

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO COLLEGE LIFE



RATED "A GOOD PROVIDER

WITH OUTSTANDING FEATURES"

OFSTED SEPTEMBER 2019

NWSLC
NORTH WARWICKSHIRE & SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE COLLEGE

WHERE YOU BELONG

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We understand that parents and carers play a huge part in helping young people make decisions about their future, so we aim to provide you with all the information you need so you can help them make the right choice for their next step.

Whatever your child's starting point, we will ensure they have the knowledge and support they need to make a successful start to their career.

What are the options after school?

The Government states that young people must stay in education or training until they are 18.

Once they leave school, they have the option to:

- Stay in full-time education completing a vocational programme like BTECs or A-Levels
- Start an apprenticeship
- Spend 20 hours or more a week working or volunteering, while in part-time education or training

Here at the College we offer three main pathways for your child:

- Full-time courses which are mainly hands-on classroom/workshop-based and result in a BTEC qualification, with industry specific training
- Foundation learning courses designed to help students with additional learning needs to grow, become independent and flourish
- Apprenticeship programmes which allow students to earn as they learn

All routes provide students with a complete learning package designed to maximise their career prospects and widen their opportunities.



Myths about Vocational Courses

BTECs vs A-Levels – It's all down to your preference

Let's start by saying, that no one option is better than the other, they are just different routes. We will explain the pros and cons of both qualifications, however, bear in mind that one of your pros may be someone else's con. Some people know exactly what they want to do and how to get there, and some people have no idea, and that's absolutely fine.

What is the difference between A-Levels and BTECs anyway?

BTECs are career-based qualifications; students will develop lots of practical skills and the knowledge to progress in their chosen career path. They will be assessed throughout the year through practical assessments, coursework and tests.

A-Levels are focussed primarily on academic subjects. Students often study three or four at the same time. They will have to complete in-year essays and maybe have mock exams. Final grades are based on end of year 2 exams only.

Will Universities accept BTECs?

All Universities accept applications with both BTEC and A-Level qualifications. They are given the same value in UCAS Points and thus no single option is an advantage or a disadvantage, just check with the university on their entry requirements for a specific course.

What do employers want?

If your child is thinking about going straight into the world of work, they need to consider what employers will be looking for besides a qualification. A-Levels show that they are able to multi-task, deal well under pressure and do well in exam conditions. However, a BTEC qualification would allow them to prove to employers that they are able to perform well consistently and hold key skills such as organisation, communication

and understand what will be required of them in the industry. Students will also undertake 45 days' worth of work experience on our Level 3 BTECs.

Take a look at our website to see our wide range of course areas nwslc.ac.uk

What are T Levels?

T Levels will be offered from the 2022-2023 academic year and are essentially a reverse Apprenticeship.

Rather than spending 20% in the Classroom and 80% on the job, students will have the opportunity to switch it round to 80% Classroom and 20% on the job. T Levels will also have the unique opportunity for the student to do a minimum industry placement of 315 hours each academic year. T levels will consist of 15 routes but that does not mean there will only be 15 options. Each route is then split into a pathway. Pathways will be split into specialist areas.

When do we expect these T levels to actually start?

NWSLC are working to deliver T Levels from 2022, these will include Digital, Construction, Education and Childcare, Health and Science; Business and Administration qualifications.



Why NWSLC?

Career preparation

It's a competitive jobs market out there and young people need to make their CV stand out. We'll make sure they have the whole package: a qualification, relevant work experience and soft skills such as team working, communication and time management.

Courses designed with industry in mind

The best way to know what industry needs is to ask. We work closely with small, medium and large employers across the region to ensure our courses are fit for purpose. We listen to the Local Enterprise Partnerships to align our courses with key priority areas.



Work experience

All students on a study programme will complete an industry placement.

A great way to 'test the water' in their chosen industry, build contacts and get their foot in the door with employers.

Dedicated support

Each student needs support that is tailored to them. Your child will have access to a range of services:

- English and maths is embedded across all programmes and we have a dedicated hub for help with coursework and assignment planning
- **Safeguarding:** it's important that all students feel safe at all times. Our Safeguarding Team are located at every campus
- **Additional support:** we have a dedicated team with expertise in managing a broad spectrum of special educational needs

Every student will

have a dedicated

Employability

Coach to ensure

they are reaching

their full potential

Ofsted Report 2019

North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College has been judged as 'Good' by Ofsted with the behaviour and attitudes of its students rated as 'Outstanding' by inspectors.

