



REDCAR & CLEVELAND COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Autumn 2010

Creating the future

Welcome to the latest edition of Insight, the newsletter which keeps parents and guardians of school leavers up-to-date on college developments.

Redcar & Cleveland College prides itself on meeting the individual needs of its students, ensuring care and attention is given throughout their study to help achieve the best result possible. We also advise parents and guardians about their son or daughter's progress on a regular basis.

We want to help create a skilled and talented workforce for the future and to help young people equip themselves with the latest knowledge, which is why we have invested in state-of-the-art technology and software in our new Higher Education Centre.

This edition contains the latest information and news from the college, including important dates for the diary, a review of the summer schools programme and an update on the college's prestigious HE Centre.

Work hard, play hard



Redcar & Cleveland College offers the perfect balance of work and play for students of all ages.

Not only does it provide a creative learning environment with access to the latest resources, technology and courses, it allows students to grow and develop through its support programme and comprehensive range of activities.

Personal tutors ensure that every student is looked after throughout their



"The college is well looked after, and the facilities are fantastic. The library, for example, is an excellent resource for researching purposes."

Peter Farrell
Joinery Diploma Level 3
Ex Rye Hills School



studies and that they get the best of out their course and time spent at college.

When study time is over, students can look forward to a wide variety of leisure pursuits to suit all levels and interests, ranging from sports, days out and visits abroad, through its 'Join' programme.



Diplomas offer a real alternative for students

Diplomas are a range of new courses offered at Redcar & Cleveland College, which are designed specifically to offer 14-19 year olds a different and hands-on learning experience.

The Diploma, a new Government-backed qualification, combines theoretical study with practical experience aimed at equipping young people for the fast changing world they are growing up in.

Redcar & Cleveland College offers Diplomas in a range of subjects including:

- Construction and the Built Environment
- Retail Business
- Engineering
- Hair and Beauty Studies
- Society, Health and Development
- Travel and Tourism



The courses develop students' skills in areas such as communication, problem-solving, creative thinking and project management, as well as English, Maths and ICT – which employers and universities really value.

They are offered at three levels:



- Foundation – equivalent to five GCSEs grade D-G
- Higher – equivalent to five GCSEs grade A*-C
- Advanced – equivalent to three and a half A Levels

Courses for those aged 14 – 16 are offered in partnership with local secondary schools and are delivered alongside students' school based

GCSEs. For those aged 16 - 18 the Diplomas are offered as a full-time one or two year programme.

More information on Diploma courses can be found on the college's website at www.cleveland.ac.uk, or you can request a copy of the college's information booklet on Diplomas by calling **01642 473132**.



"I love my course and the tutors are excellent, always here to help and talk to us. I feel encouraged and motivated to progress onto university."

Kirstie Louise Doy

Travel and Tourism, BTEC National Diploma Level 3

Expressway offers an alternative route to University

Redcar & Cleveland College has partnered with Teesside University to offer its students a new and clearer progression route through to degree courses with its Expressway scheme.



The scheme gives students the chance to study on a course that offers a ready made route through a university course by allowing them to study a number of degree level modules whilst still at college.

Students study for a BTEC National Diploma course at Level 3, which is equivalent to achieving three traditional A Levels.

Expressways are available in areas including Engineering and Technology; Computing, Animation and Digital Media; Applied Science; Forensic Science; Humanities and Social Sciences; Health and Social Care and The Business School.

More details of the Expressway scheme can be found on the college's website at www.cleveland.ac.uk or by calling **01642 473132**.



Talented students showcase their skills at art and design exhibition



Talented students showed off their flair for all things creative when they hosted an art and

design exhibition at their college.

The students at Redcar & Cleveland College invited family, friends and prospective students into their classroom to look at the impressive

display of work they had completed during the last year.

45 exhibitors made up of first and second year BTEC Level 3 students put together the varied exhibition, involving photography, 3D design, textiles, ceramics, drawing, printing and graphic design.

Kay Lillystone was particularly proud of her abstract wall mural, which was inspired by her ideas and thoughts about industry.

The 18-year-old, from Marske, who is hoping to be a teacher, said: "My



favourite piece of work came out of the industry project because I could really add my personality to it.

I have loved doing this college course and have learned so much. I am looking forward to going to Teesside University, but will miss everyone here."



Reach for the stars with Aimhigher courses

Crime scene investigation and fitness testing are just some of the activities on offer this October for Year 8 pupils at a series of vocational Masterclasses created by Aimhigher Tees Valley.

