

The
Sheffield
College

Access to University Courses

2019/2020



Welcome from the Chief Executive and Principal

It's not too late to unlock your talent and fulfil your potential.

We offer Access to Higher Education courses that prepare adult students, who do not have traditional academic qualifications such as A Levels, for study at university.

Access to Higher Education courses last one year, are full-time and lead to credits recognised by colleges, universities and employers. They are a Level 3 qualification.

If you've been out of education for some time or didn't have the qualifications to get into university first time round, these courses are designed especially for you.

Upon successful completion of an Access to Higher Education course you can go on to college or university to study for a degree.

Universities have helped to develop the courses, so they are appropriate and feed into their entry requirements.

There's an exciting range of subjects available, including art and design, health professions, science and sport.

Our students have told us that our Access to Higher Education courses have boosted their confidence and enhanced their career prospects.

If you want a new challenge or career, now is the time to return to education and go further at The Sheffield College.



Angela Foulkes,
Chief Executive and Principal
The Sheffield College



What is an access course?

Have you always fancied studying for a degree or diploma at university, but didn't think you had the qualifications to do so? If that's the case then read on. We know a way of getting you there.

An Access to Higher Education Diploma – to give them their full title – is a one year course that gives you the relevant entry requirements to gain a place on a university level course (providing you complete and pass).

They are designed specifically for those of you who have been out of education for some time and didn't have the qualifications to get into university before – with every intention of getting you there now.

Simply choose which access course you want to do, successfully complete it and university beckons!

Don't meet the entry requirements? Ask us about our pre-access course which supports your progression onto an access course.

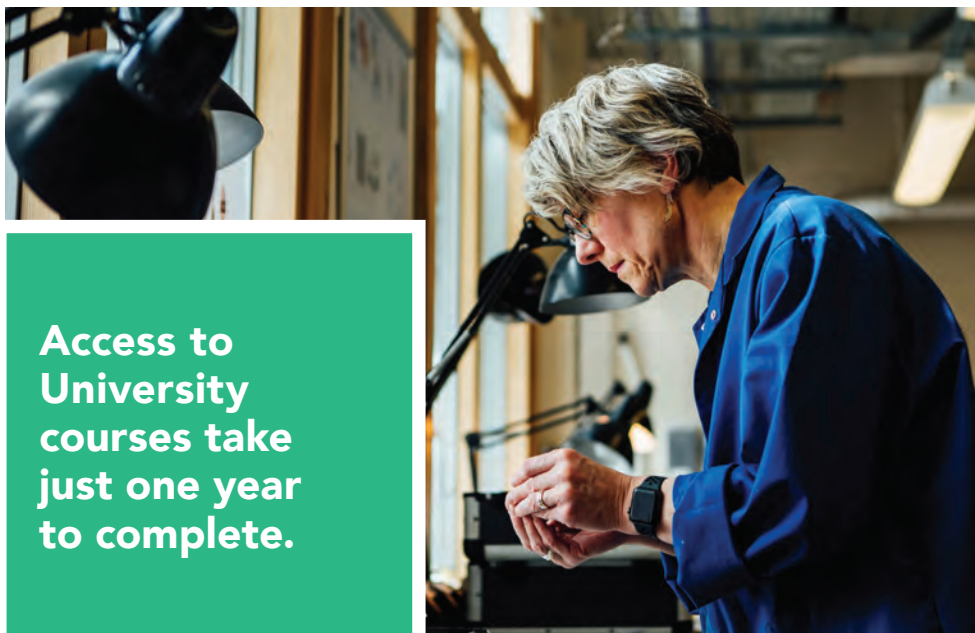
"The teaching on my course was amazing. The tutors were all so helpful and supportive."



What are the benefits?

We have fantastic courses on offer at The Sheffield College, with a variety of subjects available. You can study in the areas below and take advantage of all the benefits an access course with us has to offer!

- Art and Design
- Business
- Computing
- Health Professions (with Nutrition and Dietetics, Physiotherapy and Radiography pathways)
- Humanities, English and Social Science
- Digital Media (with Media and Photography pathways)
- Nursing
- Science
- Sport



Access to University courses take just one year to complete.

Accessible entry requirements and no upper age limit

The beauty of an access course is that there aren't many entry requirements. We want to make opportunities available to those ready to work for them.

