

Your Son or Daughter's Post 16 Options

A Guide for Parents, Guardians and Carers

This leaflet aims to give you details of your son or daughter's Post 16 Options, as well as hopefully answering some of the main questions we get asked by parents, guardians and carers each year.





BE THE *BEST*...

As one of England's top performing colleges we realise that one of the most critical decisions for your son or daughter is what they intend to do when they leave school in the summer.



We also appreciate that you will want to give them the very best advice you can about the range of options open to them when they leave school.

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Allan Stewart OBE,
Principal



Full-Time Education at Selby College

Selby College offers a wide range of Full-Time education courses. The term Full-Time education means that your son or daughter will spend a large proportion of the week studying at Selby College. This may mean working towards 'AS'/'A2' level subjects at our Sixth Form, or one of our many vocational course options.

Key aspects of this learning are the Personal Development Programme (PDP), Key Skills, and Enrichment activities.

Personal Development Programme – Every Full-Time student participates in group or individual Personal Development Programme activities with one of our experienced Guidance and Support Tutors. Essential components of the Personal Development Programme are careers and vocational guidance and also preparation for life after college.

Key Skills – We aim to ensure that all learners have the skills needed to help them succeed in life. We therefore offer students the opportunity to develop their literacy, numeracy and information technology skills.

Enrichment Activities – Selby College expects its students to work hard whilst on their course. Our students consistently achieve some of the highest results in the country due to a combination of classroom and what is termed enrichment activities. Enrichment activities are part of the course your

son or daughter will choose and include visits to employers, trips in the UK and abroad, participation in sports activities, college performances, The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, exhibitions, professional plays and performances etc, and to meet key people who have succeeded in their chosen career.

How Selby College Helps Students Like Your Son or Daughter to Succeed

We retain 89% of our learners right through to their final exams. Compared to the national average of 65%. It proves once again that Selby College's track record offers the very best education for your son or daughter.

We believe in helping our students get the most from their time at college. That is why we provide:

- Course information and impartial careers guidance
- Personal support
- Counselling and welfare advice
- High quality learning and key skills support and where necessary special equipment to help learners progress
- Financial information and support
- Enrichment and recreational activities
- Support for students with learning difficulties



Why Do Students Come to Selby College?

- Selby College consistently has some of the highest examination results of any college in the country. Our 'A' Level and vocational course results are always above the national average. In 2010, we achieved an amazing 100% 'A' Level course pass rate in 24 out of 26 subjects offered. This is significantly higher than many other colleges and school sixth forms.
 - Academic excellence. Our independent OfSTED/ ALI inspection awarded Selby College Outstanding grades in all areas. The first college in Yorkshire and the Humber to achieve this accolade.
 - In July 2008, Selby College became one of the elite group of colleges in England to be awarded Learning and Skills 'Beacon Status'. 'Beacon Status' is only awarded to the highest performing colleges nationally. In 2010, staff also voted the college one of the Times Newspaper – Best Companies to work for, for the second year running.
 - Easier to get to, travel to and from, safer and less expensive than many other city institutions. (See our website Homepage for details of transport routes to Selby College.)
 - By November 2010, the whole campus will have been redeveloped with over £35 million invested to provide Selby College with some of the most up-to-date facilities available anywhere in England, packed with all the latest technology to aid your son or daughter's learning.
- A mature environment for your son or daughter to study.
 - Onsite access to specialist careers advice and guidance, and student support including advice about grants and allowances, transport links etc.
 - Students value the support they receive from Guidance and Support Tutors, who also act as advocates for students throughout their time at college. They work in close liaison with parents, guardians and carers.
 - The widest range of courses available in the district including Degree Level courses via our links with local universities.
 - Convenient transport links including dedicated bus services from many areas.
 - Good links with employers including local work placement opportunities. Unlike other providers of education, Selby College has a dedicated team of staff constantly finding and placing students with employers.

"Our daughter thoroughly enjoys Selby College, they even arranged transport to collect her from Knottingley."

National Qualification Framework

Selby College works to what is called the National Qualifications Framework (NQF), to be able to offer a wide range of flexible programmes so that students have a wide choice of courses to follow and can thus maximise the benefits gained from their time at college.

