

InTouch Newsletter.

Spring Edition

ACCINGTON & ROSSENDALE
COLLEGE
TECHNOLOGY & SKILLS CENTRE



SPRING INTO COLLEGE



FAQs

Your questions answered
by our Admissions Team



Day in the Life

Hear from one of our students
about a typical College day



Get College Ready

Use our handy checklist to make sure
you're ready to join us in September

WELCOME

Welcome to our next InTouch newsletter!

This edition is jam-packed with lots of information and news to support and inspire you, as you look towards joining College in September 2021.

Read our news stories on what our students have been up to over the last few months and all the exciting things that have been taking place at College.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

You can hear from Painting and Decorating Apprentice Destiny-Mya on [page 17](#) on what a typical day is like for her, both at College and at work, and how her boss and tutors have helped to keep her on track with her qualification throughout the pandemic.



GET COLLEGE READY

You can use our handy 'College Ready' checklist on [page 14](#) to help you prepare!

FAQS

Towards the back of this issue, we've also got a range of your Frequently Asked Questions answered by our expert Admissions Team on [page 18](#).



Find your
extraordinary.

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NEWS

National Apprenticeship Week.

Apprentices making a difference in the world of work were celebrated during National Apprenticeship Week. For more Apprenticeship news, check out the Apprenticeship section on our website for our latest newsletter.



Plastering through the pandemic.

Plastering Apprentice Scott Brassington is loving his Apprenticeship and has continued to ply his trade during the pandemic. Scott, 18, from Rishton, works for Wayne Kitching Plastering and Roofing Services, and says he is looking forward to gaining his qualification.



SCOTT BRASSINGTON

“ My Apprenticeship has been very good. You're never short of work as a plasterer and we've been really busy recently. We've obviously had to change the way we do things and keep our distance when working because of Covid, but it has been great to be able to continue working.

I started doing odd jobs when I was at school and I really enjoyed plastering so decided that was the route for me. There's a lot more to plastering than people think, and it's a real skill. ”

COMING SOON: NEW for 2021 - Plumbing courses! We'll be sending out more information soon.



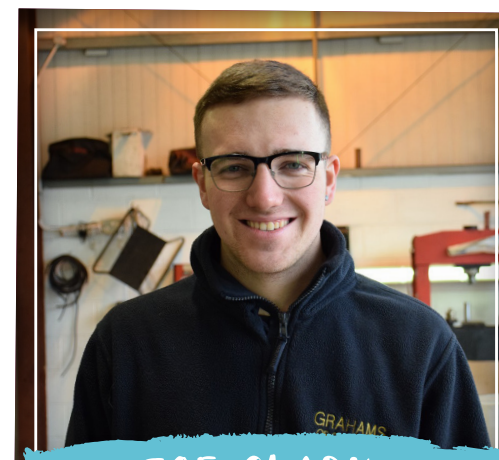
SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

Hot topic - Sustainability

Here at College, sustainability is important to us. We want all of our students to get involved in our campaign to improve sustainability, reduce carbon emissions and save the planet for ourselves and future generations. So what can you do? Read our latest blog post, sustainability and you, to find out our top tips on how to be more sustainable! www.across.ac.uk/college-blog/sustainability-and-you

Keeping key workers on the road during lockdown.

NELSON & COLNE COLLEGE GROUP APPRENTICESHIPS



JOE CLARKE

Motor Engineering Apprentice Joe Clarke has been busy during the pandemic helping keep key workers on the road.

Joe, 22, who works at Graham's of Colne, is loving his Apprenticeship, and has been repairing vehicles and working throughout lockdown.

Hear more from Joe by watching his video on our YouTube channel - Search 'Accrington and Rossendale College'.

“ I've always wanted to go into Motor Engineering, and my Apprenticeship is developing the skills I need for the future. I also have a unit myself where I work on cars out of hours and at weekends to strengthen my knowledge. I would like to do my MOT qualification as well to improve my inspection abilities, so that I can work in that aspect of the business in the future. ”

Securing Apprenticeships after work placements.