For that reason there is no upper age limit, because university is not just for 'young people'.

For most access courses, a grade C or above in GCSE English Language and Maths, or their numerical equivalent grade 4, is desirable (dependent on course subject).

Don't worry if you don't have the exact requirements, ask us about our pre-access course. Your course leader will advise you on this at the interview stage. Please check individual course subjects for specific entry requirements.

It doesn't matter if you've been out of education for a while

If you've been out of education for a while, you're probably feeling a bit nervous about throwing yourself back into it all. We can assure you, you're not the only one who will be feeling that way.

The whole point of an access course is to ease you back into a classroom environment and prepare you for university. Yes, it will be challenging, but the course has taken all this into consideration.

You won't be thrown in at the deep end or expected to remember everything from a time gone by. We're trying to help you secure a place on a degree.

Universities recognise the qualification

Universities have helped develop the courses so they match what they are looking for and feed directly into their entry requirements.

Each year, approximately 25,000 students achieve an Access to Higher Education Diploma and progress to degree courses across the UK.

You could be next.

There's financial support on hand

If you are required to pay for the course, the 19+ Advanced Learner Loan, for learners aged 19+, will cover your Access to Higher Education Diploma course fees. More information about that on the next page.

But...

Have your loan written off

The really great news is that if you progress on to and complete a university level course, the 19+ Advanced Learner Loan is written off. This means you'll only have to pay off your university student loan – which you don't have to do until you're earning over £25,000 a year!

If you need independent financial advice please visit www.gov.uk/student-finance or www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan/overview

Money

Paying for your course might be easier than you think. There are a couple of funding options available dependent on your circumstances.

Full funding

If you are aged 19–23 and this is your first full Level 3 qualification, you will be entitled to funding to cover all of your tuition fees at no cost to you.

19+ Advanced Learner Loan

If you are aged 19–23 and have already achieved a full Level 3 qualification, or are aged 24 and over, you could be eligible for a loan.

19+ Advanced Learner Loans are not means tested or dependent on credit checks. When you progress and complete a university level course, the 19+ Advanced Learner Loan is completely wiped meaning you will only have to pay back your university student loan.

One more added bonus – progress onto a university level course at The Sheffield College and you will benefit from lower tuition fees, which you won't pay back until you are earning over £25,000 a year.

Example monthly 19+ Advanced Learner Loan repayments:

Just £15 a month when you earn **£27,000** per year
OR £37 a month when you earn **£30,000** per year

If you need independent financial advice please visit www.gov.uk/student-finance or www.gov.uk/advanced-learner-loan/overview

Student support

Now that paying for your course is covered, what about the necessities of completing it? We can provide support with things such as travel, books and equipment for those who are in need of a little extra help.

If you are a student parent aged 20 or over, you may also be eligible to receive help with the cost of childcare whilst studying with us.

We have nurseries at two of our main campuses – City and Hillsborough – providing high quality educational and social experiences for children aged 6 months to 7 years. Our Hillsborough Campus nursery was recently rated as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted.



To find out more about funding and the support that you could be eligible for please visit:

www.sheffcol.ac.uk/student-support

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Art and Design

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English and Maths
- IELTS Level 6 (for International students only)

Course overview

If you’ve got a flair for the creative but you’re still not sure which specialism to pursue at university, this could be the perfect course for you. We’ve got some of the best art and design facilities in the region where you can explore new techniques and develop your personal style.

This course is geared towards preparing you for university study and employment in the art and design industry. Assignments throughout the course will help you to enhance your academic research and writing abilities (which will be invaluable at university), plus you’ll get support with your work, portfolios and university applications from your tutor.

At specialist stage 2 of this course students can apply for Fine Art, 3D Design, and subjects in Fashion, Textiles, Interior, Architecture and Visual Communications.

You’ll also get the opportunity to develop as an artist/designer through regular group critique and peer/self-assessment, and the opportunity to exhibit work at our end of year show.

Previous students from this course have gone on to study art and design at university, including starting their journey by progressing on to the Foundation Degree in Graphic Design or the Foundation Degree in Games Design right here at The Sheffield College.



Business

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English and Maths
- IELTS Level 6 (for International students only)

Course overview

From international trade to business communication and finance, the Access to Business course is ideal for those students looking for a route on to a business degree or a career in business/management.

