

Annual Report

2014-15



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I took up my post as Chief Executive and Principal of Barnsley College in September 2015, taking over the reins from Colin Booth OBE who had served the college for six years and made it one of the most successful in the country.

The 2014-15 academic year saw the completion and development of many major capital projects, including the opening of our Construction Centre in September 2015 and the progress of the new Sixth Form College campus, due to open in January 2016.

It was a proud moment when in the spring of 2015, the Skills Funding Agency report showed Barnsley College's success rates to be the best in the region, and among the best in the country. The report showed the college's overall success rates in the 2013-14 academic year were 86.2%, making it the number one Further Education (FE) college in the South Yorkshire region while Apprenticeship course success rates were 87.5%, putting the college 5th in the country.

Although we are very successful, Barnsley College is always striving to try new things and in April 2015 we were the first college in the country to launch a crowdfunding website, BCKickstart. The project offers students from college and University Campus Barnsley (UCB) an opportunity to raise funds for a range of business ideas and projects.

Staying on the innovation theme, we were delighted to open a new Innovation Hub in June 2015 following the announcement of the college as one of the founding Further Education Colleges to join the Fujitsu and Intel Ambassador Programme. You can read more about the Hub on page 25.

Throughout the year, the Senior Management Team continued to drive the growth of Higher Education provision at UCB and we are pleased to be offering a wider range of courses, opening up education opportunities for more people in the region.

Having worked at Barnsley College for more than four years as Deputy Principal, I am now proud to be at the helm of one of the best colleges in the country. At the heart of any successful organisation are fantastic staff and I am excited to be working with one of the best teams in the sector to shape education in Barnsley and beyond.

I hope you enjoy reading about our achievements this year and I am very much looking forward to working in collaboration with our wide range of stakeholders to deliver excellent outcomes for all our students.

**Christopher Webb
Chief Executive and Principal**

Vision, Purpose, Values and Drivers

Vision, Purpose, Values and Drivers

The world is changing all around us. For the college to continue to thrive over the next ten years and beyond, we must look ahead, understand the trends and forces that, in the future, will shape our business and we must move swiftly to prepare for what's to come.

We must get ready for tomorrow today!

That's what our Vision, Purpose, Values, Drivers and Strategic Priorities are all about. The Vision and Purpose creates the long-term destination for Barnsley College, the Public Value Statement, Values, Drivers and Strategic Priorities provide us with a 'roadmap' for achieving our vision.

College Vision

To be a world class tertiary college.

Our Vision serves as the ultimate destination for the college; it frames our ambitions and expectations and provides a clear long term goal.

Purpose

Our purpose defines what our staff do every day that they work for Barnsley College.

To ensure that all our students:

- **Have a great time**
- **Pass their exams**
- **Progress to work or Higher Education**

Values and Drivers

Our Values and Drivers serve as a compass for our actions and describe how we behave in the world.

College Values

- **Aspirational with heart**
- **Down to earth with huge ambition**
- **High performing but with soul**
- **Everyone together, whilst supporting the individual**
- **Contemporary**

Management Drivers

- **Energy and enjoyment**
- **Few rules, clear boundaries**
- **Pride and ambition**
- **Ownership and high performance**
- **Responsibility and accountability**

Public Value Statement

"To position Barnsley College as a catalyst for educational, economic and social change in the South Yorkshire region."

Barnsley College is committed to being actively involved in the economic, social and cultural development of our community. This is through collaborative partnership working and the innovative engagement and creation of opportunities for the practical benefit of the people, businesses and communities that we serve.

Senior Management Team and Governors

Senior Management Team 2014-15

- Colin Booth OBE
Principal (to September 2015)
- Chris Webb
Deputy Principal - Development and Finance (from September 2015 - Chief Executive and Principal)
- Vince Dalton
Vice Principal – Funding, Data and Compliance
- Andrew Fairest
Vice Principal – Property Development (to November 2015)
- Dave Harding
Vice Principal – Quality and Adults
- Tony Johnson
Vice Principal – Corporate Services
- Jenny Miccoli
Vice Principal – Teaching, Learning and Student Support
- Palvinder Singh
Vice Principal – Communications and Recruitment (to November 2015)

Board of Governors 2014-15

- Gordon Beever
- Peter Bird **(staff)**
- Colin Booth OBE
- Nick Bowen
- Simon Brian
- Steven Burkinshaw **(student)**
- Robert Dewar
- Roger Eccleston
- Andrew Eckford
- Paul Helm
- Gus McSkimming
- Clare Partridge
- Roya Pourali
- David Shepherd
- Michael Taylor
- Josie Thirkell **(Chair)**
- Sara Turton
- Gary Vaughton
- Jayne Ward **(student)**
- Mia Wesson **(staff)**

Strategic Priorities 2014-15

Areas where we want to drive change or improvement and where progress will be closely monitored by the board.

We aimed to:

- Deliver significant improvement in value added through assessment, feedback and target setting.
- Develop an outstanding Sixth Form College that is a first choice A Level provider.
- Develop outstanding learning inside and outside formal classrooms and workshops using ILT.
- Significantly improve English and maths.
- Grow high level STEM and construction courses.
- Respond to changes in apprenticeship funding and deliver significant growth.
- Develop excellent careers and IAG services.



Students' Union

Students' Union Barnsley is run by a Student Executive Committee of ten members who are elected each year by their peers. The committee follow the constitution and aim to advance the education of their members (the student body) by promoting the interests and welfare of the students.

