

# The Sheffield College

International Courses



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# Welcome to The Sheffield College

**The award winning Sheffield College is one of the largest Further Education colleges in the country and delivers courses to around 20,000 students a year, at four main campuses across the city. Every year, hundreds of students from more than 40 countries join us to learn English or choose from a huge range of academic and vocational (more hands on) courses.**

We have some fantastic education and training facilities and are proud of our student's high academic achievement and success. Our staff also provide excellent student advice and support. We work hard to ensure that our guests stay is as enjoyable and rewarding as possible. There is a friendly and sociable atmosphere at all of our campuses and international students are eligible to study a wide range of courses.

Our main focus is supporting your individual achievement and success. We make sure that you start at the level that's best for you and then give you plenty of opportunities to progress.



# Why choose Sheffield?

Sheffield, the student city. Alongside our college, the city is home to two of the UK's largest universities, making it one of the country's most in-demand student destinations.



## Government figures show that:

- **Friendly**– Sheffield is one of the most relaxed and friendly cities in the UK
- **Safe**– Sheffield, the safe city. Sheffield is one of the safest cities in the UK. Information compiled from police forces from the eight largest cities outside London, shows that Sheffield has the lowest rate of crime
- **Green**– Sheffield, the green city. Sheffield is the greenest city in Europe. It is estimated that Sheffield has more than two million trees. There are 150 woodlands, 50 public parks and the award-winning Winter Gardens. Sheffield is on the edge of the stunning Peak District National Park
- **Affordable**– Sheffield, the value for money city. Sheffield regularly comes out as one of the cheapest places to live for students in the UK
- **International**– Sheffield has a diverse population with a cosmopolitan choice of restaurants. A new 'Chinatown' area is currently being developed with shops, restaurants and offices
- **Cafés & Restaurants**– Sheffield's café and restaurant scene is thriving with many independent restaurants on Ecclesall Road, Kelham Island and the City Centre



## Central to the UK and within easy reach of UK destinations

- Sheffield to London by train – **2 hours**
- Sheffield to Edinburgh by train – **4 hours**
- Sheffield to Leeds by train – **40 minutes**
- Sheffield to Manchester by train – **50 minutes**

# Why study English as a foreign language at The Sheffield College?

**In the International English Department you'll have the opportunity to broaden your mind, increase your knowledge of world cultures and share a vast array of global experiences, whilst at the same time improving your English language skills and preparing for the future.**

In class there's a chance that you'll be working and learning alongside students of all ages, from different continents and with different backgrounds, specialities and objectives. You might for example find yourself in a class with doctors, footballers, lawyers, high school or university students, chefs, teachers, lecturers, pharmacists, engineers, mechanics, housewives or househusbands, as well as those who are still considering their next steps.

If you take our advice and play an active role in this diverse learning environment, this experience will impact positively on you throughout the rest of your life. It will heighten your interest, tolerance and understanding of the world and other people, making you interculturally-ready and thereby opening up new opportunities for future success in our ever more globalised world.

If you enjoy meeting people from all walks of life and from all over the world our International English Department is definitely for you. We have new students starting almost every week throughout the year, which means plenty of opportunities to make new friends.

**The Sheffield City campus has outstanding and inspirational facilities. We also have up-to-date learning centres with free access to wi-fi and classrooms equipped with interactive whiteboards.**



# Student support

## The International Team

**Our International Team will support you throughout your stay. They offer a range of support, including:**

- Airport collection when you arrive
- Social events
- Help finding accommodation
- Student employment services
- Opening a bank account
- Career advice
- Visa application and renewal
- Safeguarding
- Registration with the police
- Pastoral care
- Registration with a doctor/dentist
- Community involvement

The International Team organises trips and activities throughout the year and this is a good opportunity for you to meet people of other nationalities.

There is also a 'Welcome' event at the beginning of the academic year for all international students.

On your arrival at college you will be given a college induction. You will receive your timetable and useful information about your course and assessments.

## Your Tutor Mentor

All full-time students have a Tutor Mentor who will support you throughout your studies. The Tutor Mentor will offer group and one-to-one support in all aspects of your study.

## Visa information

Unsure whether you need a visa to come and study in the UK? Contact the International Team and we will provide advice. You should also consult the UK Visas and Immigration website: [www.gov.uk/visas-immigration](http://www.gov.uk/visas-immigration)

**The International Team** – here to support you throughout your stay

**Opening Times:**  
Monday – Friday 08:00 – 16:00

## Accommodation

**You have a choice of living with a host family or going into student/private accommodation.**

### Homestay accommodation

The host family will welcome you into their home, offering meals and support during your stay. No more than four students will be accommodated in one homestay accommodation at any one time.

