

Navigating Your Path to College Success



Transition Timeline

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Exploring Options

Taster Sessions and Events

You will be able to attend open days or events at your local colleges before you start.

During some open days you will be able to trial different courses available to you. There are different paths for everyone, such as vocational courses, apprenticeships and classroom-based learning, going to an event will help you to discover what you are most interested in.

Applying to College:

Entry Requirements and Guidance



To secure a place on your chosen course, you will usually need to attend a short interview. During this interview, the college might explain key details about studying there, including the entry requirements, as well as expectations for behaviour and attendance.

Entry requirements depend on the college and course. These are the typical requirements, but they can vary:

- Entry Level: no previous qualifications
- Level 1 courses: Grade 2 or 3 in 2 subjects at GCSE level
- Level 2 courses: Grade 3 in 3 subjects at GCSE level
- Level 3 courses: Grade 4 or higher in 5 subjects at GCSE level

To enter a level 3 course you will usually need a grade 4 or above in English and Maths. If you don't, you can start a lower level course and study towards them at the same time.

Please check with your preferred college as your entry requirements might be adjusted according to your individual circumstances.

Before College

Working Together: School and College Links

Depending on the college you have chosen, they will try to work with your secondary school or other education provider to learn about support you may have received there. To help the process you can make your chosen college aware of any additional support needs you have, to ensure it can be put in place before you start college.

Not sure what to do next?

If you need help deciding your next step, you can reach out to one of the support services available across Lancashire. Simply scan the QR code to visit the website or send an email to find out more about the support on offer.

New Directions - Blackburn with Darwen

Provides independent and impartial careers information, advice and guidance through a drop-in service. Help includes finding and applying for jobs and training.



newdirections@blackburn.gov.uk

The Platform - Blackpool Council

A service for 16 – 24 year olds which can support you in taking next career steps whether that be work, training or education.



youthhub@blackpool.gov.uk

Youth Futures - Lancashire County Council

One-to-one support for 16 and 17 year olds on next steps such as applying for college or an apprenticeship, looking for work, building your confidence and employability skills.



youthfutures@lancashire.gov.uk

Settling In: Orientation and Induction Activities

There are several opportunities to get to know your chosen college before starting.

Lancashire colleges offer a range of orientation and induction activities* that are designed to help you and your parent or guardian become familiar with the differences between school and college, learn about the support available, and understand what to expect once you start.

At this point, the college may also outline its expectations of you on attendance, health and safety, and behaviour. Depending on the college you have applied to, these opportunities may include:

- **An individual tour**
- **An orientation or induction day**
- **A social day, during summer, with other new students**
- **A welcome evening for parents or guardians**



Not sure which college course to choose?

These resources can help you to decide on a college course or career pathway.



National Careers Service

Take a quiz to find out your career matches

Prospects

Search a range of jobs and courses



Careerpilot

Explore careers and which courses will get you there

*please contact your preferred college for more information

At College

Every journey starts with a first step.
Don't worry if you have not started in September

It's About You: Personalised Support for Learners

There are personalised offers available for students who aren't able to join a full-time course straight away*. These tailored offers will help to build up your knowledge, resilience or confidence in order to progress onto another course in your chosen area.

There are various ways in which an offer could be tailored, this includes:

- A reduced timetable
- Courses that take place at a smaller location outside of the main campus
- Altered attendance and behavioural targets
- Shorter consecutive courses



*please contact your preferred college for more information

Focused Support: Dedicated Time with Staff

To support your transition from school to college, you may have access to dedicated time with staff members so they can get to know you and your individual circumstances. This will help the college to put in place additional provision that will help you to succeed at college.

Each college has different support teams and ways of working, so this dedicated time could be:

- **Coaching and support sessions before you start college**
- **Time with a member of support staff such as a progress mentor or transition officer**
- **We'll help you understand if there is money to help with your studies.**
- **Regular meetings during your first term to check in and offer further support**



Sustaining Progress: Ongoing Support during Transition

If any issues arise during your first term you will be supported so that you can continue with your learning. Colleges will approach any concerns with understanding to identify and address the reasons behind any difficulties to inform next steps.

The type of support can differ between colleges but it could include:

- **The option to switch to a different course**
- **Supporting you to enjoy and come to college**
- **Individual meetings with staff to explore solutions**

Get in touch



PositiveProspects@lmc.ac.uk



admissions@blackpoolsixth.ac.uk



admissions@blackpool.ac.uk



Myerscough
College



enquiries@myerscough.ac.uk



admissions@cardinalnewman.ac.uk

PRESTON
COLLEGE



guidance@preston.ac.uk



enquiries@westlancs.ac.uk



admissions@runshaw.ac.uk



sservices@burnely.ac.uk



studentservices@eastlancslearning.ac.uk



FutureFocus@blackburn.ac.uk

Wondering what comes after school?

COLLEGE HELPS YOU FIND YOUR PATH

TRY BEFORE YOU APPLY

Find the right college and course by:

- Going to open days and trying out a course
- Taking part in a summer social event
- Attending orientation and induction sessions



FLEXIBLE PATHWAYS THAT WORK FOR YOU

Options to personalise your course include:

- A reduced timetable
- Short courses
- A location off main campus



SUPPORT THAT HELPS YOU MOVE FORWARD

You could access:

- Support sessions before starting
- One-to-ones during your first term

Options vary per college. Contact your preferred college today to find out exactly what's on offer.