Two aspiring painters and decorators – Faye Chester and Kelsey Whewell – secured Apprenticeships with the country's largest commercial decorators Bell Group. After each enjoyed a successful two-week work placement with the company in the autumn, they were offered Apprenticeships and have been busy working with their new employer.



FAYE CHESTER

“ Art was my best subject at school. I love painting, it is something I am naturally good at, so that is why I chose this route. The Apprenticeship has been really good - I like the responsibility of being an employee and working in a team. My confidence and communication has also improved through it. ”

“ I chose Painting and Decorating because I like doing it and the environment in the department at College is really good. It's a great feeling to have secured an Apprenticeship with a good company and I have enjoyed working on the exteriors of houses. ”



KELSEY WHEWELL

STUDENT SUCCESSES

As you get ready to join our extraordinary College, hear more from some of our current students on their stories, why they chose our College and what they have to say about us!



AIDEN WATSON

"College has been really good. My tutors are knowledgeable and friendly, and I have made some great friends."

Aiden Watson
Completed qualification in Auto Electrics
Currently employed at DFJ Automotive

"My time at College has been great. I have made some amazing friends for life and staff are really helpful - they push you to achieve your best."

Aisha Abid
A* in Education and Childcare
Now studying Primary Education with QTS at Manchester Metropolitan University



AISHA ABID



ELLIE ARMSTRONG

"My wonderful tutors have made my time at the College enjoyable. They are supportive, helpful, fun and are always there to help you reach your full potential. In particular, they have continued to help me increase my confidence, which I have always struggled with. I would 100% recommend the College to others."

Ellie Armstrong
Triple Distinction* in Sports Coaching and Development
Now studying Sports Science and Coaching at Nelson and Colne College Group University Centre

"I would recommend Accrington and Rossendale College as the teaching and support for students is excellent."

Luke Moffat
Distinction* and Double Distinction in Creative Arts and Media
Now studying Film and Television Production at Edge Hill University.



LUKE MOFFAT



TIERNEY GRIEVES

"I really enjoyed my time at Accrington and Rossendale College, as I have been able to learn new skills, create amazing friendships and I had the best tutors to help guide me and support me along my journey."

Tierney Grieves
A in Education and Childcare
Now working as a Nursery Practitioner at Green House Farm Nursery.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT AT COLLEGE

As you look to join our College in a few month's time, we're sure you want to find out everything you can about what you can expect when you get here.

Here is a taster of what we offer you, find out more by following us on social media!

f Accrosscollege

🐦 @Accrosscollege

📷 @Accrosscollege



Extracurricular.

Go the extra mile - we're here to support you in developing and broadening your personal and professional skills with our extensive extracurricular offer. From volunteering to sport, Duke of Edinburgh's Awards to career and life skills, there is plenty to choose from.

Now outdoor sports are allowed again, we're once again back on the court, the pitch and the track to support our students in developing themselves, their teamwork skills and their fitness. Find out more about the extracurricular activities we offer by following our extracurricular team on social media - **@ARC_EXTRAC**.



Support.

Here at College, **YOU** are the most important person and our phenomenal staff are on hand to support you through every aspect of your journey with us. Our extensive wraparound support service includes Additional Learning Support, financial support, health and wellbeing including our resident nurse, counselling, safeguarding and welfare and safety and engagement.

We understand that the past 12 months have been an unusual time and that all of us have been experiencing the ups and downs of living through a global pandemic, you're not alone. We're here to provide all the support, advice and guidance you might need while you're part of our College community.

Careers Advice.

We are a career focused College. We don't just want to help you achieve the best results you can get, we want to help you start your career journey and we always have your future in mind.

Our expert Careers Zone Team are able to provide you with individualised support designed to get you a step closer to your career goals. We also offer various industry days, careers expos and industry expert guest speakers to help inspire you and make those important networking connections.



