

# Vocational education



## Have your say!

Students all over South Yorkshire are benefiting from vocational education. Here's what just a few of them have got to say about it.

### Why vocational education?

"I wanted to do the course because it opens up a wide variety of jobs in business and accounting."

**Johnny, Business**

"Hopefully this course will help me get to college to do what I want to do and hopefully I'll go to university and then find a job."

**Reece, Joinery**

"I want to go into the business side of travel and tourism, like management and working with customers. I'm really interested in travel and that so I thought, why not? Go straight into it and get the experience now rather than later."

**Amy, Travel and Tourism**

"The placement gives me an opportunity to learn how to use Apple Macs and lots of different programs in Apple Macs, to help me in jobs in the future."

**Kirsty, Applied Art**

"I'm hoping to join the RAF as an engineer when I leave school, and that needs a degree, pretty much. So I'm going to start here and work my way through college and go on to university hopefully. My family are really pleased with the path I've taken."

**Joe, Engineering**

## What's involved?

“The course covers a lot of different sectors in the industry, cruise sector, management business, holiday rep, and even cabin crew. It gives you a lot of opportunities.”

**Amy, Travel and Tourism**

“If you're not confident they'll support you and give you advice. They help you do things. They teach you everything you want to know.”

**Damian, Catering and Hospitality**

“It's 60% coursework, which I am better at, so I knew this course would suit me better and it's only 40% towards the exam.”

**Anam, Applied Science**

“It's fun and you get to go on a lot of trips. You get to meet loads of people from college because there are two groups in ours. It's quite hard work but once you've done it you feel good with yourself.”

**Josh, Business**

“Even commuting to college is something you have to do in the real world, so even simple things like that. Plus you get to learn about different work in the industry and put it into practice as well.”

**Mark, Travel and Tourism**

## What makes it different?

“We haven't got pressured into doing it – it's our own choice, so it's something we're enjoying doing.”

**Johnny, Business**

“Some of the tutors have been holiday reps, some have worked in travel agents and been air cabin crew, so they can bring that experience and teach us.”

**Mark, Travel and Tourism**

“I think it's better that there aren't exams because I seem to cope better with more practical work than exam work.”

**Kirsty, Applied Art**

“It’s a lot more laid back in its approach. We’re treated like adults. We have to call our tutors by their first name; it’s Neil and Roger, it’s not Mr so-and-so.”

**Joe, Engineering**

“The more I learn about it the more I want to do it. It makes you really confident about higher education as well. We go on lots of trips and we have visitors in, talking about their experience in the industry. There’s always something different going on.”

**Amy, Travel and Tourism**

### **Why is it so good?**

“I really like it here because they’re nice people, you learn what it’s like to be in a work environment and you get your qualifications out of it.”

**Damian, Catering and Hospitality**

“That’s one of the main things here – it prepares you for work. Not just engineering. There may be an opportunity to have people in from our relevant career paths. For me it would be the RAF. They’re going to come in and explain what it will be like. Like a recruiting officer.”

**Joe, Engineering**

“I think the course is a very good course to do and I enjoyed it – it was a lot of fun. I was learning different things; it was a whole new experience to me so I really enjoyed it.”

**Anam, Applied Science**

“I really get on with the people at the course. They’re kind and you can have a laugh with them. They’re hard-working people. You get told to do things here but it’s more laid back. You can have a talk to your tutor first.”

**Ryan, Painting and Decorating**

“It’s just helped me to find out what it is like to be at work and do more stuff that we won’t do at school. I do think I’ll work harder here, because at the end I want to get the grades. I’ll be a bit more ahead in what I want to do if I’ve already got a qualification for it, if I’ve already done some of it.”

**Fabian, Engineering**