

A young woman with long, wavy hair is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is sitting at a desk with a laptop in front of her. The entire image is overlaid with a blue tint and white geometric line art that forms a grid-like structure.

A guide for parents and carers

FIND YOUR NEW

Welcome to New College Durham

You want the best for your child. So do we. We are committed to working tirelessly to make sure we provide your child with the best of everything. The best courses, the best teaching staff, the best facilities, the best support and the best opportunities to give your child the best chance to succeed.

YOUR CHILD WILL BENEFIT FROM

- » Excellent teaching staff with industry experience.
- » State of the art facilities & cutting edge learning resources.
- » A spacious campus with a friendly, relaxed atmosphere.
- » Training in real life working environments.
- » Strong links with local and national employers.
- » A varied enrichment programme.



WHY NEW COLLEGE DURHAM IS THE RIGHT CHOICE



- » We are rated '**STRONG**' by Ofsted for our skills contribution.
- » We are rated 'outstanding' by Ofsted for student Personal Development.
- » 100% pass rate in four T-Level subjects in August 2023.
- » An impressive 98% of A-level students passed their qualifications last year.
- » Our apprenticeship achievement rates are consistently above the national average.

Top class facilities

- » Real life environments that replicate industry including a hair and beauty salon, a restaurant, a health care ward and an aircraft simulator.
- » T.H.E. Hub is our brand new technical and higher education building. It's impressive facilities include a childcare nursery, a sensory room, a hospital ward, a dental suite, an E-Sports arena, cyber security facilities, specialist I.T. classrooms and science laboratories.
- » Our purpose built £8m North East Institute of Technology centre ensures we have world-class facilities for teaching science, technology, engineering and maths subjects.
- » Online learning resources and study areas in our library and digital learning space.
- » Onsite catering facilities and shops including Costa and Starbucks.
- » Social spaces for catching up with friends in between lessons.
- » Fully equipped gym, sports hall and dance studio.
- » A dedicated Sixth Form Centre.



WORK EXPERIENCE

Most of our full-time students take part in a work placement that is relevant to their chosen career. This could be with an external company or in a realistic working environment at college.

EMPLOYER LINKS

We've joined forces with national and local businesses to make sure our students develop the real work skills that employers want. Students gain an insight into their chosen sector by working on employer led briefs, going on workplace visits and learning from key industry figures as guest speakers.

ENRICHMENT

NCD's weekly enrichment programme allows students to learn new skills away from their main course. The activities on offer take a holistic approach to our students' development, health, and wellbeing and encourage students to make new friends, try new things and express themselves.

Our courses

We offer four different types of course for school leavers. We will work with you and your child to make sure they get onto the course that is right for them.

VOCATIONAL COURSES

Vocational courses are practical courses that relate to a specific career or technical skill. Your child will study one subject in-depth mixing theory and practice.

A great choice for your child if they prefer a hands-on approach to learning and know which industry they want to work in.

Ways to progress

Vocational qualifications can lead to employment, apprenticeships or further study at university or college.

Why choose NCD?

Our students get real-life training using industry standard equipment in our state-of-the-art facilities and benefit from links with local and national employers.

A-LEVELS

A-Levels consist of two years of study with exams at the end. They are mainly theory based and involve classroom learning.

A great choice for your child if they enjoy research, reading and writing essays and perform well in exams.

Ways to progress

Many A-Level students go on to study degree level courses at university or college but can also progress into an apprenticeship or employment.

Why choose NCD?

Our sixth form students have their own dedicated sixth form centre. An impressive 98% of A-level students passed their qualifications last year.* *Academic year 2022/23*

APPRENTICESHIPS

An apprenticeship is a real job with training so your child can earn money while gaining a nationally recognised qualification. Training takes place both on and off-the-job.

A great choice for your child if they feel ready to start a job and know which industry they want to work in.

Ways to progress

Completing an apprenticeship will give your child the skills to move straight into employment. Higher apprenticeships give your child the opportunity to get a university level qualification while working and earning.

Why choose NCD?

The college offers apprenticeships in over 20 different areas, up to degree level and beyond. Our apprenticeship achievements rates are consistently above the national average.

T-LEVELS

T-Levels are new courses which are equivalent to 3 A-Levels. They offer students a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement.

A great choice for your child if they want to get into a skilled job and would like to spend time with employers trying out different job roles.

Ways to progress

T-Levels can lead to skilled employment, degree level study or higher apprenticeships. They carry UCAS tariff points so can also provide entry to degree level courses at university or college.

Why choose NCD?

NCD is your first choice for T-Levels. We have invested in a brand new state of the art teaching facility which is home to T-Levels. Last year we had a 100% pass rate in four T-Level subjects.* *Academic year 2022/23*

Progression

THE NEXT STEP

When your child has finished their course, we will help them move on to the next stage of their career. Whatever they want to do we will help them achieve their goals. Your child will get:

UNIVERSITY

- » Help with UCAS applications.
- » Visits to UCAS conventions and university open days.
- » Higher education talks and taster sessions.

