



SCHOOL READY; WORK READY; LIFE READY

Horizon Community College

Prospectus 2021 Intake



School Ready; Work Ready; Life Ready

“There’s a very welcoming atmosphere at Horizon. The heart space is both vibrant and calming; it helps students move around the school confidently and maturely.”

Mrs M Gostelow, Chair of Governors



The Heart Space

School Ready; Work Ready; Life Ready

Welcome



Mrs Claire Huddart
Principal

The economic, cultural and social landscape of Barnsley is changing. Opportunities in further education, higher education and professional roles are increasing; opportunities for individuals to shape their own career pathways are growing; opportunities for individuals to challenge traditional socio-economic patterns are multiplying.



Mr Nick Bowen
Executive Principal

At Horizon Community College, our responsibility is to prepare students for this reality. We want young people to leave the college well qualified and with a unique skill set that will enable them to stand out from the crowd. We want young people to be in possession of a passport of qualifications and employability skills that will enable them to pursue exciting careers, attend prestigious universities, complete dynamic apprenticeships and play leading roles in regenerating this area and beyond.



Mrs Margaret Gostelow
Chair of Governors

Our curriculum is tailored to the needs of and meets our ambition for each individual student. This is underpinned by the college’s core values which help to prepare every student for a lifetime of success. Our Curriculum and Culture ambition:

- aims to **challenge every learner, in every lesson, every day.**
- develops the character and skill set of all, through the belief that we are **‘Positive Role Models’.**
- ensures **opportunities for all** through our personal development and Careers and Enterprise programmes.

Successful education is also about working in close partnership with our families and the community to ensure our students succeed in each School year and are prepared for the next appropriate phase of their education. We work together to empower our students to believe that anything and everything is possible. We heavily invest in the growth and development of our entire workforce, so they are also prepared for the next phase of their careers. We promote ‘one team’ working hard to support each other. We are focused on continued professional development for staff at every level. We embed a curriculum and culture that results in Equity of Opportunity, Strong Community, High Expectations, Global Readiness and Kindness so that our students are School Ready; Work Ready; Life Ready.



“This school continues to be good. Horizon’s strong and determined leadership has ensured that the school has continued to move forward since the previous inspection report. Horizon has high expectations and is highly ambitious for the pupils in the school.”

OFSTED, June 2018



Trust

Our Ofsted Report, June 2018: Horizon is a good school

Strong and determined leadership at Horizon has ensured that the school has maintained the good quality of education and has continued to move forward since the last inspection. These were the findings of Ofsted inspectors who visited Horizon in May 2018. Inspectors highlighted the many positives in the school's examination results, stating that: overall, students make stronger progress than students nationally; disadvantaged students also make stronger progress than their peers nationally. In lesson observations and through close scrutiny of students' work, inspectors said they saw real challenge across the ability range, including for high ability students.

Inspectors picked out Governance as being a real strength of the school saying that they were clear about the strengths and priorities of the school.

Inspectors went on to report that Horizon has high expectations and is highly ambitious for its students. It also has high expectations regarding student behaviour. Inspectors found the atmosphere in classrooms and about school to be calm, saying that students show respect for each other and are courteous to both staff and visitors.

Inspectors also reported that the school has a proven record of developing leaders and that leadership in the area of safeguarding is strong with a dedicated, well-trained team which support vulnerable students.

Leaders have now been encouraged by the inspection team to continue their work with primary colleagues, so that Year 7 students make rapid progress from the outset and build quickly on their primary experience.

Ofsted & Results

Results

“Examination results have been consistently high since Horizon opened. The achievement of Horizon students is very favourable when compared to student achievement nationally. Success at GCSE currently places the school in the top third of schools nationally. Ofsted stated in 2018 that students at Horizon make stronger progress than students nationally.”



"At Horizon Community College, we design and structure our transition programme with real care so that it both welcomes and provides the best possible start for our new Year 7 students."

Mrs Malson, Head of School Year 7



Hope

A message from Mrs Malson

Head of School - Year 7

Welcome to Horizon Community College. Transition is incredibly important to us; we want your child to have the very best start at Horizon and for you to know they are well looked after and supported. We visit our feeder primary schools to meet the Year 6 students and their teachers, so that we know as much as we can about your child, both as an individual and a learner, before they start their journey with us at Horizon. It is important in a large school that you, as parents/carers, know that your child is seen as an individual who receives personalised support, be this academic or social.

