

# YOUR **ESSENTIAL GUIDE**

## TO PRESTON COLLEGE

[www.preston.ac.uk](http://www.preston.ac.uk)



FURTHER EDUCATION  
COLLEGE OF THE YEAR  
**2020 WINNER**

Proud to provide EXCELLENCE  
in technical education & training

# A WARM WELCOME TO PRESTON COLLEGE

**At Preston College we take great pride in supporting all of our learners to achieve the qualifications, technical skills, knowledge and behaviours that employers and universities are looking for.**

I am delighted that you are considering joining Preston College after school and I wanted to reassure you that our team of careers advisors and tutors will be available to provide you with advice and guidance on your future options so you can make an informed decision.

This year, Preston College has once again achieved some fantastic results with a 100% pass rate on our technical courses with a high number of learners gaining Distinctions and Distinction\*.

Preston College was also given the accolade of FE College of the Year in the Educate North West awards in recognition of our commitment to provide our learners with the same high standard of teaching whether it be delivered online or face-to-face.

At Preston College, we specialise in technical and vocational qualifications. There is still a perception that A-Levels are the only route into Higher Education. Our Level 3 Extended Diplomas are the equivalent to three A-Levels and are accepted as an appropriate route into Higher Education, with a significant number of college learners successfully securing a place at university.

Our relationships with employers and businesses ensure that our provision

and work experience is relevant and of high quality. Our sector specialist, experienced staff and

industry standard facilities make the college an exciting and enjoyable place to be, all delivered in a supportive and caring environment.

All of our facilities have been purposefully designed and developed to allow you to gain the skills, knowledge and confidence needed for success in the workplace. On the campus, you will find a host of purpose built facilities including multi-functional science laboratories, performance studios and a hair and beauty salon that offer real work environments. Our construction building is undergoing significant development, providing access to the latest technology and equipment, combined with high-specification industry-standard facilities.

We look forward to welcoming you to Preston College.

**Louise Doswell  
Principal & Chief Executive**



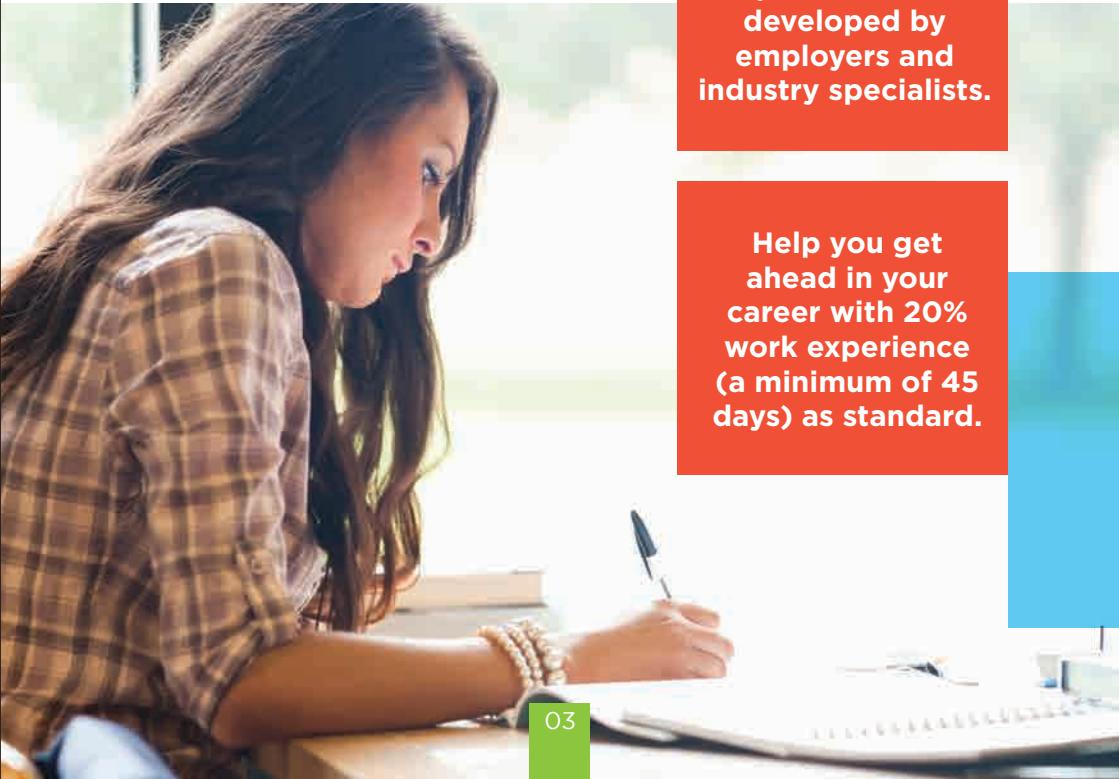
# T-LEVELS

## THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

T-Levels are pioneering new courses which are co-created with leading employers and aim to ensure young people across the country have access to a variety of programmes that successfully develop them into the skilled workforce of the future.

