

# Riverside College

Widnes & Runcorn



**RIVERSIDE**  
**COLLEGE 2026**

**Ofsted**  
Outstanding  
Provider



**99%**  
Vocational  
Pass Rate  
**100%**  
T Level  
Pass Rate

## Open Events

We are delighted to be holding our Open Events on the dates below. Come along to meet the tutors, hear from our students and tour the facilities.

Please check our website for any changes.

**Tuesday 21st October 2025 5pm-7pm**

**Tuesday 18th November 2025 5pm-7pm**

For more information visit our website:

[www.riversidecollege.ac.uk/open-evenings](http://www.riversidecollege.ac.uk/open-evenings)

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### Not found what you are looking for:

Try the Cronton Sixth Form Prospectus or visit the website at: [www.cronton.ac.uk](http://www.cronton.ac.uk)

# Why Choose Riverside College?



## Ofsted Outstanding

Riverside College has once again been rated OUTSTANDING by Ofsted, highlighting its consistent excellence in education. This second consecutive OUTSTANDING rating reflects the college's strong commitment to delivering exceptional learning experiences and student success.

## £28m Investment

We are constantly updating our facilities to inspire ambition and give students industry experience in the classroom.



**Employer Engagement** with local and national companies offering students industry experience

### **Outstanding Results**

- 99% Vocational Pass Rate
- 100% T Level Pass Rate, with all merit and distinction grades



### **21 Direct College Buses**

which students who live 1.5 miles from college can travel FREE on



**Outstanding Tutors** who have vast industry experience

**Award Winning Support** and financial bursaries for qualifying students



# Results and the Class of 2025

The Class of 2025 has celebrated a **99%** Vocational Pass Rate and a **100%** T Level Pass Rate, with successful students progressing to university, apprenticeships, and directly into jobs in their chosen industry.

**Here are a few of the student's destinations:**



## **Ellesia Froes**

Saints Peter and Paul  
Catholic High School  
Best Western Suites Spa,  
Spa Therapist



## **Mason Wilkinson**

The Prescott School  
Bentley Motors, Apprentice  
Maintenance Fitter



### **Rueben Mullin**

The Bishops' Blue Coat School

Edge Hill University,  
Primary Early Years  
Education with QTS



### **Dillon Kittelsen**

Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy

Liverpool John Moores University, Computer Science



### **Paige Mullen**

Halewood Academy  
Edge Hill University,  
Child Nursing



### **Declan Roberts**

Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy

Brit-Tipp, Apprentice  
Welding and Fabrication

# How to Apply

## A step-by-step guide

- **Sign Up:** Visit the website at [www.riverside.ac.uk](http://www.riverside.ac.uk) or scan the QR code to submit your application (please ensure you include accurate contact details and fully complete your application).
- **College Interview:** You will be invited to meet with a College Admissions Tutor who will help you choose the course/subjects that are right for your future career goals.
- **New Student Day:** Join us in July for New Student Day where you'll get a taste of your courses, meet your tutors, and get to know other students, setting you up for a smooth start to the term.
- **Enrolment:** After receiving your GCSE results, you will be invited to attend College to complete your enrolment and find out everything you need to start your course.
- **Let's Go:** Finally, in September, your classes begin.  
Get ready for new adventures and learning at college!

If you have any questions regarding your application, please contact our Admissions Team via email at [courses@riverside.ac.uk](mailto:courses@riverside.ac.uk) or call 0151 257 2022.





Scan Here to Apply  
**Application Deadline**  
Friday 30th January 2026

# FREE College Buses to start your journey with Riverside College

**Students living 1.5 miles from college can travel FREE on our 21 direct routes with Warrington's Own Buses.**

## **Travel in Style from September:**

All new electric buses for ZERO emissions!

Plus, the latest technology – charge your devices and connect to WiFi onboard!

**Use this QR code to download our current timetables**



Find out where your closest bus stop is:



# Investing in **Your Future**

Riverside College has made a significant investment in it's facilities, ensuring that classrooms, workshops, training salons, and kitchens are equipped with cutting-edge technology that reflects current industry standards and prepares students for future success.