We want every student to be challenged both academically and personally, so that they grow into successful adults who are 'School Ready; Work Ready; Life Ready'. Our carefully planned curriculum means that lessons are exciting but also challenging and build on the learning in Year 6. In addition, our Personal Development programme provides opportunities for everyone to become involved in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, work with local charities and become positive role models



Hello, my name is Sophia. Horizon is a great place to learn, with lots of new subjects as well as those we studied in primary school. The teachers are really helpful and I've received lots of achievement points for my effort in lessons. I have recently received my Platinum award, which was presented to me by the Principal Mrs Huddart. I have made lots of new friends and have taken part in a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities.



Hello, I'm Josie and I am a Year 7 Student Ambassador. I've really enjoyed my practical lessons this year, such as Design Technology where I have experienced cooking, textiles and resistant materials. I've been involved in lots of clubs, such as football, dance, gymnastics and, as part of my Student Ambassador role, I've helped to organise events to raise money and awareness for the year group charity, LimBo.

Year 7 at Horizon



Assistant Principal -
Head of School Year 7
Mrs Malson



Deputy Head of School Year 7
Mrs Heskett



Student Welfare Year 7
Miss Gibson



Careers and Enterprise Link Year 7
Mr West

The Year 7 School Leadership Team is responsible for the social and academic wellbeing of your child. They are your first point of contact within the college. They will make sure your child is safe, happy and given every opportunity to succeed. They will meet the students when they arrive in a morning, help to ensure they are 'school ready' and that they have a positive start to their day. They will lead on praise and rewards within the Year 7 School and support your child to become a positive role model across college. They will provide you with regular updates about your child's progress and help to build that crucial partnership between the college and home.

“Being able to choose the subjects I want to study is brilliant. I can specialise in the areas that interest me and the ones that will help me work towards my future career goals.”

Adam, Year11



Respect

Quality of Education

Curriculum

As a college, we strive to offer a broad and varied curriculum that challenges every learner, in every lesson, every day. Teachers who are specialists in their subject area and state-of-the-art facilities enable us to do this. In Years 7 and 8, students study the following subjects: English, Mathematics, Science, French or Spanish, Geography, History, Design Technology, Art, Music, Dance, Drama, Religious Education, Physical Education, Citizenship and Computing. They also have a half hour form period at the start of everyday, to make sure they are 'school-ready'.

At the end of Y9, students choose which subjects they would like to study further in Year 10 onwards. This allows a more intense and in-depth study in preparation for achieving subject qualifications at the end of Year 11. All students still study a core curriculum of English, Mathematics, Science, Religious Education and Physical Education; students then opt for further studies from an extensive and wide-range of other subjects, including those studied in years 7-9, as well as new course offerings. These choices are informed decisions, tailored to the individual needs and interests of students.

Teaching and Learning

As part of challenging every learner, in every lesson, every day at Horizon, we put quality first teaching at the heart of everything we do, planning and delivering engaging and inspiring learning experiences. Our teaching and learning strategy draws on research, evidence and shared best practice to ensure we provide our students with the highest quality of education. The students develop their ability to learn independently, accumulate cultural capital and acquire the skills that will empower them to fulfil their potential and to make a positive contribution to society.

Progress

At Horizon, we make use of regular and frequent progress checks to help students understand how they're developing within a subject and how to improve in the future. We support students to reflect on their studies and act on next steps; this helps them to make rapid progress in their learning, and to develop the resilience and confidence they need to succeed.

Every year group has at least one Parents' Evening, where conversations can take place with subject staff and school teams to discuss students' progress. Students also have opportunities to obtain support from our Careers and Enterprise team for further education and careers guidance.

Quality First Teaching

"At Horizon Community College we put quality first teaching at the heart of everything we do. We strive to challenge every learner, in every lesson, every day through engaging and inspiring learning experiences. By providing our students with the highest quality education, we will enable and empower them to fulfil their potential and achieve whatever they want to in life."

Mr Wood, Associate Vice Principal



Celebrating Diversity

Facilities at Horizon Community College are among the very best in the country - particularly in the areas of Sport and Performing Arts. We're home to a 420 seat theatre, which attracts high-calibre performances from around the world, and we have professional dance and recording studios.

In addition, the school also boasts unrivalled and innovative science, technology, art and creative learning spaces, which have become the envy of schools up and down the country.

Other facilities include our canteen, which has seating for 300, landscaped play areas, a student reception and our state-of-the-art IT facilities, which students can access before, during and after their school day.

Our provision for students with sensory impairments is of the highest quality, and ensures all students access their academic curriculum and wider college life with their peers. We also have a suite of facilities that caters to the needs of students with sensory impairments and learning difficulties.

Horizon also has its very own nursery, located onsite, which has affordable places for children aged 0-5 years plus after-school provision for children up to 11 years old.