The majority of our students prefer to stay with a family when they first come to the UK as this gives an opportunity to learn more about the British way of life, as well as a chance to practice English.

We can arrange homestay accommodation for you, prior to your arrival in Sheffield.

Homestay accommodation includes bed and breakfast, evening meal, washing and all meals at the weekend (half-board) or with additional packed lunch (full board). Students will have their own bedroom and will usually share the bathroom with the host family. The Sheffield College will inform you if you are expected to share the bedroom with another student in your homestay.

**Please note** – Students under the age of 18 must stay with a host family unless written permission is received from a parent/guardian.

### Student/private accommodation

Our private homes that accommodate more than four students include, student houses, halls or hostels and can be catered or self-catering. There are a number of providers of self-catering accommodation specifically for students. Details are available from our website [www.sheffcol.ac.uk/the-Sheffield-College-International/Experience/Accommodation](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/the-Sheffield-College-International/Experience/Accommodation)

The International Team can assist you in contacting residential accommodation providers.

Residential accommodation where there is no overnight supervision is not suitable for under 18s.

If you decide to rent a bed-sit or flat, The International Team can provide information about the implications of your accommodation choice (tenancy agreements, local taxes, services available, etc.).

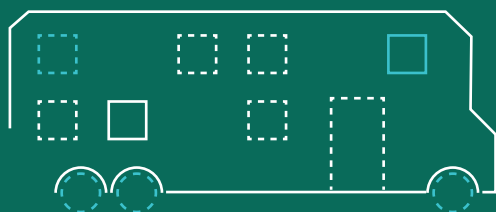
For more information about homestay fees and booking conditions, please visit:

[www.sheffcol.ac.uk/The-Sheffield-College-International/Experience/Accommodation](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/The-Sheffield-College-International/Experience/Accommodation)

# Travelling

## Before you travel to the UK

- Make a note of a suitable UK contact including full name, address and a phone number which will be required when you complete your landing card
- Ensure you complete your landing card before you meet the Border Force officer in the UK
- If you carry your passport in a protective wallet, please take it out before you present it to a Border Force Officer
- Never give false or misleading information (including forged or counterfeit documents) to a Border Force Officer
- Where applicable, have your Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) letter and medical card (if you have one) in your hand luggage that you carry with you on to the aircraft. If you don't have a CAS letter, please bring thorough details of your course of study
- There are restrictions on food products that you can bring to the UK from outside the European Union, even for personal use. Restrictions apply to products made from meat, dairy, fish, eggs and honey, as well as some fruit, vegetables and plants (eg. bulbs, seeds, cut flowers and tree bark)
- There are also restrictions on the amount of goods such as tobacco, alcohol and gifts you can bring into the UK. If you exceed your allowances, all of your goods can be taken away from you. Please check your allowance before departing
- Never bring in counterfeit goods, illegal drugs, firearms (including realistic imitations), offensive weapons (including knives) or indecent or obscene material
- Make sure you are familiar with the conditions of your visa including restrictions on working in the UK
- You must declare any sums of cash of £8000 or more (or the equivalent in another currency) if you are travelling from a country outside the European Union



## Arriving in Sheffield

A Sheffield Tramway, Bus and Train Weekly ticket costs between £18 and £25 a week, visit [www.travelsouthyorkshire.com](http://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com) for more information.

You can take the tram to travel to and from the College. For timetables and ticket prices please visit Stagecoach Supertram [www.supertram.com](http://www.supertram.com). The nearest tram stop to the College is 'Granville Road - Sheffield College'.

Students aged 18 or less can apply for a 16-18 Bus Pass to get cheaper bus fares. Visit Travel South Yorkshire for more information.

### Taxi

A taxi from Heathrow to Sheffield is approximately £200. A taxi from Manchester to Sheffield is approximately £70.

### Train

For timetables and ticket prices please visit [www.travelsouthyorkshire.com](http://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com) and [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk)

- Your journey from Manchester Airport to Sheffield will cost approximately £25
- Your journey from Heathrow Airport to Sheffield will cost approximately £85
- Your journey from London St Pancras International to Sheffield will cost approximately £100

### Coach

For timetables and ticket prices please visit [www.travelsouthyorkshire.com](http://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com). We would recommend you travel by taxi or train if you are coming from abroad.