The union runs over both Further Education and Higher Education and offers two hubs for students to meet and use the recreational facilities.

During 2014-15 Students' Union Barnsley engaged with learners at the college and

**STUDENTS'
UNION
BARNESLEY**

university campus through various methods such as multi-site roadshows, events, societies and charity work.

- 852 students voted in the SU elections, an increase of 52% from the previous year.
- Over £1,000 was raised for various charities including Red Nose Day, Help for Heroes, Children In Need, Wear it Pink and Marie Curie.
- 107 presents were donated in the Christmas present drop for Age UK and Home Start.

Progression Statistics

The 2014-15 progression data shows the percentage of students from each department who have gone on to work or further study after completing their course at Barnsley College.



Facts and Figures

(as at 31 July 2015 unless otherwise stated)

Our Staff

805

The number of staff we employed (712 FTE)

3%

Staff from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups

60%

The percentage of female staff

5%

Staff who consider themselves to have a disability

Our Students

8,939*

The total number of students enrolled in 2014-15

59%

The percentage of full-time students

85%

Overall student success rate

42%

Students who were 19+ years

48%

The percentage of male students

15%

Students who consider themselves to have a learning difficulty or disability

6%

Students from Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups

44%

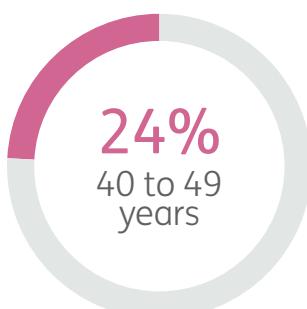
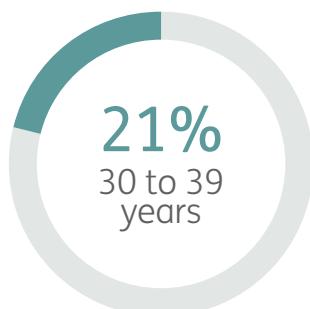
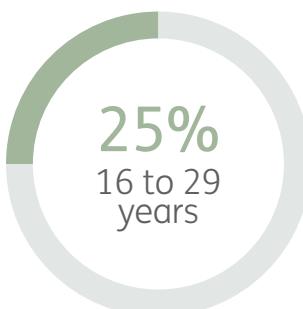
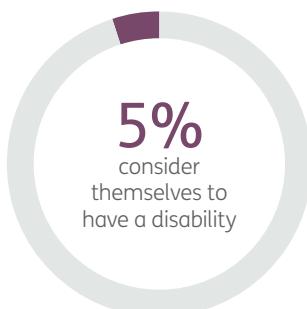
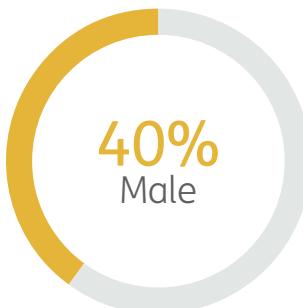
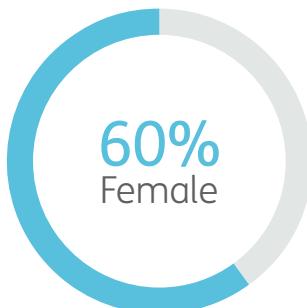
Students on Level 3 courses

* This figure does not include 3,241 learners on short Skills for Jobs courses and support.

Our Staff

Barnsley College Staff profile 2014-2015

Total number of staff: 805

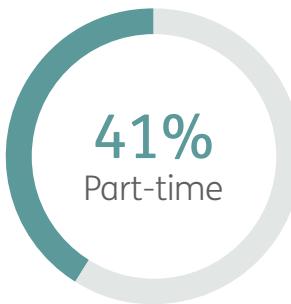
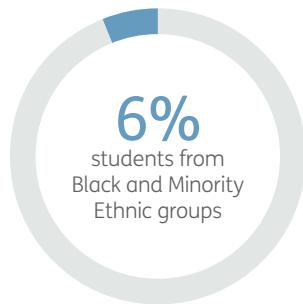
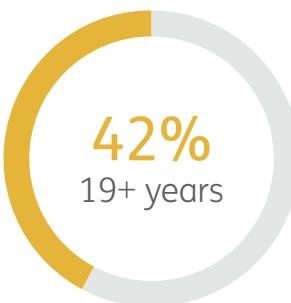
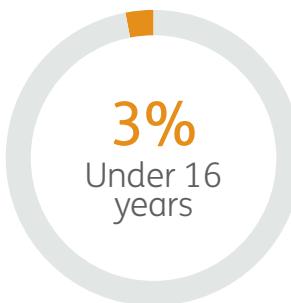
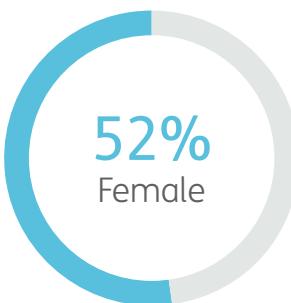
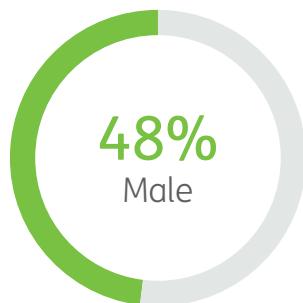


Our Students

Our students are at the heart of everything we do and our wide range of provision ensures there is a study programme for everyone. The following pages give information on the types of course and levels our students take as well as details of their diversity and success rates.