Throughout the course you will study various aspects of business such as Marketing, Economics and Business Planning, as well as preparing yourself for university by developing skills in academic writing, presentations and numeracy.

You’ll be taught by specialists in different areas of business who will provide you with a broad understanding of how businesses operate in today’s economy. You’ll also have the support of a tutor who can help guide you through the process of applying to the university course of your choice.

Once you’ve finished the course you’ll have a variety of options open to you. You might want to progress on to an Honours Degree at university, study for a HND or, if you want to carry on at college, why not go for a Foundation Degree in Business Leadership and Management with us?



Computing

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English and Maths
- IELTS Level 6 (for International students only)

Course overview

It's a digital world out there and with the computing industry growing year on year, an Access to HE course in Computing could be just the thing to propel you into this exciting and rapidly expanding sector.

The course will provide you with a good overview of the main disciplines within the computing industry, as well as preparing you for further study at university. You'll study Software Development, Web Skills and Multimedia, and Computer Systems, as well as learning how to organise your study time and how to work in groups. These are all essential skills for university.

There's also an option to study Maths to A Level standard which means that you'll then have the option to study computer science at some of the UK's top universities.

You'll be taught in dedicated computer suites by staff who have worked in the industry; so you'll be well prepared to make the jump into employment or university when the time comes. Alternatively, you could choose to stay at The Sheffield College to study our HNC in Computing.





Digital Media: Photography and Media

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in English Language
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English
- IELTS Level 6 (for International students only)
- Experience in photography or media (a portfolio of work will be required at interview)
- Basic ICT skills

Course overview

The Sheffield College has developed a national reputation through its delivery of photography and media programmes across a broad range of courses, from beginner to degree level. This programme is aimed at adult students who wish to enter a career in the creative industries.

The course focuses on the development of your photography or media skills – with a focus on a specialist pathway – in preparation for application to university level study.

The course encourages you to develop a professional standard portfolio based on your chosen specialism (media or photography). The course begins with an introductory 'skills build' tuition and, as you progress, you will produce outcomes based on your specialist pathway. Professional practice is at the centre of the programme and you will be encouraged to gain experience in working with clients on live projects.

Students who complete this course can progress to study at university or choose to study their degree with us at The Sheffield College on our the Foundation Degree in Photography or Media Production.



Health Professions

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English and Maths

Course overview

The Access to Health Professions course is ideal for those wishing to pursue further study (or a career) in any allied health profession or biological science.

You will study units common to all of our Access to Health Professions courses, including Nutrition, Chemistry in Society, Endocrine System and Genetic Inheritance, alongside students looking to progress into a variety of health professional roles. This will give you an understanding of the underpinning knowledge required to work within any allied health profession. You will also develop academic skills in preparation for university.

By taking the general health professions pathway you will also study modules in Structure of the UK Healthcare Provision, and Human Sex and Reproduction.

Students who have successfully completed this course have gone on to study a wide range of health profession related subjects, such as nursing, midwifery, radiography, and sport and exercise science.

We offer a range of university level programmes at The Sheffield College. Go to www.sheffcol.ac.uk/courses/university-level to see where you can progress with us.



Sammy Bryan
Access to HE Student

"After taking a break from education, I really surprised myself when I studied Access to Health Professions with how hard I worked and what I was able to achieve. The course gave me the opportunity to gain the entry requirements for university in one year instead of other Level 3 courses which may have taken two. I also made a fantastic and really supportive group of friends, and it was great to have like-minded people around who are going through it with you.

All of the tutors that taught me on the course were really encouraging and supportive. It felt like a real partnership and it makes you realise when you put in the work, and they put in the time and effort to help, it's always going to end in success.

After completing the course I went to university and I now work at a large general hospital as a Rotational Occupational Therapist.

There's something about being on an adult course that makes you want to work harder to achieve your goals and The Sheffield College (particularly the staff at Hillsborough Campus) were fantastic in helping me get there. If I could go back and do it all again, I definitely would!"



Health Professions:

Nutrition and Dietetics

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English and Maths

Course overview

The Access to Health Professions Nutrition and Dietetics pathway includes a common core of modules, whilst also giving students the opportunity to specialise and progress into nutrition and dietetics at a higher and career level.

