

# APPLYING FOR A PLACE AT YOUR HNC

Due to the introduction of another national lockdown, and linked to this the announcement that GCSE exams are not now expected to take place 'as planned' this summer, to support you, we have adjusted our admissions and application process.

We appreciate that these are stressful and uncertain times for our prospective students, parents/carers, and the schools we work with. At this stage (January 2021), it is unclear what the arrangements for the awarding of final grades for prospective students will be.

It is important to note that our plans may change in response to the ever changing national picture, and we appreciate your patience and understanding. As always, our priority will be to ensure that our application process is fair and transparent, with you at the heart of our decisions.

What is key is that you ensure your application reaches us by the extended deadline.

## A new deadline date for applications: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Applications now must be received by Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Prospective students in 11-16 schools in Kirklees will usually apply via the 'Get Into' centralised portal and you will receive instructions via school regarding this. All other schools will apply via our website [www.huddnewcoll.ac.uk](http://www.huddnewcoll.ac.uk)

### Reference grade information

The cancellation of summer exams 'as planned' is understandably confusing and at this stage, schools do not know what will replace exams, and how final grades will be calculated. We have asked schools to provide your reference grade for each subject and this is '**the grade a student is deemed most likely to achieve taking into consideration all evidence from classwork, homework, coursework, internal or external examination, skills and knowledge development over time, attendance, conduct and work ethic**'. It does not show the grade that you would achieve if you sat your exams today. The reference grade is not the teacher assessed / centre assessed grade. The reference grade is used solely for the purpose of ensuring that you are on a study programme which suits your future aspirations and on which you have the best chance of being successful.

### Interviews

All interviews will hopefully take place in the Spring. This may mean that if you have already applied, unfortunately you will have a longer wait for your interview. Our interview process remains a key part of making sure that you are offered a study programme which meets your individual needs and interests and supports your future careers aspirations.

### HNC @ Home

We will launch our online Campus HNC @ Home in mid-April. This will invite you to explore life at HNC and complete activities linked to your subject choices. This will help you get ahead in your future studies and also give you a real flavour of what to expect at HNC. This will be open to all prospective students but there will be no obligation to log in to HNC @ Home or to access any of the activities, but we very much hope you will as we believe it will support you to remain focused on your future and will support your final course choices.

### Help and advice

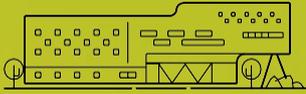
We understand that this is an ever changing picture, and in late January and early February, our Admissions team will be hosting Q and A sessions via MS Teams to explain more and answer your queries – more information to be published soon! By this point we hope the picture for grade awards will be much clearer.

### References

As always, we ask your school for a character and attendance reference. This will continue to form a key part of the interview and decision making process. It is important to continue to engage with your teachers via online learning as we will ask for this information from your teachers as part of this process.



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# FAQS

## **I've had lots of self-isolation absence from school. Will this affect my chances of a place?**

No – self-isolation is recorded differently and does not affect your attendance reference. Periods for other absences will be considered, and we will discuss the reasons for significant absence and consider any evidence before reaching a decision.

## **I'm anxious about not knowing what the outcome of my application is and my chance of a place**

We understand that you may feel worried or anxious – please don't! No applicant will be disadvantaged by the current situation. Although you may have to wait a little longer to be interviewed than anticipated, this in no way affects your opportunity of a place here. By logging in to HNC @ Home (from mid-April) you can find out more about your subjects and life at HNC.

## **If I am interviewed by another College earlier and offered a place I may accept, does that mean I can't attend my HNC interview?**

It is very important to note that you can hold offers to multiple Colleges/Providers.

Colleges/Providers cannot tell you that if you accept an offer of a place from them, that you cannot accept a place elsewhere – this is your choice! We recommend that you attend your HNC interview as planned to shape your decision making and ensure you choose the right and best College for you.

## **How will interviews take place?**

We are currently unable to commit to how these will be hosted. However, please note that you will be able to meet (although this may be virtually) a member of our Admissions team, and receive a high quality interview based on your application. Our interview process remains a key part of making sure that you are offered a study programme which meets your individual needs and interests and supports your future careers aspirations. We will ensure that regardless of the process, it is a positive experience for you.

## **What happens if things change again?**

As always we will respond to national and local changes and ensure that you are at the heart of our decisions. What is crucial is that you submit your application to us by the deadline of 12<sup>th</sup> March. By submitting this, you will receive an invitation to interview and you will be able to access resources such as our online Campus, HNC @ Home.

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Thank you for your support and understanding during these extremely challenging times. We look forward to welcoming you in September 2021, and supporting you all as you prepare to take your next steps.

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