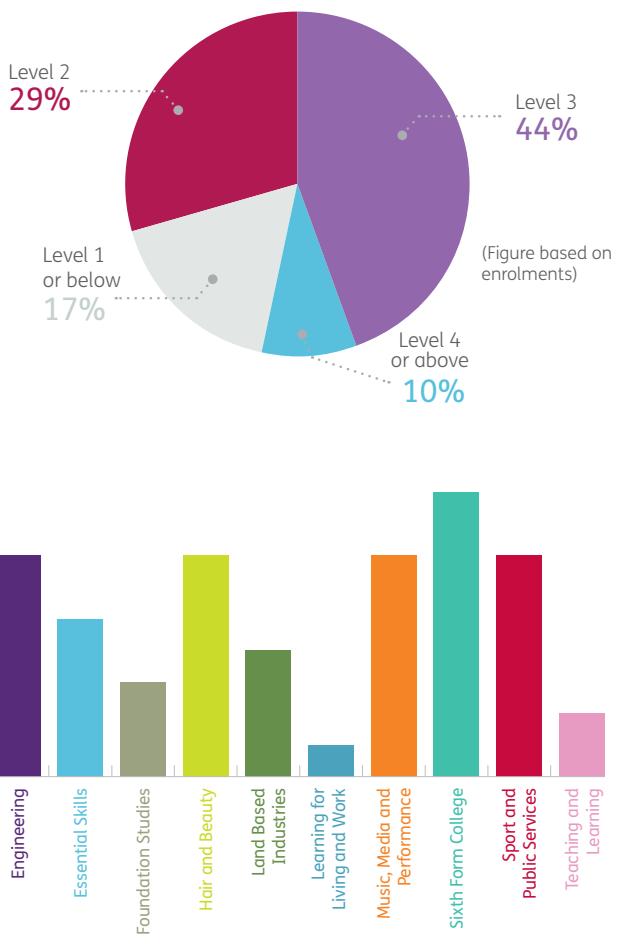
In 2014-15 we had 8,939* students

(Figures based on actual bodies)



* This figure does not include 3,241 learners on short Skills for Jobs courses and support.

Subject areas



What our students say...

99%

said they are learning in a safe environment

97%

said the college has a positive learning culture

95%

said the college staff are friendly and helpful

97%

said the teaching on their course was good

93%

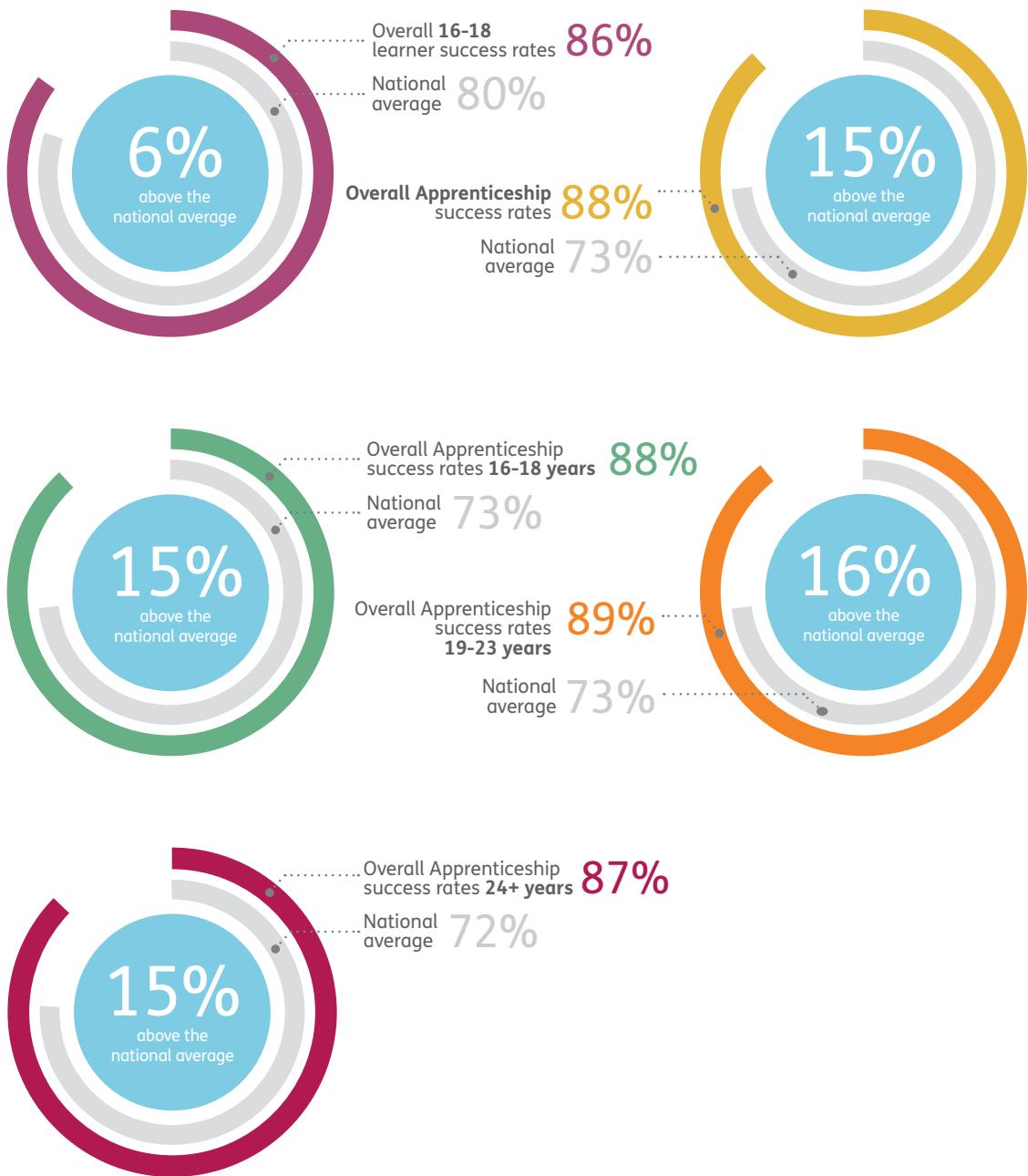
said they would recommend Barnsley College to a friend

