



Welcome to Minsthorpe Community College



We are pleased that you as parents and young people are considering Minsthorpe Community College as the next step.



Minsthorpe is a college that is going places. Judged good by Ofsted in 2014, our journey is now firmly towards outstanding - not just for the Ofsted badge but because that is what our students deserve on a daily basis.

For us, improving the quality of education that we provide is all about helping teachers to give lessons that genuinely engage learners in the process of learning and developing skills and competencies that will enable them to succeed in the twenty first century workplace.

Success for young people in this competitive world demands that they are able to learn, unlearn and relearn and, at Minsthorpe, we develop students so that they are able to think for themselves.

Ray Henshaw
PRINCIPAL

Everybody
matters,
everybody
succeeds and
everybody helps



LEARNING WITHOUT LIMITS

Intelligence is learnable. It is expandable, not fixed, and achievement is the product of hard work. The key to expandable intelligence lies far more in self-belief than it does in any ideas about innate ability.

At Minsthorpe we stress that putting the effort into learning is a win-win situation - students make real progress and strengthen their intelligence as a result. We want every young person here to have a 'can do better' attitude, an attitude that does not fear failure but that learns from it. High expectations are the hallmark of every lesson.



NO EXCUSES

Every adult (teachers, support staff, governors, and parents) work in partnership and expect our students to strive for excellence.

Target grades are aspirational - meeting them should be a given: exceeding them the aim.

The Vision

NO ISLANDS

We are all in this together. Everybody matters, everybody succeeds and everybody helps.

Staff and students live by a set of core values: Believe; Achieve; Succeed; Enjoy; Support. We call these **The Minsthorpe Way** partly because they represent the milestones that students pass on their journey with us but also because they epitomise the values of everyone at the college.

Behaving and Learning The Minsthorpe Way

Minsthorpe
Community College

Our EXPECTATIONS

Be on time
Equipment, planner and uniform in place
Follow instructions
Actively listen to staff and students
Involve yourselves fully to help each other learn
Respect others' ideas by not shouting out

The 6 Rs

RESPONSIBLE
RESILIENT
RESPECT
RESOURCEFUL
REFLECTIVE
REASONING





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**Believe
Achieve
Succeed
Enjoy
Support**



“Parents spoke very highly of the support they and their children get from the College and the positive comments they receive regularly about progress, behaviour and attitudes”.
BASIC SKILLS QUALITY MARK 2016

Believe



“The College understands the close relationship between achievement, attainment, student behaviour, attendance and social emotional skills.”
PUPIL PREMIUM PRACTICE REVIEW 2015



Believe

Always believe that you can achieve

This is the student motto. Our broad, balanced and personalised curriculum offers a range of subjects and is responsive to the needs of all students of all ages, whilst developing their skills to become successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.

The two year Key Stage 3 curriculum is underpinned by the focus on Skills for Learning, supported by the cross-curricular subject Learning 4 Life. Both academic and vocational courses are on offer at Key Stage 4, with the opportunity for students to continue studying the same courses in Post 16, plus further additional academic and vocational subjects. The college operates an open entry sixth-form policy providing appropriate opportunities for all students to continue their studies at all levels.

As proud and active members of the Minsthorpe Primary Partnership, we start early with our younger learners in the primary feeder schools to ensure that every child has a smooth transition to Minsthorpe Community College. This is successfully delivered through an extensive package of primary liaison and joint project work and was a feature praised highly during our last two Ofsted inspections.



Post 16 and
Adult Education Centre

Part of the South East Community

"Teaching is good. Students are effectively challenged and engaged in developing their knowledge, skills and understanding. Standards reached by students are rising quickly. Students, given their starting points, achieve well in English, mathematics and across a wide range of other subjects."
OFSTED 2014

"Students are involved in their own assessment and are given time to reflect on their successes in learning and negotiate targets for future learning and achievement."

BASIC SKILLS QUALITY MARK 2016



Achieve

Intelligence is learnable

Those who succeed in any walk of life are often those people who put in effort, work hard and use the right techniques to overcome difficulties.