APPRENTICESHIPS

- » Support finding an apprentice employer.
- » A 'getting you ready for an apprenticeship' resource pack.
- » Access to apprenticeship job vacancies search.

EMPLOYMENT

- » Independent careers advice.
- » Help with CV writing.
- » Engagement with local employers.

NCD UNIVERSITY
CENTRE

A REAL ALTERNATIVE TO UNIVERSITY

At NCD University Centre your child will get the same high-quality qualification they would get at a traditional university, but with a more personal and supportive experience along the way. Our higher education students love our small class sizes as they get better access to our fantastic lecturers and more opportunities to ask questions and join in discussions.

We are a great choice if your child doesn't feel ready to move away and wants to stay close to friends and family. As they are familiar with the campus and staff, the change to higher education is much smoother. Our flexible learning options mean students can fit their studies around family or work commitments.

Our university level qualifications

- » HNCs/HNDs
- » Foundation degrees
- » Top-up degrees
- » Honours degrees
- » Professional qualifications
- » Higher Apprenticeships
- » Degree Apprenticeships
- » Master's apprenticeships



Student Support



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT COACH

As soon as they start college, your child will be allocated a Personal Development Coach who will be responsible for their progress and wellbeing.

PERSONAL LEARNING COACHES (PLCs)

Our Personal Learning Coaches can give your child the one-to-one support they need to help them succeed including help with study skills, motivation and time management.

ADVICE SUPPORT CAREERS (ASC)

Our ASC team offer impartial advice on student finance, careers, course guidance, future study options and employment applications. They also provide personal counselling.

LEARNING SUPPORT

Our Learning Support team offer additional support services for students with disabilities, medical conditions and specific learning difficulties.

SAFEGUARDING

We take the safety and wellbeing of your child extremely seriously. All our staff receive regular training to keep your child safe and make sure they feel safe in the college environment. We also have a team of designated Safeguarding Managers who ensure any concerns are dealt with appropriately.

MATHS & ENGLISH

As maths and English skills are essential for the workplace and university, we want to make sure your child can achieve these core qualifications. If needed, your child can re-sit their GCSE or work towards a Functional Skills qualification alongside their main course.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE CENTRE

If English is not your child's first language our English language courses will help them develop their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.

WELCOME FEST

Our Welcome Fest gives your child the chance to get a feel for college and get enrolled on their course. The day is packed full of fun activities for your child to get involved with. Our friendly staff meet and greet every student as they arrive and show them where they need to go. Your child will then spend the day getting to know their course tutors, meeting their classmates and finding their way around the campus.



Keeping you informed

As a parent, we understand that your child's education is important to you, that's why we regularly inform you about their progress at college through frequent reports. We also have processes in place to monitor your child's attendance, progress, motivation and punctuality. We are delighted to answer any questions you may have at any time during the academic year, and you are more than welcome to contact us to discuss any issues or concerns.

STUDENT REWARDS

We have a fantastic benefits package for students studying full time further education which includes:

- » **FREE** college meals
*- if you get free school meals, this will generally apply**
- » Travel scheme via Arriva or Go North East
*- if you live more than 2 miles away**
- » Discounted gym membership
- » Help with childcare costs*
- » Bursaries for eligible students*
- » Discounts on hair & beauty treatments at Halo
- » **FREE** on campus Wi-Fi
- » **FREE** sports activities
- » **FREE** print credits worth £18
- » **FREE** parking
- » **FREE** Microsoft packages

**See website for eligibility criteria*



DID YOU KNOW?

If your child is in full-time education you will continue to get child benefit.

(Apprenticeships are not considered full-time education as your child will be working for an employer.)



Important dates

INFORMATION & ADVICE EVENTS

October – June, first Tuesday of the month
Term time 4.30–6.30pm

Chat to our expert teaching staff about the courses on offer, meet the learning support team and tour our outstanding facilities.

A-LEVEL OPEN EVENTS

Saturday 14 October & 10 February, 10:30 – 1pm

View our specialist facilities and find out exactly what it is like to study A-Levels at New College Durham.

SUPPORT OPEN EVENTS

Tuesday 14 November 4:30 – 6:30pm

Find out more about our student support services and our foundation learning offer at our support open day. This is an intimate event, which is ideal for those who don't like crowds.

GET NCD READY

Monday 24, Tuesday 25,
Wednesday 26 June, 5:30 – 7:30pm

Make sure you are prepared for your first day at NCD. Chat to your course tutor, meet your classmates and get your bus pass sorted.

For full details, dates and times visit www.newdur.ac.uk/events

Useful contacts

- » **Main Reception**
help@newdur.ac.uk
0191 375 4040
- » **Admissions**
admissions@newdur.ac.uk
0191 375 4210
- » **ASC (Advice Support Careers)**
asc@newdur.ac.uk
0191 375 4400
- » **Learning Support**
als@newdur.ac.uk
0191 375 4380