96%

said that their teachers know their subjects well

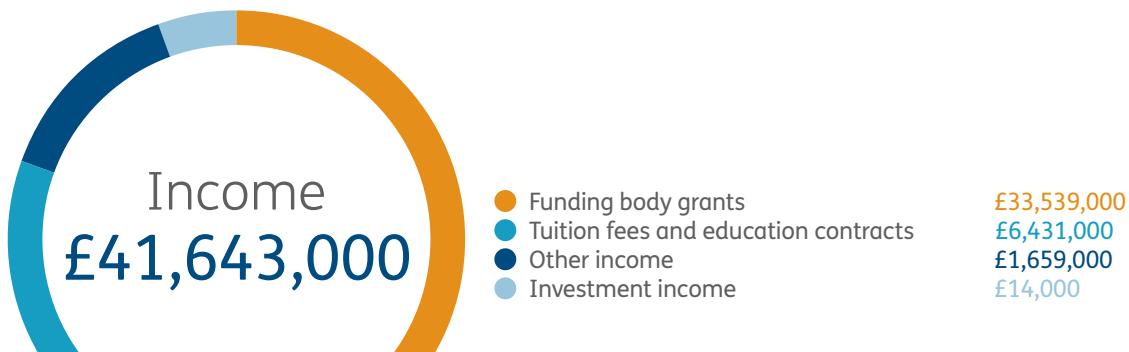
Statistics from the Exit Survey 2014-15 and Learner Survey 2015.

Success Rates



Finance 2014-2015

- In 2014-15 the college generated an operating surplus of £3,207,000.
- The college invested £24,647,000 in capital projects.



- Staff costs
- Other operating expenses
- Depreciation
- Interest payable and other finance costs
- Impairment and demolition costs

£22,944,000
£10,926,000
£3,740,000
£719,000
£107,000



Helping people into jobs

Apprenticeships

Our final published success rates for 2013-14 placed the college as the number one apprenticeship provider within South Yorkshire. We are also one of the top five providers nationally for apprenticeship success.

During 2014-15, we:

- Helped over 1,900 people to study for an apprenticeship.
- Worked with 800 employers including Leeds City Council, Bigfoot Digital and 1st Horizon to deliver specialist recruitment support and training.
- Developed and introduced a number of new apprenticeship programmes including:
 - Commercial Moving
 - Driving Goods Vehicles
 - Supply Chain Management
 - Traffic Office
 - Horse Care
 - Internal Systems
 - Laboratory Technician
 - Photo Imaging
 - Public Relations
 - Social Media for Business

Our 2014-15 overall success rates were 88% - that's 15% above the national average.

Winning Partnerships

The college continues to develop effective relationships with partner organisations which enables us to provide our employers with outstanding provision and service.

The college has exceptional partnerships with:

- Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (AMRC) – now in its third year, the college delivers the Level 3 BTEC Engineering programmes to the AMRC apprentices;
- Education providers – the college works with over 50 schools and the University of Sheffield to offer over 100 apprenticeship opportunities;
- NHS – as a regional preferred provider, the college now delivers over 200 apprenticeships with a number of NHS Trusts including:
 - Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
 - Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust

- Hull Royal Infirmary (Humber NHS Foundation Trust)
- Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
- Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust
- Scunthorpe General Hospital (North Lincolnshire and Goole NHS Trust)
- Sheffield Children's Hospital
- Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
- South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Supporting Barnsley's Apprenticeship Pledge

During Apprenticeship Week 2013, Barnsley College supported the One Barnsley business group to launch Barnsley's Apprenticeship Pledge. The Pledge is a commitment from businesses to employ 2.5% of their workforce in apprenticeship positions.

Since the Pledge was launched, over 400 businesses have pledged their support, employing over 800 apprentices. The success of the Pledge was cemented when it was crowned the winner of the Community Impact Award at the Barnsley and Rotherham Business Awards 2014 and most recently, it was the winner of the Corporate Social Responsibility/Environmental Award at Sheffield's City Region Awards 2015.



Estates Report



Capital Projects in 2014-15

- Works were completed on the new Construction Centre at the Honeywell site in September 2015. The £10.8m development includes specialist workshops for brickwork, plastering, dry lining, wall insulation, roofing, joinery, painting and decorating, plumbing, gas assessment, tiling and professional studies.
- The final phase of the £3.7m refurbishment of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) centre on Old Mill Lane was completed. This includes excellent facilities for students

and staff including engineering and electrical workshops, laboratory facilities, learning zones containing computer equipment and reference materials and a new canteen.

