



Tees Valley College

Prospectus 2023 - 2024


keys
make every day epic

Welcome

We cater for pupils aged 11-19 years old, who require a specialist provision in order to enable them to achieve their aspirations and be happy and fulfilled in school. We are fully committed to supporting children and young people to overcome barriers on their learning journey and leave school with formal qualifications, the ability to succeed and to follow their employment aspirations. At Tees Valley College, we are passionate about providing positive experiences, resulting in good outcomes for children and young people who may have been previously excluded from mainstream. Most importantly, they should enjoy attending school, making progress and attaining, which will enable them to make a positive contribution and the ability to gain employment upon leaving school.



Values, Ethos and Vision

A belief that every pupil has the right to the appropriate and relevant educational provision that allows them to achieve their full potential and reach their career aspirations.

All pupils have the right to a learning environment which provides:

- a broad and balanced curriculum
- a fresh start
- empathetic supportive staff
- a structured, academic, vocational and activity focused curriculum
- a sense of belonging
- experience of personal success
- empowerment: taking increased responsibility for activities, learning, self and others
- developing personal skills, including social and emotional well-being
- purpose towards reaching their employment aspirations

All the pupils have the right to a tutor who:

- has a positive regard for their pupil and treats them with respect
- has high expectations concerning their pupil's achievements shows a continuing commitment to high quality
- will develop a relationship of trust and mutual respect, with time set aside to pay attention to the progress and achievement of each individual
- contributes to the well-being and safeguarding of pupils.
- Pupils are actively engaged as partners, conveying a sense of mutuality about their work.
- The treatment of both pupils and mentors exemplifies good equal opportunities practice.



Our Mission

The pupils referred to Tees Valley College often have social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEMH) and so they need a smaller, more structured educational placement in order to develop. Young people who are referred to us have the opportunity to gain outcomes and practical experience in a variety of vocational programmes, as well as Functional Skills and GCSEs in English and mathematics.

The vocational subjects offered currently are as follows, although they may be subject to change when more subjects are added:

- Sports
- Food Technology
- Childcare

Pupils also study PSHE, RSE and GCSE Citizenship.

We support our pupils by working with them to overcome their individual barriers to learning, developing them towards apprenticeships, further education and career choices.





Our School

The College introduces the pupils to a wide range of knowledge, skills and experiences - linguistic, literary, mathematical, scientific, technological, moral, physical, aesthetic, creative and social.

The College has clear, positive expectations for behaviour and well-established and successful positive reinforcement strategies that are reviewed regularly. Every pupil has individual education targets relating to both academic and behavioural achievements that are reviewed regularly to ensure positive progress is being made.

Tees Valley College fundamentally operates within two main principles:

1. All pupils, without exception, are to be valued as unique and productive members of society.
2. All pupils can succeed and should be encouraged towards ever-greater appropriate challenges in all areas of their learning.



Safeguarding

The College has a comprehensive safeguarding/child protection policy (kept on the premises and available to anyone at all times) and will take any reasonable steps to ensure the safety of its pupils. In cases where the College has reason to be concerned that a

young person may be subject to ill treatment, neglect or other forms of abuse, staff will follow Middlesbrough's child protection procedures and inform both Keys Group's Company Directors and Social Services of the concern.



The Curriculum:

At Tees Valley College, solid academic progress and achievement is considered to be of great importance. The college seeks to re-establish the concept of learning as a positive and enjoyable experience. We aim to introduce pupils to a wide range of knowledge, skills and experience.

The Curriculum emphasises the need to acquire basic skills in literacy and numeracy, and these schemes of work are carefully planned to ensure they meet the needs of all pupils attending at a level appropriate to the pupil's ability. In addition to this, pupils are also able to access ICT to support their individual learning.

English Language	Citizenship	Food Technology
Mathematics	Information Technology	Physical Education/ Outdoor Education
Functional Skills E1-L2	Science	PSHE and RSE
Careers / Employability	Childcare	Sports

We aim to offer all pupils a rounded curriculum in which, irrespective of academic ability, they can achieve high levels of success. In response to this we offer a variety of practical wider curriculum activities.

The college involves pupils in a range of activities throughout the year; these include off-site visits, ranging from Careers fayres; Jump 360 trampoline park; ice-skating; Go-Karting and bowling. Some activities may be arranged for social and cultural diversity; some activities are organised as rewards for good effort.

All off-site activities are thoroughly risk assessed, and all consents are in place. Where we use third party providers, the company's employees will be CRB and/or DBS certificated as suitable persons to work with young people.

Venues may include:

- For Physical Education – Billingham Forum, Hollywood Bowl, District 23, Quads for all and Air Trail

Courses offered may change during the school year following timetable reviews.