"In 2010, Selby College 'A' Level students achieved an overall 99.1% pass rate."

A Quick Guide to Qualification Levels

NQF Level	Qualifications	What they give you
FOUNDATION LEARNING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entry level certificates • Progression Skills and Enterprise Course • GCSEs grades D-G • BTEC • Foundation Learning • NVQs at level 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - basic knowledge and skills - ability to apply learning in everyday situations - some courses require an ability to apply learning with guidance or supervision - some courses may be linked to job competence
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCSEs grades A*-C • BTEC First Diplomas and Certificates • NVQs at level 2 • Skills for Life • Higher Diploma • Apprenticeships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - good knowledge and understanding of a subject - ability to perform variety of tasks with some guidance or supervision - appropriate for many job roles
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A levels • NVQs at level 3 • BTEC Nationals • Advanced Diplomas • Advanced Apprenticeships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ability to gain or apply a range of knowledge, skills and understanding, at a detailed level - appropriate if you plan to go to university, work independently, or (in some cases) supervise and train others in their field of work
4+	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NVQs at level 4/5 • AAT Diploma • Foundation Degrees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - specialist learning, involving detailed analysis of a high level of information and knowledge in an area of work or study - appropriate for people working in technical and professional jobs, and/or managing and developing others - involves high level of work expertise and competence in managing and training others

There are also courses for students who wish to improve their basic English, Maths and Computing Skills and also Part-Time courses for students with learning difficulties and disabilities.



Your Most Frequently Asked Questions Answered

1 How will Selby College help my son or daughter choose the right level and mix of courses?

Selby College staff are dedicated to helping your son or daughter make the right choices to enable them to get the most from their education here.

We hold two Open Evenings and one Saturday Open Morning, when you and your son or daughter can visit the top-performing college and speak to specialist subject Lecturers, Guidance and Support Tutors and Student Services staff. This dedicated team of staff will outline the support available, including advice on transport, other financial support and on-site childcare facilities. You will also get the chance to speak to our Student Ambassadors who are currently studying at college and can give you a learner's perspective of life at college, the choice of subjects and the new campus facilities.

Every young person applying for a Full-Time Course at Selby College is invited into college to discuss their options with a fully trained Adviser. Selby College staff regularly visit local schools to offer advice and guidance on progression routes. We also work closely with the local Connexions services.

2 Why should I suggest Selby College to my son/daughter over other colleges and providers of education?

Selby College prides itself on consistently helping students achieve high pass rates – in the past seven years our rate has always been above the national

average and well above that of many other local education providers.

What is more our students tend to 'stay the course', with a student retention rate in 2010 at 89% which is considerably higher than the national average of 65% and more than most other education providers can hope to achieve.

In a recent survey 95% of Selby College students would recommend the college to friends and family as a place to study.

Our success is based on our size – we are smaller than other organisations and thus can offer a far more individual level of support than other bigger city colleges. I am sure you will agree, our success and retention rates speak for themselves.

Effective pastoral and academic support was a key strength highlighted in our last OfSTED report and the value of this is regularly commented on by students.

Being closer to home we are less expensive to travel to than some other colleges making it easier for learners to get to and from. It also means students avoid those long bus rides, in and out of city centre traffic. Some of the learners that have decided to go to other city based colleges and then decided to come to Selby College, have informed us that it was taking them hours to travel.

3 Will college be different to school?

Yes! Firstly everyone coming to Selby College has chosen to be at college. There are no school bells, uniforms or assemblies.



From day one our view is to treat your son or daughter as an adult. They will, with our advice, have chosen their own programme of study. They will be given time during free periods to take responsibility for their own learning. This means them making the most effective use of their time at college.

The college campus is also a lot larger than most schools offering a wide range of facilities including a well-stocked Learning Resource Centre full of books, magazines, CDs, DVDs and access to e-learning materials. The college has a refectory, light bite refectory & coffee shop, shop, Aspire gym and sports hall, Aspire hair, beauty salon and spa and a restaurant as well as some of the best sports facilities and competition standard fields in the UK.

During their time at Selby College your son or daughter will be able to participate in a range of enrichment activities including trips in the UK and abroad, visits to museums, cinemas and theatres, shows and the opportunity see bands and make many new friends.