- The second phase of the £900,000 development at Wigfield Farm including new classrooms and animal enclosures was completed.

Plans for 2015-16

- Our new £18m Barnsley Sixth Form College campus on St Mary's Place, Barnsley, will open in January 2016.



[The STEM Centre]



[The new Sixth Form campus, opening January 2016]

Success Stories



Motorsport students get involved at Brands Hatch

Level 3 Motorsport Extended Diploma students helped to prepare a Toyota MR3 Mark One racing car which was raced at Brands Hatch by professional racing driver Dave Hemingway in Spring 2015.

The students performed a number of checks to ensure the car was ready for racing which included taking out the suspension, head gasket and other parts, inspecting them and repairing any faults before refitting them.

Students then had the opportunity to accompany Dave and Motor Sport tutor Matt Coggins to a professional race at Brands Hatch where they worked as part of the pit crew to prepare the car for each race at the event.

New Barnsley Sixth Form College campus

Building of the new Barnsley Sixth Form College campus officially started at a ground-breaking ceremony in October 2014.

Barnsley manufactured steel forms the frame of the new campus and steelwork erection commenced at the site in November 2014, all made locally by Billington Structures, based in Wombwell.

The £18m campus on St Mary's Place in Barnsley town centre is due to open in January 2016 and will provide a first class learning environment for A Level students from South Yorkshire and beyond.

College staff and students were joined by Councillor Roy Miller and Executive Director Matthew Gladstone from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and representatives from BAM Construction to mark the start of building.



Students drive forward national campaign to engage with young drivers

Barnsley College students auditioned to appear in Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) publicity materials in October 2014.

Students taking Performing Arts and Film and Television courses were selected to take part in auditions to appear in YouTube videos and print and online publications as part of an initiative to help the DVSA engage with young drivers.

The students also appeared on the GOV.UK website and in informative video clips,

photographs and profiles to help learner drivers who are preparing for their driving test. The DVSA also plans to include students in script development for videos.

Sarah Scott, Deputy Head of Publishing at the DVSA, added: "We approached Barnsley College as it has an outstanding reputation and we were looking for students to help engage with new, young drivers. It has been great to speak with the students and they were a credit to the college."

Los Angeles Professor brings play to Barnsley College

Los Angeles Professor Larry Heimgartner visited Barnsley College in October 2014 as part of an ongoing exchange programme.

Larry, Professor Emeritus of Los Angeles Harbor College, visited with a group of actors from London to perform his touring play, 'Are you positive?' to students at the college. The performance, about HIV and Aids, has been performed all over the world including Europe, America and Africa. It is one of a series of social

productions for young people, which have included topics such as gang violence, alcohol and drug abuse and environmental issues.

The visit is the eighteenth consecutive year that the two colleges have been linked through their respective performing arts and media departments. Larry first met Jenny Miccoli, who is now Vice Principal for Teaching, Learning and Student Support at Barnsley College, when she was teaching at the college's Electric Theatre.



Dream career for Claire

Claire Bailey's decision to return to studying at Barnsley College has borne fruit after she passed her degree with flying colours and landed her first midwifery job in October 2014.

Claire, 45, started her journey towards achieving her long-standing ambition of becoming a midwife when she completed an Access to Higher Education (HE) course in Health and Nursing at the college, alongside studying Maths.

Having recently graduated with a first class degree in Midwifery Studies from the University of Huddersfield, Claire is now looking forward to fulfilling a childhood dream as she prepares to start her Rotational Midwife position at the Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust.

Claire, of Pilley Lane, Tankersley, said: "The college was the ideal place for me to study. The tutors really pushed me to get the best out of myself and the knowledge I gained while completing my Access course was extremely beneficial to me during my degree."



Students graduate in style

Students from University Campus Barnsley (UCB) and Barnsley College were honoured at their Graduation ceremony in November 2014.

Led by a local brass band, the students processed from the Old Mill Lane campus to The Civic and many members of the public and local businesses supported the students as they processed.

The ceremony, for those students who have completed Higher Education courses at UCB and Barnsley College over the last year, was attended by graduands, their guests and VIPs including senior college staff, His Worshipful the Mayor of

Barnsley Cllr Tim Shepherd, the High Sheriff JC Bramah Esq, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of South Yorkshire Mr Barry Eldred, and keynote speaker, author Milly Johnson.

Student Amy Jones, 22, graduated from a Level 4 Business Administration Apprenticeship. She said: "I really enjoyed the graduation ceremony. It was a great event and we were made to feel really special as graduands. My course has enabled me to secure a permanent job as a Business Development Assistant which I love doing."

Zombies throw students in at the deep end

Six Barnsley College Media Make-up students were part of a team of make-up artists creating hundreds of 'undead' for the annual Zombie Run at Worsbrough Mill and Country Park in November 2014.

Students Jessica Baker, Agata Peters, Leah Richardson, Amber Roberts, Jodie Simpson and Cherece Spencer prepared the volunteer zombies prior to the 5k race, which took runners through woodland, marshland, fields and man-made obstacles.

The runners were raising funds for Barnsley Hospital Charity and the aim of the run was to reach the finish line without being caught by the zombies. The students were invited to help with the preparation of the living dead to give the event a much more authentic feel using lots of blood and prosthetic skin.

Student Amber Roberts said: "It was an amazing experience and fab to work with other people from different backgrounds. It gave me a sense of reality!"