We currently offer this exciting new qualification in three subjects, chosen to cover a wide range of industry areas:

- > Education & Childcare
- > Professional Construction
- > Health - Adult Nursing
- > Science
- > Building Services Engineering for Construction (Plumbing / Electrical)
- > Engineering (Design & Development for Engineering and Manufacturing)



### T-LEVELS NEED TO KNOW

**Equivalent to  
three A-Levels  
earning you UCAS  
points for entry  
to university  
degrees.**

**Nationally  
recognised  
qualifications  
developed by  
employers and  
industry specialists.**

**Help you get  
ahead in your  
career with 20%  
work experience  
(a minimum of 45  
days) as standard.**

# PRESTON COLLEGE CENTRE OF SPORTING EXCELLENCE

The Centre of Sporting Excellence is an exclusive partnership between Preston North End Community and Education Trust (PNECET) and Preston College. The Partnership provides high quality, technical education programmes from levels one to three alongside the opportunity to represent both organisations at a competitive level within national sports leagues.

## UEFA B Coaching

- Train & compete in CEFA & ECFA Leagues

You will be trained by UEFA B qualified coaches at Preston College and given the opportunity to compete nationally in the EFL CEFA League and the ECFA League. The

programme also provides pathways to semi-professional football and scholarships in the USA.

## Trips abroad

As well as having behind the scene access to Preston North End's Stadium, there are also plenty of exciting opportunities



and experiences available. You will have the opportunity to play in competitions in Phoenix, USA, or attend a football and cultural camp in Portugal, in partnership with SL Benfica. You will also take part in the National Citizen Service programme and benefit from talks with leading sports industry figures.

## Professional Facilities

You will have access to Preston College gym, fitness suite, training rig, squash courts, sports hall and astro turf pitch, as well as exclusive access at Deepdale.

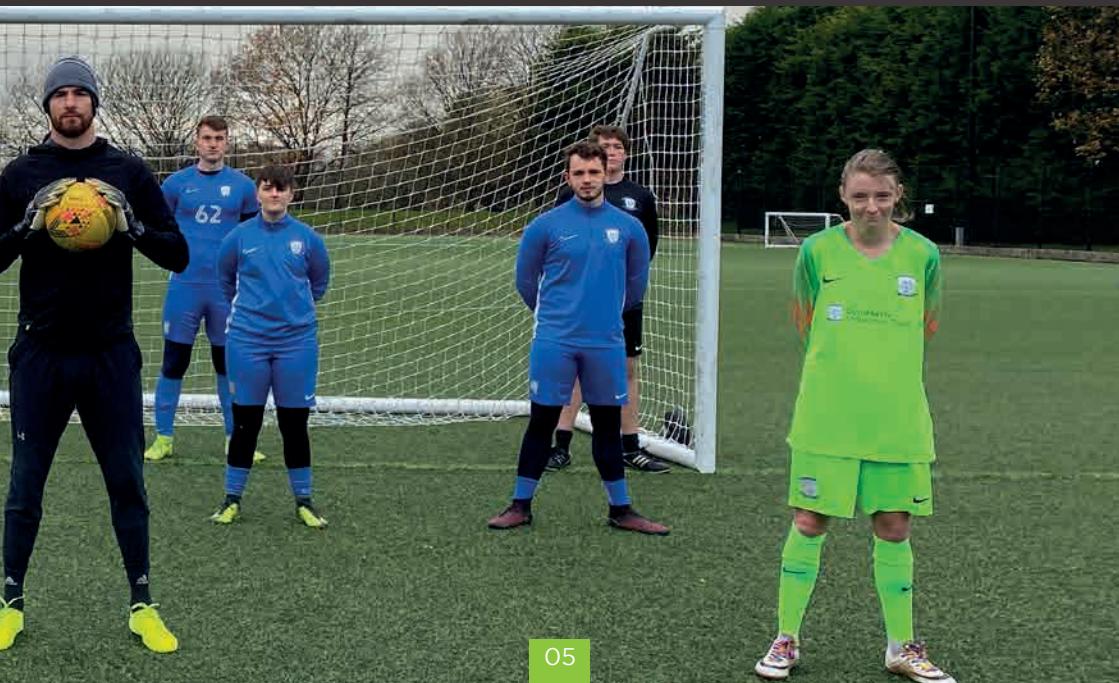
## Work Experience

Work experience is an important part of your time at the Centre of Sporting Excellence. You will be able to access a wide range of sport placements through the links Preston College has with local employers. You

will also be able to attend placement at Preston North End Community and Education Trust and receive real life exposure to industry across our three core themes which are Education, Community Engagement and Health.