Scan the QR  
code to watch  
our facilities  
tour video



# Facilities for an Outstanding Learning Experience









# Learning That Goes Further

Riverside College offers fantastic opportunities including work experience, competitions, trips, guest speakers, and award ceremonies, all designed to inspire, challenge, and prepare students for future success.



Catering students gain vital work experience at large events including Chester Racecourse



Energetic Joinery students climb Moel Famau



Student achievements are celebrated at the Student of the Month Awards





During work experience with the professional theatre company 'A Place For Us', students demonstrated their creative talents in hair and makeup design as part of the company's national tour, which featured performances at prestigious venues including Covent Garden and the Shakespeare North Playhouse.



Guest speakers give students an inspirational journey into their future careers. Catering students were treated to demonstrations by past student Connor Slater who now works in Michelin Star restaurant Da Terra.



Market Take Over Day is a great opportunity for Business students to gain valuable work experience and fine tune their sales skills.



Beauty students were inspired by the team from Clarins.



Engineering students had a Fire and Rescue demo by Cheshire Fire Brigade.

# Enrichment Activities

Experience life beyond the classroom at Riverside College through a wide range of enrichment activities. Join weekly 5-a-side football and table tennis sessions, take part in competitive football, rugby, and netball teams, and get involved in charity events, student clubs, and vibrant social spaces - all designed to support personal growth, spark new interests, and build lasting friendships.

- National Competitions including WorldSkills UK
- The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- Charity and fundraising
- A variety of sports activities including weekly 5-a-side football and table tennis, along with competitive football, rugby and netball teams that participate in AoC leagues
- Annual 5k charity race and cross college 5-a-side tournament
- Driving Theory Classes
- Esports National League
- Media Club
- Remote Control Car Club
- Dungeons and Dragons
- Social spaces including Starbucks







## **Student Wellbeing and Personal Support**

At Riverside College, your welfare is our priority. Our Programme Management Team is on hand to support with your mental health and wellbeing, as well as providing assistance with financial support, college bursaries, and transportation options, including our free bus pass.

You will be assigned a Personal Tutor who will be there alongside you every step of the way to guide you through college life and help you make decisions on both a personal and academic level.



## Parents and Carers

We understand the importance of keeping parents and carers informed, which is why we ensure prompt communication regarding attendance, progress, and achievements. Throughout the year, we host welcome evenings and progress evenings where parents and carers can engage with the college community and stay updated on your journey.

# Inclusion and Learning Support Team

At Riverside, we have a dedicated team of tutors and support workers who assist students facing barriers to learning. We work with students to write an Inclusive Teaching Plan, identifying and implementing tailored support strategies for teaching and learning. This support may be adapted throughout a student's time at college to help them achieve success and promote the best outcomes for progression. Our team offers support in the following areas:

- Offering specific class support through learning support workers
- Supporting you in organising and planning your work and in developing study skills
- Introducing resources such as assistive technology to promote independent learning
- Conducting assessments for exam access arrangements where applicable
- Supporting students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) through a dedicated EHCP team to plan a smooth transition into college



Find out more  
information





# Careers Advice and Work Experience

## Ace Team

The award-winning ACE Team are hugely successful in offering students progression support for application to apprenticeships, university or directly into industry.

Students can experience trips to universities, career fairs and industry specialist speakers to help them make important decisions about their next steps after college.

Students will receive support to engage in Work Experience and Industry Placements, gaining practical experience in real-world settings. For courses with mandatory work experience hours, our Industry Placement Team can support students to meet these requirements.

# Financial Support

At Riverside College, students can access financial assistance to support them during their studies.

**We may be able to support you with:**

## Travel

FREE Bus Travel for all students who live 1.5 miles from College (See pages 10 and 11 for more details about the 21 Warrington's Own Buses dedicated college bus routes).

## Bursary

Riverside College offers a range of financial support to help students succeed. If eligible, you could receive FREE college meals, FREE breakfast snacks, and help with the cost of essential course items such as uniforms, kits, and equipment.

All support is based on individual financial need and is means-tested following a financial assessment.