Rugby stars pass expertise to students

Players from Barnsley College's Rugby Academy received expert tips when Yorkshire Carnegie Rugby Club players Harry Casson and Matt Smith visited the college in December 2014.

Barnsley-based Matt and his fellow second row Harry ran a training session for a mixed group

of players, which covered techniques such as tackling and decision making, followed by a game where they were able to put these skills into practice.

The Rugby Academy is open to all students at Barnsley College, whether they are studying sport or not.



College lands Investors in Diversity Award

Barnsley College was recognised for its commitment to inclusion and diversity after receiving the Investors in Diversity Award.

The college was commended for its work in advancing inclusivity after a thorough assessment by the National Centre for Diversity (NCD), which granted Investors in Diversity status at Advanced Stage 2.

The NCD report praised the college for its 'exemplary practice' and the 'pivotal role' leaders have taken in advancing inclusivity within the college. The report highlighted the clear evidence provided by the college of consolidating practice on equality and diversity, particularly since 2012 when the Single Equality Scheme was produced.



New Construction Centre

By January 2015, work was well underway on the new £10.8 million Construction Centre at Barnsley College's Honeywell campus.

The new centre opened to students in September 2015, providing brand new, state of the art facilities for study in a range of construction trades, including brickwork, wall and floor tiling, plumbing, plastering, joinery, painting and decorating and technician studies.

Facilities include new workshops, classrooms and machinery incorporating a comprehensive IT network, supported by industry standard

software; a project workshop for new construction technologies; break out areas allowing students to work independently and dedicated student support encouraging positive progression into employment or further study.

Gavin Lee, Head of Construction Crafts at the college, said: "The new Construction Centre at Barnsley College provides world class training and facilities for local people to obtain the necessary skills and attributes in order to meet the significant growing demand in work opportunities, which also addresses the skills shortage in the sector."

The college has received an Enhanced Renewal Grant (ERG) from the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) covering a third of the cost of the project.



Catering students taste Gleneagles experience

Two Barnsley College catering apprentices sampled life in a fine dining environment during a work placement at the famous Gleneagles Hotel and Resort in March 2015.

Sean Dunne, 20, and Craig Gerrard, 18, spent two weeks at the 5 Star luxury golf hotel in Scotland where they worked in the hotel's grand 300-seat Strathearn Restaurant and in the less formal Deseo Restaurant, which serves Mediterranean dishes.

Sean said: "Spending two weeks at Gleneagles has given me a great deal of confidence. I was nervous beforehand but the level of organisation I experienced in the two restaurants put me at ease. I was really impressed by the planning that went into preparing for the events on which I worked, which included a breakfast for 300 guests."

Andrew Leaver, HR Services Manager at Gleneagles Hotel and Resort, added: "Sean and Craig immersed

themselves unreservedly into the Gleneagles environment. Gleneagles can be a daunting prospect for seasoned hoteliers but Sean and Craig seemed unfazed and quickly got to grips with challenges they were set, rotating through both the formal dining setting of the Strathearn and Deseo Restaurants with equal enthusiasm."



[Sean Dunne and Craig Gerrard]

College return sets Adam on new path

Barnsley College student Adam Briscoe completed a dramatic switch in his educational journey.

In June 2015, Adam was in the final stages of his Level 2 Children and Young People's Workforce course, having previously completed a Construction course at college.

The 24-year-old worked in the construction industry before having a change of heart and deciding to

return to the college and pursue a different avenue. A keen musician, he has used his musical talent to produce songs to develop children's abilities in reading and rhythm during work placements at Victoria Day Care Centre and the Kabuki Childcare Centre, both in Barnsley, which have been part of his course.

Adam said: "I have loved my course. It has been very good and working with the tutors has been enjoyable. The staff at both the centres where I have completed my work placements have been really helpful and it has been good to learn about using music to suit children's needs."

Business student lands dream job in China

Business Administration Apprentice Sally Jones left Barnsley for her dream job in China in February 2015.

Sally applied for the role of Marketing and Administration Assistant after it was advertised through Barnsley College's International Department. Sally is based in Jinling High School,

Nanjing, China. The college set up A Level provision in the Chinese school in September 2013 when it welcomed its first cohort of students.

The role will involve marketing the school and providing administrative support to the International Team.

Sally said: "It is going to be really challenging, I have always wanted to work abroad and this is my dream job. One of my hobbies is studying East Asian Ancient History and I think this helped me to land this exciting role."



[Rahila, Rhys and Mohammed]

University experience for A Level students

Three A Level students from Barnsley Sixth Form College secured places on prestigious access schemes at the University of Sheffield.

Rhys Proud and Mohammed Faizan earned places on SOAMS (Sheffield's Outreach and Access to Medicine Scheme) while Rahila Rafiq gained a place on the ADOPT scheme (Access to Dental Occupations – Practical and Tutoring).

Both programmes are for students interested in a career in medicine or dentistry who may be from backgrounds under-represented in Higher Education and each year the programmes receive

hundreds of applications from students across the South Yorkshire, North Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire region. The schemes provide an opportunity to work with current university students, get a taste of the kind of work done on the courses and take additional A Level revision sessions.

Students who complete the SOAMS or ADOPT schemes are guaranteed an interview for a Medicine or Dentistry course at the University of Sheffield, subject to gaining the minimum required A Level grades.

Rhys said: "I enjoyed the SOAMS scheme; it's a good way to get experience in the field of medicine and it also helps with my A Level studies through extra revision sessions."