They also persevere when challenged to understand and solve problems, especially when these are problems that they cannot easily overcome. Successful people learn from failure and become more resilient as a result.

At Minsthorpe we believe that learners' ability is not fixed, but can be developed by the conditions of learning.

We have an unshakeable belief in the potential of all our young people and believe passionately in their capacity to grow, learn and improve. So we encourage our students to see that intelligence is learnable and can be developed through hard work and skilful practice and, by providing students with a growth mindset, they understand that success in learning depends on effort as much as ability. Motivation is a key driver to achieving success in both learning and life and we have a mission to develop character at this college.

"The overall effectiveness of the sixth form is good. Almost all students who leave the college progress to further education, employment or training. The numbers going to university have risen year-on-year and almost all students who do are the first individuals from their family to go onto higher education."
OFSTED 2014

"Students follow pathways which enable them to gain accreditation and achieve academic qualifications appropriate to their ability."

BASIC SKILLS QUALITY MARK 2016



The support for students and their well-being is very strong in the college. Our highly personalised curriculum continues to adapt to support our changing cohorts' needs, from students with special educational needs to our more able learners.

The college firmly believes in excellent provision for all. The curriculum offers a range of pathways targeted at differing students' needs, and provides excellent opportunities for success whether it is academic, sporting, artistic, or personal. We also ensure that students benefit from a wide ranging extracurricular programme and that there is Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development for all.

Succeed

Success for all

Our partnership with Sheffield Hallam University and position as Lead School in the Yorkshire Three Counties Alliance School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) allows us, with other Federation schools, to train outstanding teachers for the future. Students will be able to return to the college after successfully gaining degrees from their chosen universities to train as teachers. In addition the student-led College Action Teams offer dynamic and meaningful leadership opportunities which support our students in empowering themselves and their local and wider communities. We recognise, reward and celebrate each of our students' steps, hurdles and leaps on their journey to success.

Succeed

"Students listen attentively, cooperate with their classmates and answer questions willingly. They show an eagerness to learn and are curious enough to ask questions around the topic being explored."

OFSTED 2014

"Pupils were well supported in lessons and the atmosphere was industrious and productive with students enjoying their learning."

BASIC SKILLS QUALITY MARK 2016



Enjoy

Learning without limits

We have a very cohesive programme of SMSC development, which is complemented by a diverse programme of extra-curricular opportunities, and a positive climate for learning exists at the college.

We are proud of the variety of extended and extra-curricular activities that we offer, from supporting the local community and charities to skiing in the Austrian Alps. Our students apply themselves positively to their learning and all aspects of college life.

They also demonstrate their eagerness to learn outside the classroom and are proud to represent the college in a number of creative, enterprising and sporting arenas.

Students in all year groups say they feel very safe. They say bullying is rare and that they have every confidence, should any occur, that the adults in the college would deal with it effectively. Students are clear about how to stay safe when using the internet and mobile communications due to the extensive eSafety work that we do. Parents are also positive about the college's work and confirm students' views about safety.



"Students are proud of their college, dress smartly and work hard. Their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted well. Students are sensitive to each other's needs and support one another well."

OFSTED 2014



"The College personalises their approach to remove the barriers for the most vulnerable, as well as targeting students for intervention on an individual basis, showing it's a truly inclusive college."

PUPIL PREMIUM PRACTICE
REVIEW 2015


Support

Everyone a learner, everyone a leader

All students play an active role in Student Voice, participating in and contributing to decision making in a range of issues involving Learning and Teaching, pastoral care, rewards and extra-curricular activities. The college's high expectations are clearly communicated to all in an uncompromising fashion and are followed up through rigorous self-evaluation and quality assurance procedures.

The college's strong advice, guidance and information arrangements ensure that all students know what to do next with regards education, training or employment.

Our students truly are life-long learners and our excellent Science facilities have created opportunities not otherwise available for our students, such as placements for students seeking particular careers. Many of these have been supported through their participation in our highly successful Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Programme. Each year we have an increasing trend of the number of students going on to higher education and this is a testament to the high aspirations we have for our students.



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