In 2014, the college was officially opened by HRH Princess Anne, during her visit to Barnsley.

Facilities & Resources

As well as our teaching and learning spaces, Horizon has a number of outstanding, unique and contemporary facilities that are open for use by both our students and the wider community.



"I really enjoy being a Student Ambassador, I regularly attend dance clubs and have performed in two of our college shows. I've recently had my 1-1 careers appointment and am now starting to build my CV, so that I'm ready to apply to do my A levels at college after I finish Year 11."

Mya, Year 10



Personal Development

Charity



What is Personal Development?

Our Personal Development programme provides 'opportunities for all' and ensures that, when students leave us at the end of Year 11, they are well on their way to being both 'Work Ready' and 'Life Ready'.

We provide a wide range of age-appropriate life enhancing experiences, which support students to become positive role models who are active, responsible citizens. We encourage all students to involve themselves in a wide range of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities. These develop their confidence, creativity, independence, teamwork and performance skills, and range from StreetKingz and Fusion Dance groups through to the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme and the Annual National Enterprise Challenge.

We regularly promote and raise awareness of British Values, to deepen students' understanding of their importance in modern society. These are reinforced through our 'Core Values' – particularly those of 'Respect', 'Tolerance' and 'Kindness'. We deliver a calendar of events, including whole college awareness days and focused assemblies, which teach students how to recognise and deal with key issues from online safety through to student well-being and mental health.

What is Careers and Enterprise?

At Horizon Community College we regard the preparation for post 16 options as important as academic learning achievements.

The Careers and Enterprise Team core mission is to help every student make the most informed decision that they can about their future choices and career options.

We have strong links with the local community to achieve this programme from our feeder primary schools through to local colleges and connections with Universities all over the country. We actively network with local and national businesses to provide great experiences for students as well as opportunities for their future.

School Ready; Work Ready; Life Ready

From the moment our students enter Horizon in Y7 we get them to engage with their interests, strengths, weaknesses and the world around them. By the end of Y7 they will have interacted with businesses, presented in front of adults and peers and know the core values that they need to succeed in their journey through Horizon.

As our students move through each year they follow a careers curriculum that links with their subjects. They have the 10 work readiness competencies in their planners that are linked to their activities and interactions. They interact with businesses in many different ways to expose them to different sectors and opportunities.

By the time our students leave us in Y11 they have had a personal guidance interview which they have been prepared for from Y7. For us that interview is the culmination of their careers education and is their school appraisal interview.

We want our students to be self-aware, confident about their skills, equipped with the best academic qualifications they can achieve and truly excited about what lies ahead for them.

#OPPORTUNITIESFORALL



Compassion Uniform

At Horizon “students wear their uniform with pride” (Ofsted June 2018). We firmly believe a common uniform creates a sense of community and helps students identify with the college.

The uniform expectations were introduced when the college first opened in 2012. Since then we have maintained the same uniform and the same high expectations for all students stepping through the doors of Horizon.

To maintain a professional feel around the college, students remove outerwear including coats and hats at the student entrance before they enter the heart space. The morning 'meet and greet' ensures that they are 'school ready' and have with them their school bag, planner and reading book.

Students must wear minimal jewellery (one plain stud in each ear, one ring and a watch) and discreet makeup as explained on the college website.

For further details of all aspects of college uniform, please visit the college website.



Life at Horizon Standards

Horizon works in partnership with Parents and Carers to promote positive discipline and encourage students to make the right choices. Parental involvement is actively encouraged through regular communication, be this through phonecalls, emails, Parentmail, text messages, the college website, Twitter or face to face events such as parents' evenings.

The Praise system acknowledges and rewards positive behaviour in and around college. Students can expect rewards in the form of: Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze awards, Gold pin badges, 'Star of the Lesson', naming on the Praise board, achievement points and positive conduct points throughout the year. The Praise and Consequences system upholds high standards in behaviour and conduct consistently across the college. Every week, the college celebrates Proud Thursday with students and parents, by sharing student achievements on Twitter.

Students are given opportunities and support to be successful in lessons. They are encouraged to reflect on their behaviour and restore relationships with staff and students where required.

As a truly inclusive college we provide targeted support and appropriate provision for students who may have a particular need at some point in their school career.

For further details on Praise and Consequences, please read the Behaviour for Learning policy on the college website.

Hope
Trust

Honesty



Celebrating Diversity

Charity

Horizon Community College

Dodworth Road, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S70 6PD

Tel: +44 (01226) 704 230

Email: info@horizoncc.co.uk Website: www.horizoncc.co.uk

Twitter: [@horizon_cc](https://twitter.com/horizon_cc)



School Ready; Work Ready; Life Ready