You will study units common to all of our Access to Health Professions courses, including Nutrition, Chemistry in Society, Endocrine System and Genetic Inheritance, alongside students looking to progress into a variety of health professional roles. This will give you an understanding of the underpinning knowledge required to work within any allied health profession. You will also develop academic skills in preparation for university.

In addition to the common core, you will follow a specific nutrition and dietetics pathway, and study modules such as Chemistry of Drugs and Medicines. This will ensure that you are best placed to progress on to a university level course that supports your journey into employment in the health sector.

Students who have successfully completed this course have gone on to study a wide range of health profession related subjects, such as nursing, midwifery, radiography, and sport and exercise science.

We offer a range of university level programmes at The Sheffield College. Go to www.sheffcol.ac.uk/courses/university-level to see where you can progress with us.

Health Professions:

Physiotherapy

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English and Maths

Course overview

The Access to Health Professions Physiotherapy pathway includes a common core of modules, whilst also giving students the opportunity to specialise and progress into physiotherapy at a higher level.

You will study units common to all of our Access to Health Professions courses, including Nutrition, Chemistry in Society, Endocrine System and Genetic Inheritance, alongside students looking to progress into a variety of health professional roles. This will give you an understanding of the underpinning knowledge required to work within any allied health profession. You will also develop academic skills in preparation for university.

In addition to the common core, you will follow a specific physiotherapy pathway and study modules such as the Nervous System, and Human Growth and Development. This will ensure that you are best placed to progress on to a university level course that supports your journey into employment in the health sector.

Students who have successfully completed this course have gone on to study a wide range of health profession related subjects, such as nursing, midwifery, radiography, and sport and exercise science.

We offer a range of university level programmes at The Sheffield College. Go to www.sheffcol.ac.uk/courses/university-level to see where you can progress with us.



Health Professions: Radiography

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English and Maths

Course overview

The Access to Health Professions Radiography pathway includes a common core of modules, whilst also giving students the opportunity to specialise and progress into radiography at a higher and career level.

You will study units common to all of our Access to Health Professions courses, including Nutrition, Chemistry in Society, Endocrine System and Genetic Inheritance, alongside students looking to progress into a variety of health professional roles. This will give you an understanding of the underpinning knowledge required to work within any allied health profession. You will also develop academic skills in preparation for university.

In addition to the common core, you will follow a specific radiography pathway and study modules such as Medical Physics – Radiography and Radioactivity in Medicine. This will ensure that you are best placed to progress on to a university level course that supports your journey into employment in the health sector.

Students who have successfully completed this course have gone on to study a wide range of health profession related subjects, such as nursing, midwifery, radiography, and sport and exercise science.

We offer a range of university level programmes at The Sheffield College. Go to www.sheffcol.ac.uk/courses/university-level to see where you can progress with us.

Humanities, English and Social Science

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English

Course overview

If you want to go to university to study social sciences (like psychology or sociology) or humanities, then this might well be the course for you.

Humanities, English and Social Science gives you the academic skills required for university (essay writing, research skills and delivering presentations), whilst also giving you the flexibility to study the subjects that really interest you and might shape your choice of university course, or even your future career.

Alongside a core curriculum, you'll have the option to choose one of three pathways that includes subjects from a variety of areas, for instance: Black History, English Language, History, Psychology, Contemporary Social Issues and Sociology.

The advantage of this course is that it lets you pick a pathway of subjects that will give you access to a really diverse range of university and employment options.

Previous students have progressed on to study courses such as counselling and law at university, and the employment opportunities are just as varied. We've had students go on to work in teaching, social care and community development.



Samantha Hemingway
Access to HE Student

"After I studied my Level 2 qualification and GCSEs at Hillsborough Campus, I took a year out to have my son before returning to complete an Access to HE course at The Sheffield College, which allowed me to progress to university.

Studying at The Sheffield College taught me the essential skills and knowledge I needed for university. The most important skills I learnt were academic writing and knowledge in valued areas such as Psychology, Economics and Sociology; as well as the help with other aspects of preparing for university such as support with UCAS and Student Finance applications.

I am now at The University of Sheffield studying Social Policy and Criminology."





Nursing

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language and Maths

Course overview

Over the course of one year, this qualification will equip you with the skills and knowledge you'll need to study nursing and other healthcare related courses at university level.

