



STUDENT SUPPORT

AT KIRKLEES COLLEGE



**KIRKLEES
COLLEGE**

CREATING
OPPORTUNITIES
CHANGING
LIVES

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WELCOME FROM OUR HEAD OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Welcome to our KC Community. Kirklees College is an anti-racist, trauma-informed and restorative college, which put simply, means we aim to create an inclusive and safe environment for everyone.

To ensure you thrive at college, we have a Student Services team who are here to assist you with everything outside of your lessons. From mental health support, to financial assistance, we are here to remove any barriers to learning and to make your time with us as happy and productive as possible.

As well as the support services, we have a huge range of extra-curricular opportunities to make your time at college even more enjoyable.

This guide will go through all the support services available to you as a student.

Rebecca Swallow
Head of Student Experience



Attend + Behave + Commit
= Success

At Kirklees College, we have high expectations of our students and each lesson you attend builds on your learning so your understanding is better cemented. This means you will be able to produce better work for your assignments and be more confident in your exams, making you more likely to achieve your target grades.

Attend + Behave + Commit = Success

- Attend, on time, all your timetabled learning activities
- Consistently behave in line with our value of Kindness, Unity and Excellence
- Fully commit and be prepared to engage in your learning



Kirklees College is committed to supporting all of our students wherever we can, regardless of their background or situation. We offer a wide range of specialist support which is carefully allocated to ensure help is accessible to those who may need it. We offer support on all areas from student finance to exam support. Visit Student Services at your college centre to find out more.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

The college has a Personal Development Pledge which is our commitment to your skills development. As well as gaining the qualifications needed to succeed in your future career, we understand that gaining personal development skills is also crucial for success.

We deliver this through a range of activities including:

- Enrichment, such as clubs, guest speakers, trips and visits.
- Competitions and live briefs
- National awareness days
- Strong links with industry experts to provide progression advice
- Social action projects and youth voice activity
- Activities to keep you safe and healthy



MYDAY STUDENT APP

New for 2025/26 we have launched a student app which is all your college life in your hand. Use the MyDay app to:

- Check your timetable
- Review and monitor your attendance
- Check your assignment progress
- Book enrichment
- Read the latest KC news
- Check your exam access arrangements and dates of exams
- Submit student voice feedback
- Report a concern anonymously
- Book an appointment with careers or counselling

You will get support to download this, using your college email address, during induction.

STUDENT FINANCE

Kirklees College offers a range of support funds to help students overcome any financial problems that may prevent them from studying.

Costs such as travel or meals may stop some students from joining or continuing a course or programme. Visit Student Services to get advice on financial matters and help with applying for any available grants or funding.

16 – 19 Bursary Fund

The 16 - 19 Bursary Fund provides Student Finance to help students overcome specific financial barriers to help them remain in education.

Support is available to students in the following three categories:

- Students aged under 19 in receipt of Universal Credit, who are in care or are a care leaver, or in receipt of certain disability benefits
- Students with a household income of under £35,000
- Students with a household income of over £35,000, who demonstrate that money will be a barrier to completing their studies

We offer support with travel costs if you live over a mile from your centre of study and qualify for financial assistance. We can provide you with a monthly bus ticket on the MCard app or a contribution towards the cost of alternative means of travel. If you live within one mile of college but have a medical condition or have care commitments, you may still be eligible for travel cost support which our team will discuss with you.

Free College Meals

All Kirklees College students are entitled to a complimentary breakfast at the refectory located at their centre of study, available daily between 8.30am and 9.30am (8am – 9am at Engineering Centre).

If you previously received free school meals, you may also qualify for free meals at college. However, if you did not receive free school meals, you may still be eligible for this support.

To apply, you will need to complete the Student Finance application on our website.



Equipment and Uniform Costs

If you require a mandatory course-related uniform or specialised equipment, the cost will be covered by the bursary fund if you are eligible for support. These items will be supplied by your course department, and you will be able to collect them from the Curriculum Administrator.

Adult Learner Support (19+)

If you are aged 19 or over with a household income of up to £30,000, you may be eligible for Student Finance to assist with course costs, travel, and childcare expenses. If your household income exceeds this amount but you are experiencing financial difficulty in covering course costs, you can still apply by providing additional documentation.

Funding is also available for students enrolled in Level 3 or higher courses who are in receipt of an Advanced Learner Loan.

Please note, support is only available for students on ESFA-funded courses, which will be made clear to you when you enrol. Unfortunately, students enrolled in Adult Education or Community courses are not eligible to apply.

Funding for 19+ students can help cover the costs of:

- Transport
- Course materials and equipment
- Professional registration fees
- Books
- Childcare – pre-school and out-of-school provision

STUDENT FINANCE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION COURSES

Students aged 19+ on a higher education course may be eligible for a student loan to cover tuition fees, which is managed by the Student Loans Company (SLC).

Tuition fees cover the cost of your tuition, registration and exams. At Kirklees College, our fees are significantly lower than universities and other colleges in the area. Our Student Finance Team is happy to provide information, advice and guidance on any aspect of student finance and budgeting.

We also offer several bursaries for higher education students at Kirklees College, including Widening Access Bursaries for students who may have experienced barriers to higher education.



HIGHER EDUCATION BURSARIES

Progression Bursaries

The college will continue to award Progression Bursaries to students progressing within the college from a Level 3 programme on to a full-time Higher Education programme. A phased cash payment of £500 is made in the first year of study only.