Provision for children with Special Educational Needs

Our objectives and principles in making provision for young people with special educational needs are as follows:

1. The individual needs of each young person as identified in their EHCP are addressed and statutory reviews are held annually. Our SENCo works with the team around the child to ensure outcomes are updated and relate to specific areas of need.
2. A behaviour management program is in provision for young people with special place and is continually reviewed; staff training educational needs are as follows: in the management of young people with social, emotional and emotional health (SEMH) is ongoing.

Provision for children with EAL

Provision for Children for whom English is an Alternative Language
Pupils for whom English is a second/alternative language will be treated with respect and care. A supportive education program will be provided and advice sought as appropriate.

Careers guidance/further education

Tees Valley College includes careers and employability in the curriculum and adheres to all standards in the Gatsby benchmarks.

We have also developed positive links with colleges in and around the local area and support our Year 11s with all aspect of their application for further education, training or apprenticeships.

All pupils at Tees Valley College receive independent careers advice and guidance.

Health and Safety

Tees Valley College has comprehensive health and safety policies and procedures.

The Policy/Procedures file is kept on the premises and is available to anyone at all times.

Counter Bullying

Tees Valley College is totally opposed to bullying in any form and it will not be tolerated at any level.

We are committed to providing a caring and safe environment for all pupils where they can develop both academically and as an individual.

A comprehensive anti-bullying policy operates within the college along with a set of procedures to identify and deal with any incidents quickly and effectively.

If you have any concerns regarding bullying or wish to discuss this area further, please do not hesitate to contact the college.

Health and Sex Education

Our school provides a culture where sexual harassment and online sexual abuse are not tolerated.

Pupils will receive appropriate relationship, health and sex education (RSE), which will be delivered throughout the academic year.

If parents / carers do not consent to RSE lessons for their child, can you please inform the school and we can withdraw your child from these lessons.



Philosophy and expectations

Policy and practice at Tees Valley College reflects the belief that disruptive and challenging behaviour has underlying causes and effects. Children and young people with low self-esteem cannot tolerate anything that increases their negative feelings about themselves and therefore try to reduce the chances of being hurt any more. They often refuse to recognise their own achievements, resent other people's successes, can delight in upsetting others, reject praise, humiliate others or refuse to respond to those around them at all.

A particularly destructive characteristic of children or young people with low self-esteem is that by shutting off from the negative, these children also shut off from the positive. They cannot feel 'good feelings'. They struggle to hear praise or receive 'good' information.

Our challenge is to reach beyond the young person's defensive shell and help them believe that teachers are really there for them and that they can trust the teachers. The foundation of our work concerns establishing positive relationships based on mutual respect. We have a positive behaviour approach in which positive behaviour is the expectation. Behaviour is role modelled by all staff and a clear points system shows each pupil how they can further improve.

Should a pupil's behaviour escalate to a point that they are likely to cause harm to themselves, other people or cause serious damage to property, then physical intervention will be used, but this is a last resort. Pupils are always given the opportunity to reflect on the incident and talk through it with a member of staff in detail, with access to relevant parties made fully available. The form and method which this takes is clearly identified in the Keys Group's Physical Intervention Policy.

All staff are fully trained in Team Teach and placing authorities are informed of our physical intervention policy. Any incident requiring physical intervention is recorded in detail, with access to relevant parties made fully available.

Documentation

All of the school's policies and procedures can be viewed at school, sent out electronically or by post on request.

Tees Valley School's First Aid Policy is available to parents on request or via the school office.

Complaints

It is important to pupils' sense of security and personal confidence that they have a means of "being heard", in the event of having a complaint.

For this purpose we ensure every young person is made aware of the suggestions and complaints procedure and will assist and support them in the event that they feel the need to use it. [The policy is held in college and available on request]

They can share their complaint with their key worker or the Centre Manager. If they are still unhappy they can telephone (0121 728 7800) and speak to Nicola Kelly (Chair of Governors) who will arrange to see them. If they feel they cannot talk to any of these people, then they can telephone NYAS (0808 808 1001) or Childline (0800 1111). These calls are free and confidential. Keys Group also have a visiting advocacy service to their children's homes provided by NYAS on a monthly basis.

Parents, carers or representatives from the Local Authority (LA) or Social Services Department (S.S.D.) who are concerned about the quality of education offered at Tees Valley College should contact the College's management immediately. Any complaint will be given prompt, serious consideration.

We have had 0 complaints during 2022 and 2023 and there are 0 ongoing investigations.

Identity/cultural diversity

Religious Education - Tees Valley College is a non-denominational school. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our pupils is nonetheless of uppermost importance. It provides opportunities for pupils to learn about the beliefs and cultural diversity of a range of faiths and societies. Through a non-partisan approach, the College places these in the context of religion, systems of law and social order, and where they reside in relation to British values and systems.

The teaching about religion within the curriculum is outlined in the college's PSHE Policy and complies with the regulations and standards set out by the Department for Education. All college policies are available for parents on request and free of charge.