**Undertaking an industry placement will allow you to:**

- Develop employment skills
- Learn new technical skills
- Learn to communicate with employers
- Improve your CV ready for work
- Gain employment opportunities
- Learn to network and create your own network
- Prepare for the demands and expectations within the workplace
- Make an informed decision on your career
- Improve your maturity, confidence and self-reliance



# LEARNER LIFE AT PRESTON COLLEGE



**Learner life at Preston College extends well beyond your course.**

**As well as developing the right skills and knowledge for success in your chosen career, we will support you to get the most out of your time with us.**

This could be through valuable work experience opportunities or participation in a range of enrichment activities, such as The Student Council or Learner Voice groups.

You may also have the opportunity to participate in a range of course related trips and visits, opportunities to work on live briefs and projects for employers and receive real industry insight from a range of engaging guest speakers.

On campus, all learners have the chance to use the gym and leisure facilities. Housed in the Health & Wellbeing Centre, you will find a full fitness suite with Cybex equipment, functional zone, squash courts and a sports centre.



The highly qualified staff can help you with your short and long-term fitness goals. With members of all ages and fitness levels, we pride ourselves on making the gym a non-intimidating and welcoming place for all of our members.

In addition, if you are looking for a completely new look for less, why not book into the on-site hair, beauty and barbering salons, where Level 2 and Level 3 learners on hair, barbering and beauty courses offer a variety of treatments, under

the careful supervision of highly experienced tutors.

As a Preston College learner, you can also take advantage of off-site benefits, including the ability to register with UniDays and Student Beans, providing full access to the very latest free and exclusive student discounts and deals!

# ENRICHMENT

**While studying at Preston College there are a wide range of activities available for you to try, providing great opportunities to build relationships and equip you with skills ready for the future. We want to help you flourish and achieve your aspirations as well as enhance your studies.**

College life is not just filled with lectures, assignments and exams, it's the place to meet new people, learn something new and be part of a team. You might choose to represent the College in sports, be a student ambassador or meet up with friends in the lunchtime clubs. Taking part in activities helps to keep you active as well as building confidence and character, enabling you to become the best version of you. Hobbies and soft skills developed through enrichment are highly valued by universities, future employers and look great on your CV.

There is a variety of activities available including team sports, exercise classes, first aid, glow in the dark sports, college competitions and leagues, fundraising themed days and much more. You will find plenty of information on all the extra-curricular activities running through the canvas portal, where you can find lots of ideas to improve your skills and make yourself stand out from the crowd.

## DofE Award

The Duke of Edinburgh award is a life-changing experience. Any young person can do their DofE – regardless of ability, gender, background or location. Achieving an Award isn't a competition or about being first. It's all about setting personal challenges and pushing personal boundaries.

Through a DofE programme young people have fun, make friends, improve their self-esteem and build confidence. You will gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive, enhancing CVs and university and job applications.



## Chill Zone

The Chill Zone is a dedicated area providing a quieter more relaxed environment. Activities here include table tennis, pool and table football. Pop-up libraries, book swaps and themed activities are also hosted throughout the year.



## Virtual enrichment

We have a vast selection of virtual enrichment activities for Preston College students. You can learn sign language, cooking skills, make-up tutorials, or discover a new hobby. You can take a trip to the Great Wall of China, visit zoos, museums, space and much more, all from the comfort of your own home.



## College ambassadors

Would you like to make a difference at college and do something you are passionate about, helping raise the profile of physical activity and well-being? There are a number of roles available including this girl can, inclusive, mental health ambassadors as well as football activators.





# CASE STUDIES

## Bilal

### **Studied: Level 1 Automotive before securing an Apprenticeship at SEAT**

Bilaal joined Preston College after trying A-Levels at another college and realising that A-Levels were not right for him. Instead he choose to study an Automotive Level 1 course at Preston College and he hasn't looked back.