Students must have successfully completed a Level 3 programme at college that is appropriate to allow progression to a full-time Higher Education programme. This award will be available to Kirklees College home students in receipt of the full HE maintenance loan or student support grant.

Local Student Bursaries

This bursary will target local students accepted on to a Higher Education programme at the college with a permanent home address in the local area (all West Yorkshire postcodes). A phased cash payment of £500 is made in the first year of study only. This award will be available to home students in receipt of the full HE maintenance loan or student support grant.

STEM Bursaries

This bursary will be available to any home student on Engineering or Process Manufacturing programmes only. A phased cash payment of £500 will be made during each year of study (excluding any repeat year). This award will be available to home students in receipt of the full HE maintenance loan or student support grant. Students receiving this bursary are not eligible for any other bursary outlined in this Access Agreement.

WIDENING ACCESS HE BURSARIES

These bursaries are available to the following student groups:

Care Leaver Bursary

This bursary will offer support to any home student during each year of study (excluding any repeat year) and will be available to students who have left local authority care in the two years prior to enrolment on the first year of study, irrespective of postcode. A phased cash payment of £1000 is made during each year of study. Attendance must be 85% or above during the first three months on programme (other than mitigating circumstances).

Full-time Carer Bursary

This bursary will offer support to any home student during each year of study (excluding any repeat year) and will be available to applicants who have full-time carer responsibilities. A phased cash payment of £1000 is made during each year of study. This award will be available to home students in receipt of the full HE maintenance loan or student support grant.

Access to HE Diploma Bursary

This bursary will offer support to students during their first year of study and will be available to students who have successfully completed an Access to HE Diploma programme. Students must have successfully completed an Access programme that is appropriate to allow progression to a Higher Education programme. A phased cash payment of £1000 is made during the first year of study only. This award will be available to home students in receipt of the full HE maintenance loan or student support grant.

Following the changes to the Disabled Students Allowance, Kirklees College is committed that no student will be disadvantaged.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SUPPORT

At Kirklees College, we prioritise the health and wellbeing of our students, actively promoting and supporting their mental and physical wellness. Students have access to our free, confidential (BACP Accredited) counselling service, which is available in person, over the phone or online.

Our team of highly skilled professionals are here to support you through difficult and challenging times, helping you regain balance and resilience. Our counsellors can assist with a range of issues, including anxiety, depression, relationship difficulties, loneliness, troubles at home, or any other concerns affecting your wellbeing. They provide a non-judgmental, respectful, and inclusive environment open to all students.

If needed, we also support students in accessing external mental health and wellbeing services.

Additionally, our Huddersfield Centre features an on-site gym, complemented by a variety of health and wellbeing activities such as mindfulness and meditation, designed to support your overall wellness. This gym is free to access for all students. Throughout the year, we also host a range of physical activities across the college centres, including boxing, self-defence classes, and student led clubs.

Student Health Guide

This magazine covers health and wellbeing and is free to all students online. It is full of helpful tips on how to stay fit and well, mentally and physically. More information on this will be given to you during induction.



SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PARENTS, CARERS AND ESTRANGED STUDENTS

Supporting our Care Experienced Students

Being care experienced means you have spent time living with foster carers, in residential care (e.g. a children's home), or looked after at home under a supervision order under local authority care. It could also be that you have been under kinship care with relatives or friends, either officially (e.g. a special guardianship order) or informally without local authority support.

If you are a young person aged 16 – 25 who is looked after or has been in local authority care we are here to support you, if you need it, to make the transition to college and enjoy a rewarding educational experience.

You can access:

- SEND support
- Careers and Progression Advice
- Counselling
- Student Finance
- Transport Support and Advice
- Liaison with appropriate agencies
- Advocacy for a range of situations including entry and on course requirements
- Mentoring
- Additional maths and English sessions
- College will also attend all statutory meetings (PEP and CLA reviews).

Young Parents

Young parents are those that have or are expecting children and are under the age of 25.

You can disclose whether you are a young parent/pregnant prior to joining college, or at any point during your studies.

Staff will work together to ensure that you are fully supported at college.

Estranged Students

If you are living without the support of a family, we understand how difficult this can be. We can help support you whilst you are studying with us.

Staff can provide you with support throughout your studies, and you can meet them before starting your course.

They will work together to ensure you are fully supported and can access the following:

- SEND support
- Careers and Progression advice
- Counselling
- Student Finance
- Transport support and advice
- Liaison with appropriate agencies

Please contact **studentsupportservices@kirkleescollege.ac.uk** to find out more

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

At Kirklees College we have high expectations of all of our members; staff, students and apprentices. It is everyone's responsibility to contribute to a safe and welcoming learning environment. Our values of Kindness, Unity and Excellence underpin our approach to behaviour and all members are expected to uphold these values, every day.

By enrolling at Kirklees College you are agreeing to abide by our Student Code of Conduct which outlines your rights and responsibilities as well as what you can expect from staff.

We recognise that sometimes we all make poor choices and when this happens we may need support to put things right. Our team of Mentors work with students who have barriers to learning through 1:1 mentoring and small group work.



IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Student Services: studentservices@kirkleescollege.ac.uk

Student Finance: finsupp@kirkleescollege.ac.uk

Safeguarding: safeguarding@kirkleescollege.ac.uk

EXAM SUPPORT

We have a dedicated exams team at Kirklees College who ensure that all students who require access arrangements in exams (e.g. separate space, extra time, readers and scribes) get the support they need.

To find out more about how we can support you during exams, visit www.kirkleescollege.ac.uk/exam-support/



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