Opportunities can arise across the curriculum for instance in Art and Design, History, and Food Studies for human national, social and religious ideas to be explored and explained.



Positive Behaviour Support

Tees Valley College seeks to create an environment which encourages and reinforces positive behaviour; recognising this as necessary for effective learning to take place. The purpose of this Positive Behaviour Policy is to ensure that we have a consistent approach to rewarding good behaviour and achievement, and challenging inappropriate behaviour.

Good behaviour is most effectively achieved when there are clear expectations of pupil conduct.

Pupils bring with them a wide variety of behaviour patterns and at Tees Valley College the aim is to work within standards of behaviour based on the basic values of honesty, respect for self, others, authority and property, responsibility and consideration. The intention of applying rewards and sanctions is to demonstrate to pupils that their behaviour and actions have consequences.

The full Behaviour Policy will be given to the parent/carer during the induction meeting and is available at any time by request.

Exclusions

We acknowledge that the pupils placed at Tees Valley College have had previous negative educational and social experiences and as such, will present challenging behaviours. It is our aim therefore, to provide a quality education for even the most challenging pupils. Permanent exclusion from education is not an alternative.

However, if a young person's placement in Tees Valley College is seriously preventing the

'effective education' of other pupils or they are presenting a significant risk to themselves or others within the college, additional support may be sought or an alternative education package may be provided.

Any 'Education Intervention Plan' will be reviewed regularly and steps taken to reintegrate the pupil back into normal school provision will be clearly defined.





Admissions

Admissions Criteria:

Pupils will either be unable to maintain a place in a mainstream school or be thought to be able to benefit from a stable period in a small supportive school environment. The pupil may have an Education, Health and Care Plan and be between the ages of 11 and 19 years.

Admissions Procedures:

When a placement is requested, a copy of the child/young person's EHCP and/or other relevant documents, such as previous school reports, Individualised Education Programme (I.E.Ps) etc. will be needed. This is in order to ascertain the suitability of the placement and to set up an education programme appropriate to the child/ young person's needs. A planning meeting will then be held to determine if the placement is appropriate to the pupil's needs.

Fees:

The academic year is 39 weeks divided into 3 terms. Fees will be charged on a weekly rate for 39 weeks of the year and will be invoiced on a termly basis for day pupils one term in advance.

Should a pupil leave without prior written notice, or not as a result of a review, then 6 weeks (half a term) fees in lieu will be required. Notice to leave the school must be in writing and the 6 weeks (half a term) will be charged from the date of the letter of notice.

Visiting the School:

Tee Tees Valley College is happy to welcome visitors and anyone interested in placing a child at with us is encouraged to make an appointment to visit the school.

Representatives from the Local Authority (L.A.) and Social Services Department (S.S.D) are also encouraged to visit.

Exam Results Table 2022-23

SUBJECT	PERCENTAGE PASSED
GCSE mathematics	100%
GCSE English Language	86%
Functional Skills Level 1 mathematics	100%
Functional Skills Level 1 English	100%
Functional Skills Entry Level 3 mathematics	100%
Functional Skills Entry Level 3 English	100%

General Information:



What are the start and finish times?

Breakfast club is available from 8.30am.
Lessons start at 9.00am, until 14.30pm.

What arrangements have been made for the lunch break?

Pupils are supervised at all times and staff have their breaks and lunch with pupils.

How will I get to know what progress my child is making? Phone calls are made home on a regular basis to update parents and carers about progress.

Termly reports are sent home, which provide a full overview of progress each term.



Who should absence be reported to?

Absence should be reported to the school administrator (01642 218776).

How will my child's attendance be monitored? Attendance is monitored in school via Arbor. We call stakeholders when we have concerns surrounding the dual roll status. We have an Independent Education

Welfare Officer (IEWO) who attends the school twice weekly and visits parents in that period.

Do pupils have to wear a uniform?

No uniform required, just appropriate casual dress.

TEES VALLEY SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023 - 2024

Autumn Term 2023		
Monday 4th September	Thursday 26th October	Term 1
Monday 30th October	Friday 3rd November	Half Term
Monday 6th November	Thursday 21st December	Term 2
Spring Term 2024		
Monday 8th January	Thursday 8th February	Term 3
Monday 12th February	Friday 16th February	Half Term
Monday 19th February	Thursday 21st March	Term 4
Summer Term 2024		
Monday 8th April	Friday 24th May	Term 5
Monday 27th May	Friday 31st May	Half Term
Monday 3rd June	Friday 19th July	Term 6

Bank Holidays: Monday 25th December Tuesday 26th December,
Friday 29th March Monday 1st April
Monday 1st May Monday 29th May

Staff Training Days: Friday 1st September 2023, Friday 27th October 2023
Friday 22nd December 2023, Friday 9th February 2024
Friday 22nd March 2024

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