Our classrooms offer state-of-the-art electronic whiteboards. We also have more computers per student than any other education provider in North Yorkshire.

In 2011, we will be opening our fantastic new All Weather 3G Pitch, designed for either a single eleven-a-side or three five-a-side matches to be played simultaneously. The new pitch comes complete with brand new changing facilities and adds to the college's already extensive, other sporting facilities.

4 Will there be someone to help my son or daughter if they have a problem?

Yes. There is a network of support available at Selby College which includes academic Lecturers, Guidance & Support Tutors and Student Services staff. If a student has a problem they should discuss this in the first instance with their Guidance and Support Tutor who will help them resolve any issues. If they require more specialist help, then their Guidance and Support Tutor will refer them to the appropriate person e.g Lecturer, Student Counsellor or an external agency. Guidance and Support Tutors will try to involve parents as much as possible if problems arise, particularly with regards to attendance or academic issues.

The college also has a student counselling service, which provides counselling for individual learners. For any advice and guidance on financial issues i.e what grants/allowances are available, bus passes and other information your son or daughter may need, our Student Services department is located next to the main Reception in the Jubilee Building and staff are always available to offer advice and support.

5 What happens when my son or daughter completes their course of study?

A key role of Guidance and Support Tutors is to assist in this process by including careers as part of the Personal Development Programme, arranging visits to careers events and inviting parents and students to careers information evenings held at Selby College. Visiting speakers are invited into college to discuss specific career routes and students are encouraged to attend University Open Days and, if appropriate, participate in work placements.

What Do I Do Now?

2011/12 Full-Time Course Guide

Your son or daughter will receive a copy of our latest Full-Time Course Guide and Application Form at a presentation we will give at their school in late September/October. This describes the range of courses at Selby College. It is helpful if you and your son or daughter look through these before the Open Evenings/ Open Morning to decide the subjects they are most interested in. Alternatively copies of the Full-Time Course Guide and Application Forms are available from our Student Services department.

Tel: 01757 211040 for copies of both documents. Alternatively see our website www.selby.ac.uk and click on either Full-Time Courses or Sixth Form Courses for a complete up-to-date course listing.

Open Evenings and Saturday Open Morning

The college is holding two Open Evenings and one Open Morning for you and your son or daughter on:

Autumn Open Morning:

Saturday 6 November 2010
9.30am – 1.00pm

Autumn Open Evening:

Tuesday 9 November 2010
6.00pm – 8.30pm

Spring Open Evening:

Tuesday 8 March 2011
6.00pm – 8.30pm

The two Open Evenings and Open Morning have been arranged for you to talk to our teaching staff about your son/daughter's choice of course at Selby College. You can also take a tour of our extensive facilities and talk to any of our Student Ambassadors who are currently on a Full-Time course and can give you a learner's perspective of life at Selby College.

How to Apply

Your son or daughter will receive an Application Form with a copy of the college Full-Time Course Guide. Further copies are available from their school or direct from the college. **Contact Student Services Tel: 01757 211040.**

Application forms should be completed and returned to your son or daughter's school (Head of Year 11) ideally before Easter 2011 to ensure they are able to get their first choice of course. Applicants will then be offered a place on a course, subject to certain entry requirements i.e GCSE results etc.

Please note: In 2010, record numbers of learners have applied to Selby College as our reputation for student success spreads. To avoid disappointment for your son or daughter, not being able to study their first choice of course at top performing Selby College, please ensure they apply before the end of May 2011.

Useful Contact Numbers

Student Services **01757 211040**

Reception **01757 211000**

Selby Connexions/Careers Information Service **01757 703538**

See also our website for details of Full-Time, Apprenticeships, Higher Education and Part-Time Courses at: **www.selby.ac.uk** or email: **info@selby.ac.uk**

Equal Opportunities For All

Selby College is committed to giving learners access to the services and facilities we offer. We oppose all forms of discrimination and strive to ensure all members of our community are treated equally and fairly.

Safeguarding Statement

Selby College recognises its moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of students. We work to provide a safe and welcoming environment where students are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure our students receive effective support, protection and justice. Selby College expects Governors, staff and volunteers working on behalf of the college to share this commitment.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



 **selby college**

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