You'll develop your knowledge of healthcare by studying subjects such as Health Psychology, Body Structure Function and Non-infectious Conditions. At the same time, you'll prepare to take on the academic demands of university study by developing skills which will teach you how to research and put your findings into an essay format. Whilst the majority of assessments will take the form of an on-going portfolio of coursework, you'll also have the opportunity to do presentations and group work, which are often key methods of assessment at university.

Students who have completed this course in the past have gone on to study mental health nursing, adult nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy and even social care at university level.

If you don't fancy heading straight to university and would like to benefit from cheaper fees, you could progress on to HNC Health and Social Care or the Foundation Degree Professional Practice in Health and Social Care (offered by The Sheffield College in partnership with Sheffield Hallam University); a two-year course that would enable you to join a healthcare related degree in the second year of university.



Science

Entry requirements

- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE Maths, English Language and Science
- IELTS Level 6.5 (International students only) as an English alternative

Course overview

The Access to HE Diploma (Science) course provides you with the knowledge and skills needed to progress to university courses in any area that requires a science background.

A broad range of units are available for you to choose from so that you can tailor the course to suit your needs and interests, and be thoroughly prepared for your chosen university course. Most students choose units from three of the following subjects, although it is possible to choose either a broader or a more specialised programme of study:

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| – Biology | – Human |
| – Chemistry | Biology |
| – Environmental | – Mathematics |
| Science | – Physics |
| | – Psychology |

Access to HE Diploma (Science) is an intensive course with frequent deadlines to be met. Most units will have exams but the course will also include practical reports, essays, projects, study skills and presentations. Applicants will be invited to an interview prior to an offer of a place on the course being made.

Previous students on this course have gone on to study and pursue careers in a broad range of subjects, including biochemistry, biology, biomedical science, chemistry, dietetics, engineering (all types), environmental science, forensics, midwifery, nursing, nutrition, ODP, paramedics, pharmacy, physics, physiotherapy, psychology, radiography, radiotherapy and many more.



Joshua Dexter Access to HE Student



"In the space of a year I have gone from having a rudimentary understanding of the sciences, two GCSEs and no A Levels, to being accepted to study an integrated Master of Chemistry at Durham University, all thanks to amazing help and support I received at The Sheffield College."



Sport

Course overview

This course is a great way for anyone who has been out of education for a while to get the knowledge and skills they need to progress on to a university level course in sport or related areas.

You'll study the basic elements of sport like Health and Fitness, Anatomy and Exercise Physiology, as well as delving deeper into the sporting psyche by taking modules in Sport Psychology or Coaching. As a sports student you'll also get to use and learn in our fantastic sports facilities at our Hillsborough Campus, including a gym, sports hall and 3G sports pitches.

If you're hoping to progress on to a university level course, you'll also benefit from developing your academic study skills through different