Barnsley College is the best in the region

Barnsley College's success rates are the best in the region, and among the best in the country, according to a report from the Skills Funding Agency.

The report shows the college's overall success rates in the 2013-14 academic year were 86.2%, making it the number one further education (FE) college in the South Yorkshire region.

The success rate for 16-18 year olds was 86.1%, putting Barnsley College 29th out of 218 FE colleges

nationally, while Apprenticeship course success rates were 87.5%, putting the college 5th in the country.

Colin Booth OBE, Barnsley College Principal at the time, said: "Our teaching staff work hard every day to ensure that all of our students reach their potential during their time at Barnsley College and go on to further study or work after completing their courses. These fantastic results show that Barnsley College is not only a leader in the region, it is also one of the most successful colleges nationally which is something for the whole town to be incredibly proud of. I'd like to thank our students and staff for their continued effort in making Barnsley College an outstanding place to study."

Barnsley College helps to kickstart businesses

Barnsley College became the first college in the country to develop its own crowdfunding site to help students in April 2015.

BCKickstart is a project run by the college which offers students from college and University Campus Barnsley (UCB) an opportunity to raise funds for a range of business ideas and projects. Businesses involved with the iTrust initiative, a joint venture

between Barnsley College and the Barnsley Chronicle, can also use the platform.

Rubina Rashid, Head of Enterprise at Barnsley College, said: "It can be very hard for new businesses to get off the ground but this new crowdfunding platform will give our entrepreneurial students both financial help and a brilliant confidence boost when they see that other people are keen to support them. Setting up a business is one of a variety of options available to students when they leave college and many will continue on to university and keep their businesses going as a sideline."



[UCB students David Hirst and Karen Brookes who are using BCKickstart]

College coach Amy commended at PFA awards

Former Barnsley College student Amy Turner has capped a successful period in her footballing career by being commended at the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) Awards in May 2015.

The 23-year-old, who is currently studying for a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) at University Campus Barnsley, was nominated in the Young Women's Player of the Year category.

The nomination followed hot on the heels of Amy's debut for the England women's football team in March and saw her rewarded for her performances in defence for FA Women's Super League club Notts

County Ladies during the 2014 season.

Amy tasted even more success in her role as coach of Barnsley College's under-19s women's football team, who clinched the Association of Colleges (AoC) Yorkshire and Humberside Female Football League.

Amy said: "I was shocked and overwhelmed when I found out and it is a very special feeling to be nominated for an award by the players you face throughout the season and to be in a group alongside some great players.

"I had a good season at Notts County. I started every game and the Opta statistics showed I made the most interceptions in the league over the season. I received a few man of the match awards and was voted the most improved player."

Enterprise Department wins two awards

Barnsley College's Enterprise Department scooped two awards this year - a High Impact award for its activities in Global Entrepreneurship Week in January 2015 and the Innovation Award at the Educate North Awards in July 2015.

Throughout Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW), Barnsley College students were able to get involved in a wide range of activities encouraging them to think about taking their first step towards running their own business.

At the inaugural Educate North Awards ceremony, Barnsley College won an award for its iTrust programme.

iTrust is run in partnership with the Barnsley Chronicle and offers small grants, mentor support and guidance to businesses established by students and alumni of Barnsley College and University Campus Barnsley. This includes access to specialist training and development, networking opportunities and essential industry links to businesses and customers.

Rubina Rashid, Head of Enterprise, said: "It is very pleasing to receive the Innovation Award and to be recognised for the business support iTrust has given to our students. The programme has supported a range of business start-ups which have now been trading for over a year and it has been rewarding to see their progress."



College staff stars celebrate their achievements

Barnsley College employees were commended for their hard work, commitment and dedication at the college's annual Staff Star Awards in May 2015.

Nominations for the awards opened earlier in the year when staff and students from the college were invited to nominate in five categories; Student Impact, Business Impact, Outstanding Colleague,

Unsung Hero and Team of the Year. After receiving over 175 nominations the judging panel picked a winner and a runner up in each category.

A presentation ceremony was held in the college's Open Kitchen restaurant where the staff were presented with their awards.

In addition to the Staff Star Awards a further two staff members were presented with the Outstanding Dedication to Student Success Award and the Long Service Award.



[The hub is officially opened by (L-R) Mark Kendrick from Barnsley College, Danny Arati from Intel and Ash Merchant from Fujitsu.]

Barnsley College joins Fujitsu's Ambassador Programme

A new Innovation Hub opened at Barnsley College in June 2015 following the announcement of the college as one of the founding Further Education Colleges to join the Fujitsu and Intel Ambassador Programme.

The Innovation Hub is a national engagement initiative led by the two global IT leaders that aims to highlight the use of computing power to underpin knowledge in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects and drive forward innovation and digital skills development in Barnsley and beyond.

The Innovation Hub forms the central piece of an ongoing partnership between Barnsley College, Fujitsu and Intel and is equipped with a range of the latest computing technology, while being used to promote the use of technology and development of digital skills. The new centre houses an array of Fujitsu technology including tablets, hybrid devices, laptops and server technology, all running off the latest Intel® Core™ processors.

The Innovation Hub will be used to train members of the local community on the fundamentals of IT. Other projects will see the hub being used to support the training of local apprentices as they move into STEM related careers.

New Principal for Barnsley College

Barnsley College's Governing Body announced the appointment of Christopher Webb to the post of Chief Executive and Principal in July 2015.