Pupils interested in careers in forensic science, childcare, hair and beauty, public services or sports and exercise can apply to attend Masterclasses at Redcar & Cleveland College on 19th October from 4pm until 6pm.

Commissioned by Aimhigher, a national campaign to raise aspirations in young people, the Masterclasses are designed to introduce pupils to the possibilities of further education and offer a unique chance to access the specialist facilities and teaching staff normally reserved for post-16 students.

As part of the Aimhigher programme, earlier in the summer students were involved in a two-day Aimhigher 'Summer School' to get a flavour of life as a college student.

Students were then invited to choose two of six taster courses, ranging from Retail Business to Hairdressing



and got the chance to try out the courses and learn new skills.

Karl Miller from Redcar Community College who attended the two day course, said: "My taster was very enjoyable and the tutors were very helpful."

Eston Park School student Jake Watson said: "The tutors were amazing to work with and the sessions were excellent!"

Tasting the college student life!

Almost 300 school leavers got to experience being a student at Redcar & Cleveland College when they took part in a series of 'Taster' sessions earlier this summer.

The students, from six schools around Redcar, were given the opportunity to find out what studying for a qualification at Redcar & Cleveland College could mean for them and were able to meet tutors and students.

With a selection of over 19 taster courses on offer, ranging from painting and decorating to computer games design, young people from Years 9 to 11 who were interested in studying a vocational course were able to get hands-on experience, including learning about 3D modelling for characters in films and computer games.

The tasters were a hit with the students, with 78% of people rating the sessions as excellent. The helpfulness and friendliness of staff was also highlighted as excellent at 85% and 91%.

"The tutors made the taster session very interesting and gave me an insight into College life"

Amanda Gill

Redcar Community College, Health and Social Care taster

Hi-tech Higher Education Centre leads the way

This September, Redcar & Cleveland College's new Higher Education Centre opened its doors for the first time to students.

The £3m centre, which has been jointly funded by Teesside University and the Sir William Turner Trust, will cater for the growing number of students who wish to progress through college into higher education and will focus upon providing courses within the growing science, technology, engineering and mathematics sector.

Furthermore, having been recognised for its expertise by being named the Learning and Skills Improvement Service (LSIS) Regional Centre for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects, the college is in the unique position within the region of being able to offer higher education courses within these subjects, which have been accredited to the highest levels.

State-of-the-art equipment including the latest Computer Aided Design software, robotics and 3D technology will be installed in the centre's classrooms and workshops ensuring that students receive their training using the most cutting edge facilities available.

College Principal Gary Groom said: "With the Higher Education Centre now open, we are widening the opportunities for the people of Redcar to participate in education and training. The specialist STEM subjects on offer will be critical to aiding the long term recovery and boosting the prosperity of our local economy."

For further information, please visit the College website at www.cleveland.ac.uk

FREE Travel

All our full-time students under the age of 19 can travel **FREE** to and from college on coaches running throughout the area.

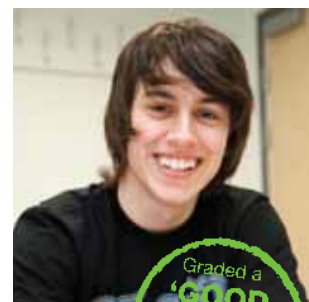
For more information and a copy of the timetable visit our website.



Choose a 'Good' College

Officially graded as a 'good' college in a recent Ofsted report, you can be sure that Redcar & Cleveland College offers the chance to raise students' aspirations and exceed their expectations.

With the move to its £28m new campus in September 2008, the college offers the opportunity for young people to develop and to learn new skills in a world class learning environment, supported by a team experienced staff.



Steps to Enrolment

1. Choosing the course

The College offers friendly and impartial advice on all course and career options prior to enrolment. More information can be requested from our Student Services by calling **01642 473132**. We also have Careers Guidance Advisors available to speak with.

2. Making an application

Forms can be requested by calling **01642 473132** or by visiting www.cleveland.ac.uk/courses/how-do-i-apply/apply-online.

3. Coming for an interview

Prospective students will be invited for interview. Here they get the chance to ask questions and parents are also welcome to come along.

4. Enrolling

Once the offer of a place on a course has been received and accepted, the college will keep in touch until the time for enrolment.

Open Evenings

A great opportunity to come and speak to tutors and current students, find out about our wide range of courses and see our excellent facilities.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 20th October 2010

5pm to 8pm

Wednesday 16th February 2011

5pm to 8pm