



Why choose Birtenshaw College?

Birtenshaw College offers adults between the ages of 16 to 25, who may find it difficult to access mainstream college courses due to the level of support they require or the challenges of the environment, a unique opportunity to access education and training to suit their individual needs.

We offer care and support to young adults with a moderate to severe learning disability and/or complex health needs, in conjunction with:

- Autistic Spectrum Disorder
- Communication difficulties
- Multi-sensory impairment
- Significant medical conditions
- Physical impairment
- Behaviours that some may find challenging.

We know it is a very special place, but don't take our word for it



What do learners say about Birtenshaw College?

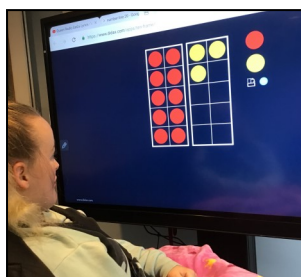
I am more independent. I can now go on the bus, train and tram on my own.
(Haydn)



I think college has supported me so far. Thanks to them, I have improved any skills that have needed developing, such as cooking and communication, and have gotten a voluntary job at Café Create. (Cameron)



I love it. I like maths.
(Darcy)



I get more independent learning time and can follow a unique timetable without distraction.
(Amber)

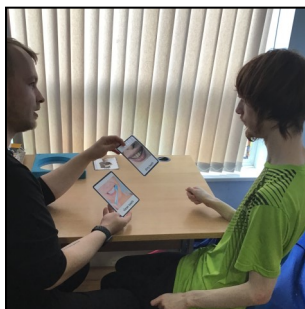


It's like a second home and gives me opportunities to do different things. The staff are amusing and friendly.
(Charlotte)

I have plenty of friends. I like going to the Birtenshaw Gym. It's good for you because I do some weights in there. I do enjoy doing some work experience at Believe and Achieve. I like everything at the college. (Jamie)

Curriculum

Most learners attend College three days each week and each learner follows the curriculum pathway best suited to their needs and aspirations, as stated in their Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs):



Communication and Choice Pathway

(Pre-Entry M1-M4)

Progression Focus: developing communication, life skills and the ability to make choices.

The curriculum is based on the Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) outcomes:

- Employment
- Independent Living
- Friends, Relationships and Community

Learning for Life Pathway

(Pre-Entry M4-M8 / Entry Level 1, 2 and 3)

Progression Focus: communication, increased independence and development of employability skills for voluntary work.



Employability Pathway

(Entry Level 1 – Level 2)

Progression Focus: increased independence and preparation for paid employment.



What does Ofsted say about Birtenshaw College?

Learners are happy at college.
They enjoy taking part in new experiences.
They say it's fun to be a learner.

Learners transition to college is rigorous.

Learners develop their independence over time.

Learners transfer the skills they develop to their home.



The positive culture around protecting and supporting young people is evident across college.

Learners feel safe.

Learners grow in confidence and become less anxious when travelling.

Learners welcome the help and support they receive from staff, who know them very well.



Wellbeing

Birtenshaw College has achieved the **Wellbeing Award**, a national quality standard for the promotion of positive emotional wellbeing and mental health (EWMH).

Parent

Carer

Voice



I don't know what you do at Birtenshaw but it works.

What do parents/carers say about Birtenshaw College?



His spoken communication has definitely improved and he is keen to try new words.

His conversational and literacy skills have improved since attending college and he seems overall more confident.



He's standing taller and we couldn't be more pleased with his glow.

Work Experience

Work experience is an opportunity to introduce young people to the world of work, and layer up the skills needed to help them into employment in the future. We believe that, through effective partnership working, the barriers that currently prevent young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) from accessing work experience, can be broken down to ensure that lives can be changed – one experience at a time.

Birtenshaw College has achieved Fair Train's **Work Experience Quality Standard at Gold level**.



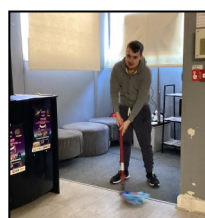
Oscar has gained paid employment at The Last Drop Village Hotel and Spa.

He has listened to instructions and guidance well and has asked questions to clarify if he is unsure about the instruction. He is a lovely young man and would be an asset to any catering establishment. (Café Create)



Learners are developing their knowledge and understanding of working with animals and becoming more independent in doing so. (Heyhead Farm)

He has a good knowledge of the mechanics of washing machines, what all the parts do and their role in the mechanics. (Bob's Washing Machines)



We really value learners support in enabling other young people to enjoy our facilities. (Believe, Achieve CIC)

Facilities

Birtenshaw College is a fully accessible and autism-friendly college for young adults with SEND, providing a calm environment through low stimulus décor and lighting, safe indoor and outdoor sensory spaces and independent work rooms.



We are also able to regularly access the hydrotherapy pool at the nearby Birtenshaw



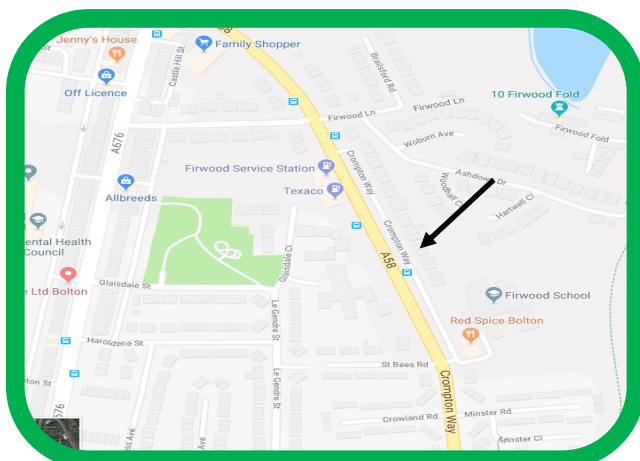
The college is set in spacious grounds which provide for land-based activities, with a smallholding providing opportunity for outdoor learning through horticulture, animal care, habitat management and small-scale woodworking.



The inclusive Sports Facilities operated by Birtenshaw, including the Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and outside gym, provide a safe environment for learners to participate in exercise and fitness and allows learners to safely access a range of sports, for example, football and basketball.

The college is securely fenced and has security doors throughout the entire building.

Essential Information



Birtenshaw College (Bolton)

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Registered Charity 1092798

Website: www.birtenshaw.org.uk