For full details on eligibility and how to apply, visit:

[www.riversidecollege.ac.uk/  
student-bursary](http://www.riversidecollege.ac.uk/student-bursary)









# COURSES AT RIVERSIDE COLLEGE

Scan here for more information about  
courses at Riverside College or visit  
[www.riversidecollege.ac.uk/school-  
leavers/course-areas](http://www.riversidecollege.ac.uk/school-leavers/course-areas)





*“Students and apprentices enjoy a broad curriculum that extends their experiences and prepares them for their next steps, work and life in modern Britain.”*

Ofsted Outstanding 2024

Please note: We make every effort to ensure the information in this guide is correct at the time of publication. However, subjects and qualifications are subject to government policy changes, and we reserve the right to make changes to our course offering for operational reasons.

# Qualifications Explained

## How do you like to learn?

At Riverside College, we understand that everyone learns differently. Whether you are hands-on or more academic, we offer a wide range of qualifications to suit your learning style, career goals, and exam grades.

**Different types of qualifications on offer to school leavers in this guide:**

## Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 Diploma

Certain subjects begin at Level 1 while others start at Level 2 due to the incorporation of new practical skills. Some students may advance to Level 3, while some might progress onto an apprenticeship to further their training and qualifications, or other students may go directly into industry.

## Level 3 Extended Diploma

This two-year full-time course, equivalent to 3 A Levels, provides practical skills and specialised knowledge in your chosen subject, to help you progress to a degree, degree apprenticeship, or the workplace. You may be assessed via portfolio work, practical assessments, and exams.

## T-LEVELS

Technical Qualifications (T Levels) are a Level 3 full-time course, studied over two years, and are equivalent to 3 A Levels. You will spend 80% of the course in college, and the other 20% on a meaningful industry placement. T Levels have been designed with more than 250 leading businesses and employers to give you the knowledge and skills you need to progress on to a degree, degree apprenticeship or into the workplace following your course.



### Apprenticeships

You will be in full-time paid employment and will learn on and off the job to develop your knowledge, skills and behaviours. Off the job learning will be a minimum of 6 hours a week and is often undertaken at the college on day release. You will achieve your apprenticeship by completing an independent End Point Assessment and most apprenticeships are now graded from Pass to Distinction.

## Maths and English

You will study maths and English as part of your programme. If you do not achieve a grade 4 or above in GCSE maths and/or English Language in school, you will continue to study your GCSE or functional skills in maths and English alongside your course.

# Business and Retail

At Riverside College, Business Studies comes to life! Our aim is to equip you with the widest range of up-to-date business skills that will launch your career in this innovative professional environment. Our provision specialises in a range of business subjects covering retail, marketing, finance, travel, and enterprise.

## A unique experience of:

- Guest Speakers to provide insights into various industries
- Work Placements to develop confidence and hands on experience
- Trips to companies and businesses in major cities
- Competitions to encourage leadership and entrepreneurial skills



Widnes Market Take Over Day

## BUSINESS AND RETAIL

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 Introductory Diploma	Business	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 2 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 Extended Certificate	Business	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 3 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 3 Extended Diploma	Business, Marketing and Finance	2 Years <b>Cronton</b>	5 GCSE Grade 9 - 4 inc. English Language & Maths.



Scan here for all  
Business courses

## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN

# Catering and Hospitality

At the Centre of Excellence in Catering and Hospitality, students benefit from training with industry specialists and Michelin Star Chefs, extensive opportunities for paid work experience and hands on training in our state-of-the-art modern kitchens and restaurant; Scholars Restaurant.





## **Scholars Training Restaurant and Kitchens**

Catering and Hospitality students will have the opportunity to train in brand new industry standard training facilities. The kitchens have been designed to provide students with a range of different cooking amenities to enable them to gain a variety of skills and techniques in preparation for a successful career in the industry.


### **Facilities include:**

- Modern Training Restaurant and bar area
- Top of the range modular kitchen equipment
- A mobile teaching station and separate teaching area
- Bakers oven
- Separate preparation and cooking areas
- Pastry kitchen



## HOSPITALITY – FRONT OF HOUSE COURSES

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 2 Diploma	Professional Food & Beverage Services	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 3 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 3 Diploma	Food and Beverage Service Supervision	1 Year	Level 2 Diploma in Food & Beverage and a good standard of English/Maths



Scan here for all Catering and Hospitality Courses



## CATERING AND HOSPITALITY

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 Diploma	Catering and Hospitality	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 2 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 Diploma	Professional Cookery	2 Years	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 4 inc. English Language & a grade 3 in Maths
Level 2 Diploma	Professional Bakery and Patisserie	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 3 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 3 Diploma	Professional Cookery	1 Year	Level 2 Diploma in Professional Cookery and a good standard of English/ Maths



# Computing and Digital



The computing and digital technologies industry is exciting, dynamic and fast moving and our courses are designed to equip you to work in a growing industry. Jobs in computing and digital technologies offer great job satisfaction, and the demand for these skills also means that good starting salaries are paid.