**"My college course prepared me for my Apprenticeship. I like cars but before my course I didn't know anything about fixing them, but I quickly picked it up and my teachers were great at supporting me when I needed it. My teacher suggested I apply for the Apprenticeship at SEAT and he took my CV to them. I'm now in my first year of a three year Apprenticeship. After my Apprenticeship I'll be looking to gain further qualifications and progress into new car technologies."**



## Holly

### **Studied: Level 3 in Health & Social Care**

Joining Preston College from Archbishop Temple High School Holly has successfully completed her Level 3 programme and progressed to university to study Social Work.

**"My favourite experience of college was my work placement at the Children's Society working with refugees and asylum seekers. My placement allowed me to get an insight into aspects of social work and allowed me to put what I learnt in the classroom into a real situation."**

# SUPPORT AT PRESTON COLLEGE

**As a learner at Preston College you will be supported throughout your studies by a highly experienced team of tutors and support staff.**

The tutors teaching you will have industry experience and are dedicated to making you the most employable you can be. If you need any help with your course, the teaching staff will be your first point of contact. They will be able to support you with assignments, coursework and any queries or questions you may have about the programme.

Your tutors will also be able to advise you on the range of progression opportunities available at Preston College, to further enhance your career and employment prospects.

## Qualified Careers Advisers

If you require more in-depth careers advice, our expert advisers are knowledgeable, enthusiastic and able to provide comprehensive, independent careers advice and guidance. Their aim is to empower you to make your own career and learning choices by providing you with the information, advice and guidance you need to make an informed decision about your next steps.

To speak to a member of the Careers Team call 01772 225517.



## Student Services

Our Student Services team are available to support all of our learners through the provision of information on a variety of topics, including financial support, welfare advice, benefits advice, counselling and mental health support, safeguarding and bursaries. The Student Services team are accessible to all learners and once you are on campus, can be found in the Main Building.

If you would like to speak to a member of the Student Services team prior to starting your course, you can contact them by telephone or email.

**Call: 01772 225656 or email:  
[studentservices@preston.ac.uk](mailto:studentservices@preston.ac.uk)**

# FACILITIES

At Preston College, we have a range of outstanding facilities across all of our courses, including an industry standard Construction Centre, 100 seater theatre and a purpose built iSTEM Centre – home to an array of course specific facilities, including Engineering workshops and a subsonic wind tunnel.

The wider campus also has the added benefit of an on-site fitness centre, hairdressing, barbering and beauty salons, all of which are available to learners, at heavily discounted prices! Please see page 9 for additional details.

## Food Outlets

The Preston College campus offers an array of food and drink choices, including the Food Court - Offers a weekly rotating menu with dishes from around the world, as well as familiar favourites. Joe's Chicken Shack - Offers the ever-popular fast food chicken products and great value meal deals. The Sandwich Bar - Here you'll find a 'Subway-style' menu where you can create your own sandwiches with various bread types, fillings, toppings and more. Balcony Bar - Offering a more relaxed place to enjoy a panini or pizza. There are also a variety of vending machines available across the campus.



## Starbucks

From barista-crafted coffees and iced lattes, to bacon sandwiches and waffles, you can enjoy a drink and catch up with others on the course in the subsidised, on-site Starbucks.

If you are studying with us in the evening, we recommend checking individual outlet opening times.

## The Shop

Our on-campus shop offers everything from sweet treats to hot drinks, alongside paninis, cold snacks and other essentials.

## **Learning Zone & Library**

The Learning Zone, housed over two floors, provides high quality support for learning outside of the classroom and a variety of individual and group study spaces.

Our learning zone team are always on hand to help you access the resources, services and support needed to develop your own independent study and research skills. The team offer a huge range of workshops on key topics including developing Harvard referencing, assignment writing and critical analysis.

The Learning Zone also offers self-issue kiosks for the borrowing and return of books, with eBooks and e-journals offered on a 24/7 access basis. The area is also home to over 90 PCs, bookable group work rooms and individual study spaces.



# TRAVEL

## Learner Parking

Preston College is able to offer parking to all learners, on dedicated learner and visitor car parks, accessible from St Vincent's Road and Sharoe Green Lane. Parking is offered free of charge, on a first-come, first-serve basis.



## Public Transport

Preston train station is a short, 10 minute walk from the city's bus station and a range of bus services that serve the College. There are numerous other bus routes to the College from the surrounding areas, with many learners travelling to us from Chorley, Lancaster and Blackpool. Our Student Services Team can help learners with any travel enquires. You can contact them on 01772 225656.

The map below gives an overview of the services.

## BUS GUIDE



# SCHOOLS LIAISON TEAM

If you have any questions or queries please get in touch with one of our schools liaison team.

## **Tina Patel**

Recruitment, Progression and Careers Advisor  
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