Christopher has worked at Barnsley College for more than four years and was previously Deputy Principal for Finance and Development. He moved to his new role of Chief Executive and Principal in late September after current Principal Colin Booth OBE left to take up his new post at Leeds City College.

Christopher, 46, has 18 years' experience in the education industry and before moving to Barnsley College worked as Deputy Principal at South Thames College and Director of School at Newcastle College.

Josie Thirkell, Barnsley College Chair of Governors, said: "We have developed an excellent college at Barnsley with great potential for the future. Following high levels of interest in the post we sought an exceptional talent from a strong cross sector field of leaders within the Further Education and broader public sector. We are delighted in Chris's appointment and are confident that he will take Barnsley College forward on the next stage of its journey. We look forward to working with him. The senior team in Barnsley College will continue to deliver excellence for Barnsley and its neighbouring boroughs."

Christopher Webb said: "I am delighted and humbled to be appointed to the role of Chief Executive and Principal of Barnsley College. At the heart of any successful organisation are fantastic staff and I am excited to be working with the best team at one of the best colleges in the country to shape education in the wider region. I am very much looking forward to working in collaboration with our wide range of stakeholders from schools, universities and employers to deliver excellent outcomes for all our students. I want to ensure that the college continues to be a positive influence in the development and future of the town."

Students celebrate outstanding achievements

Students from Barnsley College were acknowledged for their outstanding achievements at the seventh annual Barnsley College Excellence Awards in June 2015.

The awards ceremony, held at Barnsley Metrodome, saw a total of 27 awards presented, including awards for each college department and cross college awards such as Apprentice of the Year, Adult Learner of the Year, Youth Achievement and Youth Progress.

On the night the Overall Achievement award was presented to one student selected from all those who won an award during the evening and the 2015 overall winner was 18-year-old Laura Jane Mirfin.

Electrical Engineering student Laura was the winner of the Volunteer of the Year Award and impressed the judges with her dedication and enthusiasm. She has become an outstanding ambassador for Engineering, volunteering at events, attending open days and founding the society 'Girlineers' inspiring other female learners in Engineering.

UCB alumni mark 10th anniversary

Two alumni helped mark the 10th anniversary of University Campus Barnsley (UCB) at its Open Day in June 2015.

Amanda Ogley and Rachel Davison, both 45, were among the first learners to study at the campus after it was established in 2005 and returned to UCB when it opened its doors to the public last month.

Amanda gained a Higher National Diploma (HND) in Humanities and Rachel completed a BA (Hons) in Humanities from UCB before branching out into their current careers.

Amanda is an Information Officer at Barnsley College providing information, advice and guidance about the college's courses while Rachel is a Course Leader in the college's Teacher Training department.

Rachel said: "I wouldn't have got to where I am now without going to UCB. The tutors were outstanding and I was able to study in a parent-friendly environment which was perfect for me. UCB is ideal for people who want a university experience which is tailored to their individual needs."



[Rachel Davison and Amanda Ogley]

Film star records music video with students

Star of the big screen, actor George Newton, recorded a music video with music and media students at University Campus Barnsley in April 2015.

George, famously known for his portrayal of Banjo in This is England, appears in the video as the

frontman in a Ska band alongside final year music degree students performing The White Stripes 'Seven Nation Army'.

Using the industry-standard television recording studios at University Campus Barnsley, media students staged a multi-camera set-up to film the band performing.



Barnsley Sixth Form College celebrates 98% pass rate and more than 300 high grades

Barnsley Sixth Form College celebrated an excellent set of A Level results in 2015 with a 1% increase in the pass rate and students achieving more than 300 high grades – a 7% increase on last year.

The overall pass rate at the Sixth Form College is 98%, with a 100% pass rate in 18 subjects, including Chemistry, Physics, ICT, English Language, Business Studies, French and Geography.

A Level students saw high grades increase by 7.4% with 309 individual A*, A and B grades awarded.

As well as an increase in the overall achievement rate there were also significant improvements in the success rates of 17 subjects, including Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths and English Language.

Many students were looking forward to starting Higher Education courses at universities throughout the country, including Sheffield, Leeds, Surrey, Newcastle and Manchester.

Outstanding individual successes included former Ecclesfield School pupil Tobias Fox, 18, who achieved two A grades in Maths and Chemistry and an A* in Computing and went on to the University of York to study Computer Science. Former Holy Trinity School

pupil Megan Barnard, 18, achieved A*s in Psychology and Sociology and a C in History and progressed to the University of York to study Psychology, while former Shafton ALC pupil Daniel Broadhurst, 18, celebrated an A* in Geography, an A in Biology and a B in Computing and secured a place at the University of Sheffield to study Accounting.

Principal at the time Colin Booth OBE said: “We are thrilled to be announcing such excellent results and would like to congratulate our students on their achievements. We are delighted to see an increase in the overall pass rate, an increase in the number of high grades awarded and improvements in success in so many subjects. Both our students and staff should be very proud of their hard work.

“Many of our students progressed on to university, studying degrees from Geography to Paediatric Nursing, Midwifery to Mechanical Engineering, whilst others go on to employment or apprenticeships. We are certain that they will take with them the confidence and knowledge they have gained during their time at Barnsley Sixth Form College.

“These results were a brilliant start to the new academic year and things will be improving even more for our A Level students when they move into our brand new £18m Sixth Form campus on St Mary’s Place in January 2016.”

The Barnsley College family



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