## A unique experience of:

- Modern computer suites
- Esports Gaming PCs with RTX 3080 graphics
- Robotics
- Games Development
- CISCO IT Essentials and CCNA

Enrichment  
including the College  
Esports Teams



## COMPUTING AND DIGITAL

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 Introductory Diploma	Cybersecurity Online Safety & Digital Skills	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 2 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 BTEC Extended Certificate	Information and Creative Technology	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 3 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 BTEC Technical Diploma	Digital Technologies	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 3 inc. English Language and Maths
Level 3 National Extended Diploma	Esports, Interactive Media & Enterprise	2 Years	5 GCSE Grade 9 – 4 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 3 T Level (Cronton)	Digital Software Development	2 Years	5 GCSE Grade 9 – 4 including maths and a 5 in English Language



Scan here for all  
Computing & IT Courses

# Construction

At Riverside College, we provide training in a variety of construction courses. Successful students progress into jobs in the industry, apprenticeships and some onto higher education and training.

## **A unique experience of:**

- State of the art Construction Centre with industry standard workshops
- Gas Training Centre
- Links with local and national employers
- Work Experience
- Industry specialist tutors
- Outstanding Apprenticeship Team
- HNC and HND in Construction



Scan here for all Construction Courses,  
including any extra entry requirements.





***“The college makes a  
STRONG contribution to  
meeting skills needs”***

Ofsted Outstanding 2024

## JOINERY

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
City and Guilds Level 1 Diploma	Joinery	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9-2 inc. English Language & Maths
City and Guilds Level 2 Diploma	Carpentry and Joinery	2 Years	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 4 inc. English Language & Maths
City and Guilds Level 3 Diploma	Carpentry and Joinery	1 Year	Level 2 in Carpentry and Joinery and a GCSE Grade 4 or Level 2 English Language and Maths



BRICKWORK			
Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
City and Guilds Level 1 Diploma	Brickwork	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9-2 inc. English Language & Maths
City and Guilds Level 2 Diploma	Brickwork	2 Years	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 4 inc. English Language & Maths



## **PAINTING AND DECORATING**

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
City and Guilds Level 1 Diploma	Painting and Decorating	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9-2 inc. English Language & Maths
City and Guilds Level 2 Diploma	Painting and Decorating	2 Years	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 4 inc. English Language & Maths



**PLUMBING**

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
City and Guilds Level 1 Diploma	Plumbing	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9-2 inc. English Language & Maths
City and Guilds Level 2 Diploma	Plumbing	2 Years	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 4 inc. English Language & Maths
City and Guilds Level 3 Diploma	Plumbing	1 Year	Level 2 in Plumbing and a GCSE Grade 4 or Level 2 English Language and Maths



## ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
City and Guilds Level 2 Diploma	Electrical Installation	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 4 inc. English Language & Maths
City and Guilds Level 3 Diploma	Electrical Installation	1 Year	Achievement of Electrical Installation at Level 2 or equivalent (C&G 2330 Level 2 or C&G 2365 Level 2) and GCSE English & Maths Grade 4 or above



# Engineering

The Engineering department provides industry standard training for career development. Our purpose built workshops, developed in collaboration with industry partners, feature advanced technologies, ensuring our students acquire high-level skills and can transition directly into the workplace with nationally recognised qualifications.