You
Tube

If you want to find out more about what you can expect at College or more about your chosen subject, then head to our **YouTube channel (Accrington and Rossendale College)** to watch our sector videos or follow us on social media for regular updates.

BACK ON CAMPUS

What's been happening at College?

Our students and staff have enjoyed being back on campus following the latest easing of lockdown restrictions and are excited about a return to a sense of normality, it's been great to see our vibrant campus buzzing with activity once more.

The safety of our staff and students remains our number one priority and we have been doing plenty to make sure everyone in our College community stays safe, including supporting asymptomatic testing, both in College and now at home.



AMANDA MELTON, PRINCIPAL

“It's wonderful to feel the buzz on campus again as I walk round.

Our strict safety measures we have in place ensure our students' can enrich their learning in a safe environment.”



KEEPING SAFE



HOME TESTING



SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING TESTED?



Shows if you are positive for COVID-19 even if you have no symptoms



Helps lower infection rates



Stops the spread of COVID-19



Keeps everyone safe



Gives you quick results

YouTube

Find out more by watching our video from our Assistant Principal Morag Davis. Find it on our YouTube channel. Just search Accrington and Rossendale College.

GET COLLEGE READY

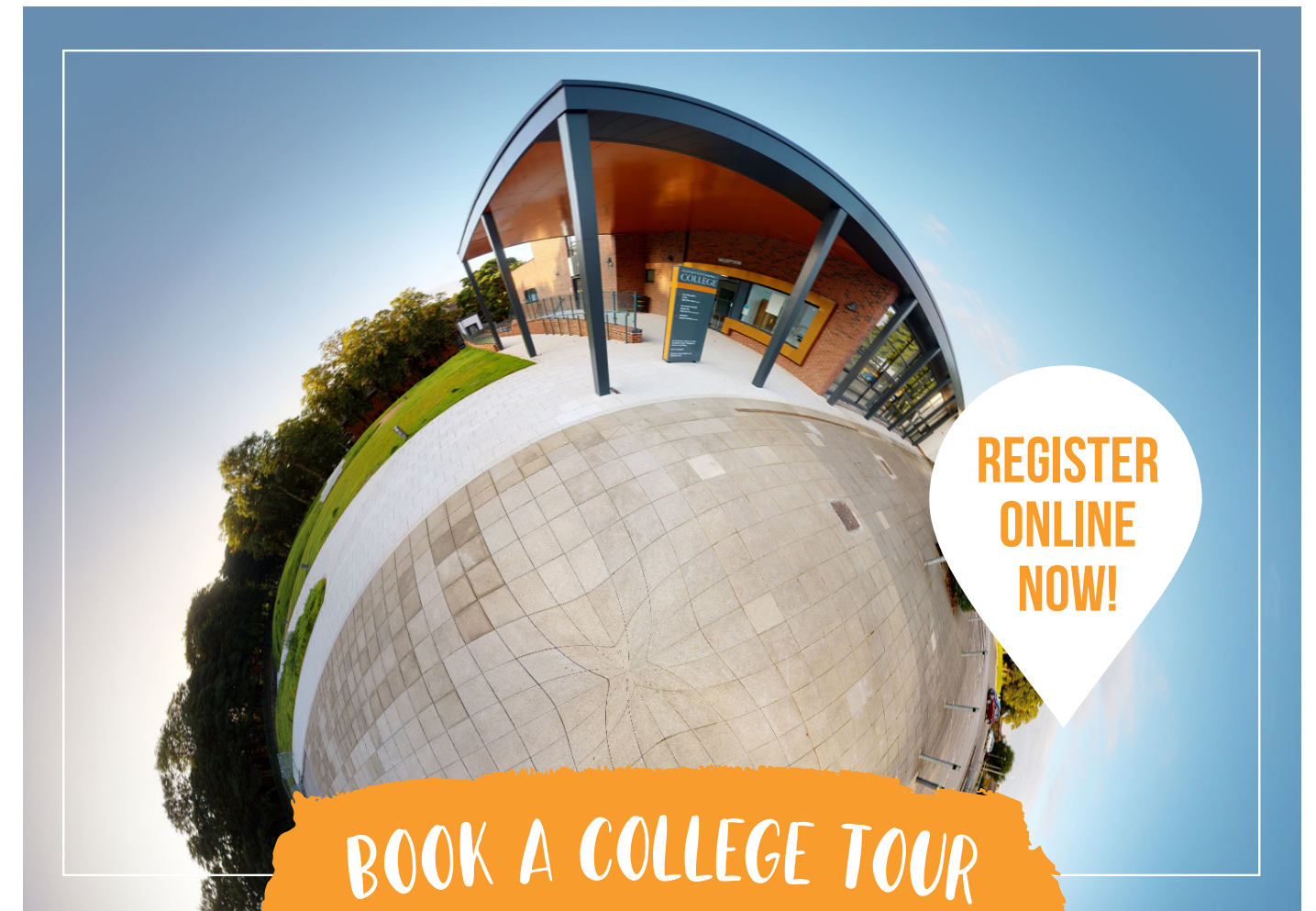
At this time in the school year, we'd normally be sending you some top tips to help with revising for exams, and while this year is a bit unusual with exams being cancelled, there is still plenty you can be doing to get ready to join us in September.

