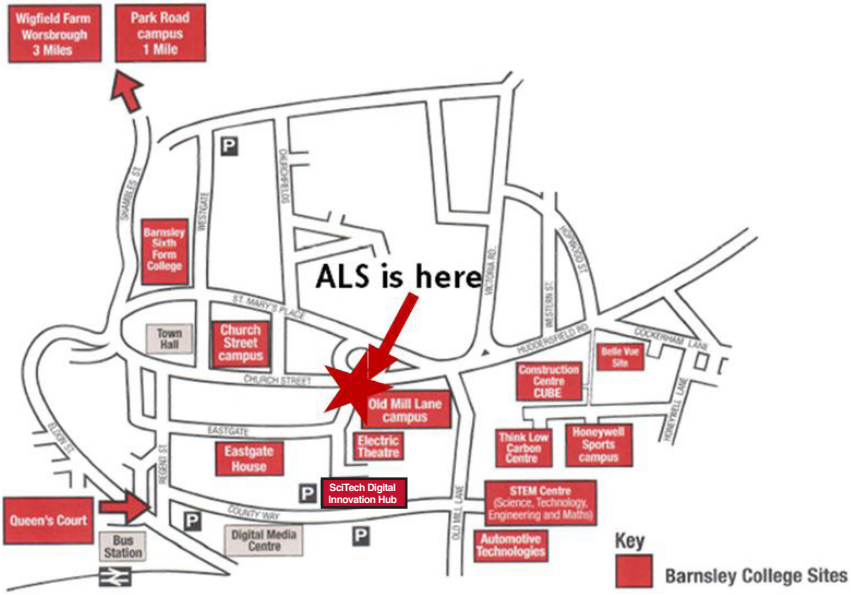
Location: The Health and Wellbeing Centre, Old Mill Lane campus

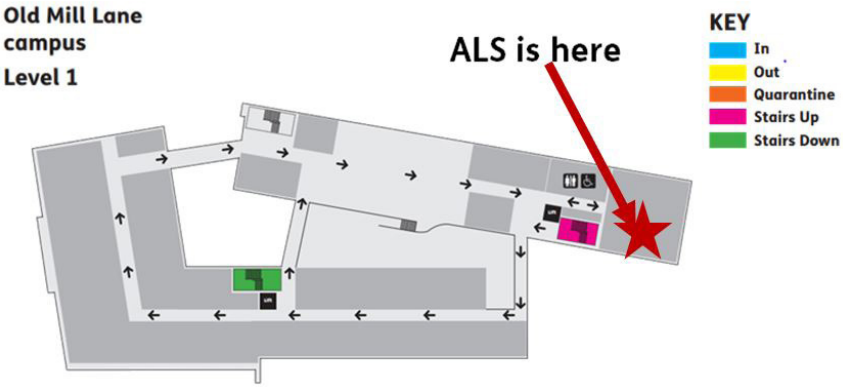
The Oasis is our intervention space, a brilliant area where you can sit with a member of our team and take part in wellbeing activities.

The sessions on offer are Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) sessions and Mind and Mood. They are offered as interim support for students who are waiting for counselling or for students who need some emotional support but do not want counselling.



Where to find us





Notes

Barnsley College

Postal address
Church Street
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S70 2YW
(Sat nav S70 2AX)

01226 216 123
als@barnsley.ac.uk
www.barnsley.ac.uk

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