## A unique experience of:

- NEW Green Energy / Hydrogen Centre with a large-scale Hydrogen Training Pipe
- 5 industry standard engineering and welding workshops
- Work on live projects with local employers
- Industry Specialist Tutors
- Outstanding Apprenticeship Team
- HNC and HND in Engineering at Cronton



Scan here for all Engineering  
and Motor Vehicle Courses



## ENGINEERING

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 Diploma	Engineering and Manufacturing	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 2 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 NVQ	Performing Engineering Operations (Electrical / Mechanical)	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 3 inc. English Language & Maths or Level 1 Engineering
Level 3 Diploma	Advanced Industry Engineering	2 Years	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 4 inc. Science, English Language & Maths



# Motor Vehicle and Motorsport

## A unique experience of:

- Latest technology and equipment
- Trips to motor shows and exhibitions
- Links with high profile employers
- Green Car project challenge
- Motorsport car
- Industry specialist tutors



## MOTORSPORT ENGINEERING

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 2 PEO Engineering (Motorsport)	Motorsport Engineering	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 3 inc. English Language & Maths or completion of a Level 1 Engineering qualification with strong English and Maths results
Level 3 Engineering Technology	Motorsport Engineering	1 Year	A suitable Level 2 Diploma in Engineering or Motor Vehicle & GCSE Grade 9 – 4 in English Language & Maths

## LIGHT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 VRQ	Light Vehicle Maintenance	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 2 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 VRQ	Light Vehicle Maintenance	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 3 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 3 VRQ	Light Vehicle Maintenance	1 Year	Level 2 Diploma in Light Vehicle Maintenance or equivalent Motor Vehicle qualification and GCSE Grade 4 in English Language & Maths

## CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN

# Hair, Beauty, Nails and Media Makeup

At the Centre of Excellence for Hair, Beauty, Nails, and Media Makeup, we have industry standard facilities, including hairdressing salons, beauty treatment rooms, a nail bar, and advanced media makeup studios. Our strong connections with top employers like Peaches and Cream, Lime Pictures, and Clarins offer students job opportunities, work placements, and training on the latest techniques and products.

### A unique experience of:

- Professional Industry Standard Vita training salons
- Compete Nationally at Competitions including WorldSkills UK
- Industry Experienced Tutors
- Masterclasses from Industry Specialists
- Additional Specialist Qualifications

Scan here for all Beauty, Hair,  
Makeup and Nails courses





**Vita**

Hair, Beauty & Nails  
Training salons

  
worldskillsuk  
**WINNERS**

### **The Competitive Edge**

Students have the chance to demonstrate their talents through in-house competitions, with many advancing to prestigious national and industry-led events, including WorldSkills UK.

## BEAUTY

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 Diploma	Beauty Therapy	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 2 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 Diploma	Professional Beauty Therapy	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 3 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 3 Advanced Diploma	Professional Beauty Therapy	1 Year	Completion of Level 2 in Beauty with a good standard of English & Maths. You may be required to attend a trade test/assessment & interview



## NAILS

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 2 Diploma	Beauty Therapy with Professional Nails Specialism	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 3 inc. English Language & Maths, or by progression from Level 1 Beauty Therapy
Level 3 Advanced Diploma	Professional Nails Services	1 Year	Level 2 in Nails Services or Level 2 Beauty Therapy with Professional Nails Specialism at Riverside College





# A CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

## A unique experience of:

- Industry Standard Equipment
- Work Experience in the Vita Training Salons
- External Work Experience which can include London Fashion Week and the award-winning 'A Place for Us' theatre production company
- Industry partners and links including Clarins and Peaches and Cream
- Extra add on short qualifications including Lash Lifting and Brow Lamination
- Higher Qualifications (HNC/HND)

Students who have successfully completed a Level 3 qualification at Riverside College in Media Makeup, Beauty, Hair, or Nails can apply for the HNC and HND Performing Arts (Makeup Artistry in the Creative Industries courses). Scan here for more information.

Media Makeup –  
Higher Education  
HNC/HND





## HAIRDRESSING

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 Diploma	Hairdressing	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 2 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 Diploma	Professional Hairdressing	2 Years	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 4 inc. English Language & a Grade 3 in Maths
Level 3 Advanced Diploma	Professional Hairdressing	1 Year	Level 2 in Hairdressing with a good standard of English and Maths. You may be required to attend a trade test and an interview



## MEDIA MAKEUP

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 Diploma	Makeup Artistry with Hairdressing	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 2 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 2 Diploma	Professional Hair and Media Makeup	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 3 inc. English Language & Maths
Level 3 Advanced Diploma	Professional Theatrical and Media Makeup	1 Year	Successful completion of Level 2 Media Makeup, plus a minimum of GCSE Grade 9 – 4 in English Language & Maths



# Health and Care

Health and Care courses at Riverside College are both exciting and innovative, providing students with invaluable hands-on experience in our Clinical Practice Ward and Care Room. These courses include placement hours, ensuring students gain practical industry experience, setting them up for successful careers in health and care.