Use our College Ready checklist to make sure you're prepared!

- ☒ **Have you sorted your bus pass?**
Read our latest travel guide on our website to find the best route to College
- ☒ **Got a question?**
Use our LiveChat feature on the website - we're available until 5pm every weekday and until 7.30pm on Wednesdays to answer all your questions and queries
- ☒ **Follow us on social media.**
Keep up to date with the latest College news and advice by following us
- ☒ **Research your subject.**
Make sure you follow the latest developments, read any news around your chosen industry, and try to find out as much information as you can. This will help you when you join us in September
- ☒ **Make sure you try your best at school.**
We know that it has been an uncertain and unusual time and that you might be worried about your grades but make sure you keep going with your studies and try your best. We will work with you to get you where you need to be and support you every step of the way
- ☒ **Look after your health and wellbeing.**
It's important to take time for yourself and look after your health, both physical and mental. Visit our social media channels to read our top tips on looking after your health and wellbeing
- ☒ **Find out about Extracurricular activities you can take part in.**
Follow our Extracurricular Team on social media to find out more about the activities we offer, including sports clubs, volunteering and more!

What happens next?

We host interviews every month so if you've not yet had your interview you'll be invited to this soon. You'll then be invited to our Transitions Day in June where you'll get all the information you need for enrolment as well as the potential for an on site tour of our College.



Fully modernised campus



Industry-ready facilities



Flexible study spaces

Following our Virtual Open Events and to support you in making important decisions about your next steps, we are aware that some of you would like to come and take a look around the College in person.

Following Government guidelines we are putting plans in place to accommodate this safely so you can fully appreciate our campus and facilities.

Don't miss out!

Register your place on a personalised tour of the College today at www.accross.ac.uk.

WE'RE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU



We hope to invite you into College as soon as it is safe to do so and look forward to helping you to find your extraordinary. We appreciate it's an uncertain and unusual time right now, but things are starting to look up and we are here to support you all the way – you are not alone!

If you want to talk to someone about any worries or concerns you have or just have a question you would like answering, then get in touch! We can offer expert advice and real-life experiences of students just like you. We'll work with you over the summer to give you tailored support and access to our expert tutors to help you prepare for College in September. We will be sending out plenty of resources and also invite you to our New Student Event where you can get to know your tutors and classmates before you start with us.

If you are worried about your grades and the situation around exams then rest assured that we will work with you to get you where you need to be and support you every step of the way.

