



Information for Applicants

Longley Park Sixth Form College opened in September 2004 following the Strategic Area-wide Review of Post-16 provision in Sheffield. The College was created to increase 16-18 year old participation in the North East of the city and has benefited from strong support from local schools, communities, the LSC and the Local Authority.

We have exceeded recruitment targets each year, and have grown from 650 in 2004 1 to over 1,200 full-time 16-18 year old students at the start of our fourth year.

Facilities

As a new build Longley Park has the advantage of excellent buildings and facilities, including interactive whiteboards in every teaching room. We have invested in resources for teaching staff, including laptops to help them make the most of the ICT available in the College.

There are specialist facilities for subject areas, including a suite of Science labs, art studios including a workshop and darkroom, a fitness suite, performance and dance spaces, a recording studio and music suite and edit facilities for media. Sports provision is delivered at the English Institute of Sport, Sheffield.

Curriculum

The College curriculum was designed to offer entry points for young people at all levels, so in addition to a strong A Level offer (more than 40 subjects) we also offer BTEC Diplomas at Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. Entry requirements have been set to ensure that our courses are accessible to a broad range of students. There is no GCSE retake programme, but students can take core GCSEs alongside their other subjects. There is also a strong focus on developing literacy and numeracy skills, with Skills for Life qualifications offered from Entry upwards.

Our second intake of Level 3 students completed their courses in June 2007. As well as outstanding results in many areas there was also a very high HE progression rate

for this first cohort. Students were successful in gaining places in some of the most competitive areas, including Oxbridge, medicine and dentistry.

We are also very proud of our internal progression, and the opportunity this gives to young people to achieve their potential. Some students who joined us in our first year on Level 1 courses are now in their first year of advanced programmes and making decisions about university and future careers.

The College is divided into four Directorates, each responsible for the pastoral and academic progress of a group of students, two of the Directors report to the Deputy Principal and two to the Vice Principal.

Student Ethos

As a widening participation College we devote a lot of time and energy to developing a positive student ethos and helping young people meet the demands of post-16 study. College managers are expected to take a lead on engaging students and ensuring that expectations of behaviour are met. We have clear policies in place to monitor student progress and make interventions to get things back on track when students experience difficulty.

The College is currently exploring new initiatives for supporting students and raising the profile and effectiveness of our Progress Tutorial programme.

Partner Schools

We work very closely with our partner schools, and have formal arrangements in place with each of them to help with transition issues through the funding of a 'Transition Tutor' role in each school. An extensive programme of central liaison activities takes place throughout the year, including work with tutor groups in the schools, tailored projects for each school and large scale events in the College.