Scan here for all Health  
and Care courses



## HEALTH AND CARE

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Entry Level	Early Years and Health & Care	1 Year	N/A
Level 1 NCFE CACHE Diploma	Introduction to Health & Care and Children & Young People	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 2 inc. English Language & Maths*
Level 2 Extended Certificate	Health & Care	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 – 3 inc. English Language & Maths*
Level 3 Extended Diploma	Health & Care (Riverside College and Cronton Sixth Form)	2 Years	A minimum of 5 GCSE at Grade 9 – 4 inc. English Language and Maths*
Level 3 Extended Diploma	Health Professionals – Diploma in Health Studies	2 Years	5 GCSE Grade 9 – 4 inc. a Grade 4 in English Language, a Grade 4 in Maths and a Grade 4 in Science*

\*Students require a clear DBS for placement  
(Disclosure & Barring Service – background check)



# Early Years and Education

## EARLY YEARS AND EDUCATION

Level	Course Title	Duration	Entry Requirements
Level 1 CACHE Diploma	Introduction to Health & Social Care and Children and Young People	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 2 inc. English Language & Maths*
Level 2 CACHE Diploma	Introducing Caring for Children and Young People	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 3 inc. English Language & Maths*
Level 2 CACHE Diploma	Early Years Practitioner	1 Year	4 GCSE Grade 9 - 3 inc. English Language & Maths*
Level 3 - T Level	Early Years and Education Assisting Teaching Pathway	2 Years	A minimum of 5 GCSE at grade 9 - 4 including a Grade 4 in English Language, Maths, and 4:4 in Science. Students must also have a clear DBS*

\*Students require a clear DBS for placement  
(Disclosure & Barring Service - background check)





Each course includes specific placement hours and opens doors to various career opportunities. Scan the QR code to find the course that suits you best.



# Foundation Studies

Foundation Studies is designed to support young people with learning difficulties, disabilities, or those requiring social and emotional assistance during their transition into college. It provides a safe and nurturing environment that helps students prepare for further education and adult life, empowering them to become confident, valued members of society.

Students studying in Foundation Studies benefit from a bespoke campus with its own large outdoor area for activities including sports, gardening and socialising, while also having full access to the wider college's facilities, support services, social spaces and enrichment activities mentioned in this prospectus.



Before starting at Riverside College, you'll take part in visits and activities to help you settle in. Your learning pathway is personalised to your goals, with targets and qualifications developed through the RARPA process to support a meaningful college journey.

## **Foundation Studies Pathways**

- **Pathway to Independence**

Focusing on preparing for adulthood.

- **Pathway to Progression**

Covering a variety of subjects, this prepares students for employment or supported internships. This route includes a specialist group focused on social development and supporting students with anxiety, including those who can work at higher levels, but may need help building confidence and other essential life skills.

- **Pathway to Vocational Studies**

Subject routes include Construction, Catering & Hospitality, Computers & Business, where students will access industry standard facilities, often within the main college site including Construction Workshops, Training Kitchens and IT Suites. This helps to prepare students to progress onto one of the other courses within this guide.

Students also study maths and English at the appropriate level including GCSEs.

**Contact us on 0151 257 2022 for more information or to arrange a visit.**

# Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships at Riverside College let you earn while you learn. With our high achievement rates and successful destinations, you can:

- Get a real job and continue your education
- Work with experienced staff
- Earn a wage and receive holiday pay with paid training
- Have study time related to your role (at least 6 hours a week)
- Gain hands-on experience and valuable skills that employers want
- Choose from various industries and organisations



*“Apprentices rapidly develop the new industry standard knowledge skills and behaviours”  
“they swiftly become valuable employees.”*

Ofsted Outstanding 2024



## Apprenticeship Career Paths available:

- Accountancy
- Bricklayer
- Business Administration
- Carpentry and Joinery
- Customer Service
- Early Years
- Electrical Installation
- Engineering
- Geospatial Survey Technician
- Hairdressing
- Health and Social Care
- Information Communications Technician
- Painting and Decorating
- Pipe Welder
- Software Developer
- Team Leading and Management