Ofsted's report said that:

- All college provision including programmes for young people, adults, apprenticeships and students with special educational needs and disabilities is good
- Students and apprentices display 'exemplary' behaviour and attitudes and are highly respectful and polite
- The college offers an 'enjoyable and highly-inclusive learning environment'
- A high proportion of students move into further learning and employment after they have successfully completed their qualifications
- Support for the most vulnerable students is 'embedded within the fabric of college life'
- The college benefits from strong leadership with managers implementing 'a clear strategy that has resulted in sustained improvements'
- Experienced teachers plan well-structured, logically ordered activities to help students deepen and reinforce their knowledge and to extend their skills



WHERE YOU

Tia Goadby

Alumni – Level 3 Travel And Tourism

Tia, from Leicester, studied A-Levels but they didn't turn out to be what she had been expecting so she made the move to start a diploma in Travel and Tourism at the Wigston Campus of NWSLC. After successfully achieving her qualification, Tia secured a place at Leeds Beckett University where she graduated in entertainment management.

Tia is now Business Development Manager at Imago Venues, the commercial arm of Loughborough University.



“Coming to college was a great first step for me and really helped me to overcome my shyness and gain confidence”

TIA GOADBY

BELONG

Jerin Micheal

Alumni – Level 3 Photography

Jerin has combined his passion for motorsport and photography by securing a post in the marketing team at Goodwood Festival of Speed. He is now creating content to promote what is known as the 'largest motoring garden party in the world'.

After completing his Level 3 Photography qualification at the College's Hinckley Campus, Jerin secured a place at Falmouth University and graduated in photography in 2018.

"I have always been a huge car enthusiast and remember watching 'Top Gear' as a child. Also loving photography, I wondered if it could be possible to combine my hobby with work and that led me to enrolling on the college course at Hinckley."

"I really enjoyed my time at college. The course was a great foundation and helped me to broaden my skillset and get ideas for the types of industries I could work in with photography qualifications. I would certainly recommend the route I took as a way of securing the ideal career. It worked for me and I am already enjoying my new role at the Goodwood Festival of Speed."



"The tutors knew their stuff and were always supportive and I made some great friends"

JERIN MICHEAL

Online & Distance Learning Academy

Study your way for free*

Did you know you can continue learning new skills just as your child will at college?

Why choose these courses?

- They're flexible – study at a time and place that suits you
- They're free!*
- They fit your lifestyle – the flexibility of our courses means you don't have to attend college to gain a nationally-recognised qualification
- They're attractive to employers: these courses are sought-after by employers as they are totally flexible
- They're fully-accredited, nationally-recognised Level 2 qualifications
- They take approximately 12 weeks to complete
- They're available to start all year around

What's available?

Health and Wellbeing

- Certificate in Common Health Conditions
- Principles of Dementia Care
- Understanding Autism Business, Administration and Management
- Principles of Business Administration
- Principles of Customer Service
- Understanding Data Protection and Data Security (GDPR)

Information, Advice and Guidance

Equality and Diversity

PLUS MANY MORE!

*Learners must be a British, EU or EEA citizen, have been a permanent resident of the UK, EU or EEA for the whole of the previous three years and aged 19 or over. Learners aged between 19 and 23, must also hold a Level 2 qualification and must be aged 19 at the start of the academic year for funding to apply.



FREE

Open events

The current Coronavirus pandemic has meant that we have had to look at alternative ways in delivering our open events. Although physical events have not happened yet this academic year due to government guidance, we hope that in 2021 we will be able to open our doors and have on site open events.

Due to the uncertainty we cannot commit to dates for physical events at this moment in time.

Please keep an eye on our events page at www.nwslc.ac.uk/events on our website for the latest and upcoming events.

Or simply scan the QR code.



An evening with Anita and Guests

Join us for our Facebook Live session 'An evening with Anita and Guests' on January 13th, 7pm – 7.30pm.

We understand that it can be confusing for children to navigate their career choices in the current situation and so we bring you an evening with Anita and guests to help reassure you about your child's future. Career choices can still be explored and your child can still develop their skills and embark on their dream career.

The evening will start with Anita debunking some of your uncertainties and recently asked questions. You will then hear from our first guest, Andrew Howarth, our Student Experience Manager, who will talk about what students can expect at NWSLC and the

support and safety that we offer them throughout the year.

Our second guest speaker will be from our Apprenticeship team and they will discuss with you the latest information on Apprenticeships for your child.

To finish we will have a live Q&A where you can ask us any questions you may have about your child's next steps or simply anything you would like to find out about NWSLC!

This will be a relaxed session to get comfy and bring snacks!

We look forward to sharing an evening with you.

If you have any questions please contact marketing@nwslc.ac.uk



Apply now!

0330 058 3000
[nwslc.ac.uk](https://www.nwslc.ac.uk)