Entry requirements

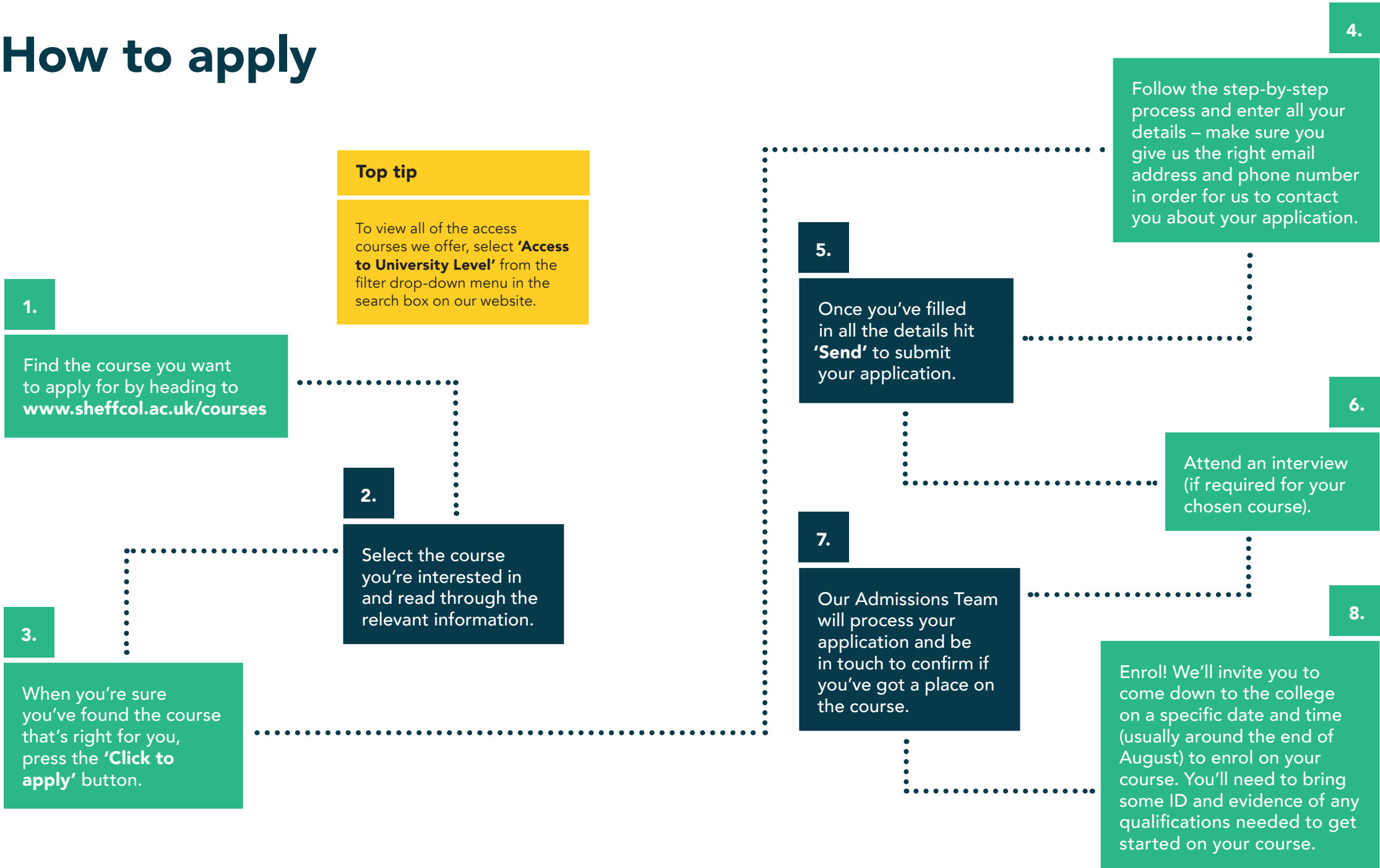
- Grade C/4 or above in GCSE English Language
- Or Level 2 Functional Skills English
- Level 2 Maths qualification

styles of assessment like research projects, essays and reports, and group presentations. You'll also have access to academic support and guidance in the form of your tutor who will help you with your application to university or further study.

One of the best things about this course is just how varied your options are once you've finished your studies. Former students have gone on to study degree courses in nutrition, sports therapy and even sports journalism.

You could also choose to start on our very own Foundation Degree in Sport and Exercise Coaching, or perhaps our Foundation Degree in Physical Education and School Sport.

How to apply



What's next?

Did you know you can study for your degree with us once you've completed your access qualification?

There are lots of reasons to pick us, here are a few of our favourites:

Less debt

It's simple. Our tuition fees cost less than traditional universities and you'll still graduate with the same qualification. In fact, we charge £6,500 per year, which is around £3,000 less per year than a traditional university.

Top class tutors

Our tutors haven't always been teachers. They have loads of experience working in their chosen industry, giving you invaluable insight into what skills today's employers are looking for.

Wide range of career driven courses

With courses in everything from graphic design and business management, to performing arts and construction, there's something for just about everyone. And what's better, all of our courses focus on giving you the skills you need to find the job you want.

Smaller class sizes

Our class sizes are far smaller than at some of the mainstream universities, which is great news for you. You'll receive more contact time with your tutor, plus one-to-one support giving you the greatest opportunity to achieve the best degree possible.

Ready for the workplace

All our courses are designed to make you ready for your chosen career. Our courses come with real work placements or live projects set by employers, which will boost your CV and impress your future employer.

Contact admissions@sheffcol.ac.uk for more information on our degrees.

The Sheffield College

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All information is correct at time of print.

Data and statistics taken from EMSI software.

If you need this guide in any other format, please get in touch.