Our 2021 Transitions Programmes are available to help you if you don't feel ready to study at Level 3. These programmes are available for Vocational and Apprenticeship students and will prepare you for your future, providing you with a direct progression route onto a programme of your choice, allowing you to begin your career journey. We offer a range of levels that you can start your course at, depending on the grades you get at GCSE. As part of these tailored programmes, you will receive individualised support and opportunities to prepare you for your next steps.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF...

Destiny-Mya Robinson

Destiny-Mya is currently completing a Painting and Decorating Apprenticeship at Annie Get Yer Brush. Her ambition is to complete her qualifications in order to achieve her dream of becoming a self-employed painter and decorator.



MY DAY



At work

I usually start work at 8.30am at the customer's house and work through to around 4.30/5pm, I could be wallpapering, painting, quoting or many other things. Sometimes, we can go between two different jobs in a day, depending on what needs to be done. There's always a lot of variety. I've been developing my knowledge of industry terminology, products and equipment. There is a lot more to it than just knowing how to do the job, I need to know about health and safety and all the laws around that too. I have been working independently more, depending on the type of work involved, but my boss is always around to support and mentor me. I'm gaining a lot of experience and knowledge from people in the industry that will help me in the future.

At College

Tuesday is my day in College. I get to learn theory and also hear from my tutors on their experiences as they have all worked in the industry. My tutors have really helped me a lot this year. At the start of the first lockdown, I was really worried about being able to achieve my qualifications but the College has been really supportive and I'm still absolutely on track to achieve my qualifications.

We also asked Destiny-Mya:

if someone is reading this and thinking of joining College what would you say to them?

"If you're looking to choose between a range of colleges, then I'd say choose Accrington and Rossendale. The tutors really help you, always make time for you and answer any questions you might have about your work. The campus is great, I've felt really safe while I've been at College this year."

HEAR MORE FROM STUDENTS LIKE DESTINY-MYA BY FOLLOWING US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

FAQS

Can I change my course?

Yes, you can change your course at any time but you may need to have another interview. To change your course please email admissions@nelsongroup.ac.uk.

What if my grades are lower than expected?

Don't worry if you don't achieve the grades you were expecting, we offer a wide range of courses at different levels which may be more suitable, please email admissions@nelsongroup.ac.uk for further information.

When do I have to confirm my course choice?

You don't need to confirm to us your chosen course until enrolment. Once you have received your conditional offer from us there's nothing else you need to do!

My interview took place over the phone, will I have an opportunity to look around College?

We will be offering College tours and on site events when safe to do so. Please keep an eye out in your emails for further information.

If you have any questions about your application or starting College, please contact our Admissions Team at:

✉ admissions@nelsongroup.ac.uk ☎ 01282 440 272

Our LiveChat function is available on our website www.accross.ac.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 8, 9, 10 and 11 Open Event

We invite you to confirm you've made the right choice with another chance to virtually look round our College!

Wednesday
5
May

New Student Events

Over the summer you may have the opportunity with your school to come to one of our Transitions Days. These events are designed to help you feel more comfortable about the transition to College, familiarise yourself with our campus and get all the information you need before joining us. There is also the opportunity for personalised tours, and a virtual New Student Event will be made available to you with useful resources and information for starting College.

Mon **21** June
-
Fri **2** July

Burnley FC Shadow Youth Team Trials

Trials are held on our 3G pitch at Accrington and Rossendale College from 12pm - 2pm

Thursday
3
June

Thursday
15
July

Did you know?

We're #1 in the country for student satisfaction!

Number one in Lancashire for 16-18 Advanced Apprenticeships

We have a 100% Advanced Vocational pass rate!

Make sure you stay InTouch!

Simply head to **www.accrossac.uk** to start your application.

If you require any application support then please contact our Admissions Team:



admissions@nelsongroup.ac.uk



01282 440 272



Use the **LiveChat** feature
on our website to ask us
questions.