## How to Apply for an Apprenticeship

- We have a current list of available apprenticeships on our website: [www.riversidecollege.ac.uk/apprenticeships/vacancies](http://www.riversidecollege.ac.uk/apprenticeships/vacancies) and to apply for any of these apprenticeships you will need to set up an account at [www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship)
- You can also find your own employer. If you have an employer who would like to employ you as an apprentice, please contact our Apprenticeship Team on **0151 257 2828** or email us on [apprenticeships@riversidecollege.ac.uk](mailto:apprenticeships@riversidecollege.ac.uk) to discuss the next steps.

## Entry Requirements for an Apprenticeship

**Level 2** – 4 GCSE passes at Grade 9 – 3 including English and maths or equivalent

**Level 3** – 4 GCSE passes at Grade 9 – 4 including English and maths or equivalent

We recommend that you also apply for a full-time course alongside your apprenticeship applications.

**See page 8 for more information about applying for a full-time course.**

Scan here to watch the videos to  
celebrate National Apprenticeship Week







# Powerful Partners for Your Future

At Riverside College, we pride ourselves on forging strong industry connections that provide our students with unparalleled opportunities for growth and success.

Our partnerships with leading companies, robust career services, and real-world project experiences ensure that our students are not only well-prepared for the workforce but also highly sought after by top employers.

Students also have the opportunity to secure valuable work placements with our partner companies, ensuring they develop practical skills, build professional networks, explore various career options and boost their confidence.

*“Leaders plan training effectively with employers to meet their skills needs. They engage very productively with employers and stakeholders to skilfully design and teach the curriculum.”*

Ofsted Outstanding 2024

Riverside College works with leading companies to ensure our students are equipped with the current knowledge and skills required in their chosen industries. Some of our esteemed partners include:



Working with industry partners, Riverside College launched the Hydrogen Training Centre and new green energy qualifications to meet the needs and skills shortage in the Liverpool City Region.



Scan here to watch the video of the opening launch



# Higher Education Courses at Riverside College

## Progression to HNC/HND and Degree Level Courses

At Riverside College, we provide an exceptional opportunity for students to continue their higher education journey within a familiar and supportive environment. By staying with us, you benefit from the same dedicated teachers, convenient locations, and state-of-the-art facilities.

We offer a variety of progression courses including HNC, HND, and Foundation Degrees, with many having the option to complete a one-year top-up to earn a full Degree in the following subjects:

- Computing and Digital Technologies
- Construction (Cronton College)
- Counselling (Adults / Children and Young People)
- Education and Teacher Training
- Engineering (Cronton College)
- Health and Care
- Media Makeup (Performing Arts)
- Sport (Cronton College)

If you have previously studied at another institution, you are also welcome to apply directly to us.

For more information about our courses, please visit [www.riversidecollege.ac.uk](http://www.riversidecollege.ac.uk)



## Why Choose Riverside College for Your Higher Education?

- Outstanding Results: Achieve your academic goals with a 100% pass rate and 83% high grades for bachelor's degrees in 2025.
- Excellence in Education: 40% of our BA Degree graduates achieved a 1st Class Honours in 2025.
- Financial Advantage: Benefit from lower debt without compromising on the quality of your education.
- Exclusive Bursary: Receive a £500 bursary gift if you are a qualifying first-year full-time student.\*

**Embark on your higher education journey with confidence at Riverside College, where excellence and support go hand in hand.**

\*Terms and conditions apply.



# Riverside College

Widnes & Runcorn



## Contact us

**Tel:** 0151 257 2022

**Email:** [courses@riverside.ac.uk](mailto:courses@riverside.ac.uk)

Please check our website for any changes or additional information:

**[www.riverside.ac.uk](http://www.riverside.ac.uk)**

Riverside College, Kingsway, Widnes, WA8 7QQ

We make every effort to ensure the information in this guide is correct at the time of publication. However, subjects and qualifications are subject to government policy changes, and we reserve the right to make changes to our course offering for operational reasons.

If you would like a copy of this document in large format or braille, please call 0151 257 2800.

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