[www.sheffcol.ac.uk](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk)

# Living in Sheffield

## Living costs in Sheffield

Students should expect to pay between £50 and £100 a week for their food shopping and leisure activities. Below are some typical prices for items you might need/use:

— bottle of soda drink	<b>£1.80</b>
— sandwich	<b>£2.60</b>
— cinema ticket	<b>£7.50</b>
— 2 course meal in a restaurant	<b>£15.00 – £20.00</b>
— paracetamol (medicine for headache/cold)	<b>£1.50</b>
— cough syrup	<b>£4.00</b>
— SIM card with £10 charge (1MB data)	<b>£10.00</b>



## Shopping and leisure

Sheffield is one of England's largest cities. Close to the Peak District and major transport links in the centre of the country, it is an ideal base from which to explore the rest of the country. It is easily accessible from Manchester, Gatwick and Heathrow international airports.

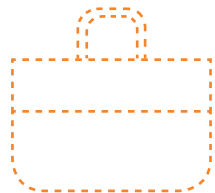
Sheffield is a great city for going out and shopping! This is the city where gold medalist Jessica Ennis grew up. There are a lot of activities to do and Leisure Centres are easily accessible.

## Useful links

Check out these useful websites for more information:

Sheffield Tourist Information  
[www.sheffield.gov.uk/out--about/tourist-information](http://www.sheffield.gov.uk/out--about/tourist-information)  
[www.welcometosheffield.co.uk](http://www.welcometosheffield.co.uk)

For more links please visit our website:  
[www.sheffield.ac.uk/the-sheffield-college-international/experience](http://www.sheffield.ac.uk/the-sheffield-college-international/experience)



## Insurance

Before you arrive in the UK, we strongly recommend that you take out insurance for your own financial and personal security.

### Your policy should cover at least the following:

- emergency medical expenses
- repatriation
- cancellation or curtailment charges
- baggage
- personal money, passport and documents
- course fees
- personal liability
- legal expenses

Please note: It is advisable to take out your student insurance when booking your trip, as cover will start for pre-departure cancellation from the policy issue date. This will, therefore, provide cover should you have to cancel your course for an insured reason such as illness or serious accident preventing you from travelling.

If you want more advice about your insurance options please contact us directly at [international.office@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:international.office@sheffield.ac.uk)



# English as a foreign language – course information

**When you first arrive at college you will have a placement test to establish your appropriate learning level, ranging from elementary to upper-intermediate/advanced. We test your grammar, written and spoken English.**

Our general English morning programme allows you to improve your skill areas, such as reading, writing, listening and speaking, using the latest course books and materials. All our classrooms are equipped with interactive white boards and mini white boards.

In addition, you will be encouraged to develop your vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation as well as study skills, strategies and autonomous learning.

## A typical day of English Language would be:

**Morning session: 09:00 – 11:00**  
**Exam preparation and skills**

- IELTS for those students who need to gain this qualification or improve their score in order to go to university
- Trinity examination practice
- Cambridge examination practice
- Skills development

**Afternoon session: 11:30 – 13:30**  
**General English**

Skills development working on speaking, listening, reading and writing.

Please note that the course book price is not included in our tuition fees.

At the end of your course you will receive a final progress report and an attendance certificate.

### You will:

- study 18 hours per week
- receive tutor mentor support 1.5 hours per week
- prepare and give class presentations
- carry out surveys
- compile results in written and spoken form
- improve your writing skills, by producing formal and informal texts

## An alternative typical timetable would be:

**Morning Session: 09:00 – 12:30**  
**General English**

**Afternoon Session 13:30 – 15:00**  
**Exam Preparation and Skills\***

We also offer one-to-one speaking practice sessions and group and pair discussions, where you will have the opportunity to practice exam preparation or general spoken English, role play and a range of communicative activities for every day social situations.

\* Timetable subject to change dependant on student demand.

### Course information

For more information and latest updates about all our courses, fees and booking conditions, please visit:

[www.sheffcol.ac.uk/The-Sheffield-College-International/](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/The-Sheffield-College-International/)



**Progress will be reviewed through:**

- Regular testing
- Homework assignments
- Frequent tutorial meetings
- Our online tracking system
- Examinations (most of them will be taken on site)
- Trinity College Spoken Examinations (GESE) (all levels)\*
- Key English Test (KET) (Elementary level)\*
- Preliminary English Test (PET) (Pre-intermediate/ Intermediate level)\*
- First Certificate in English (FCE) (Upper intermediate/ Advanced level)\*
- Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) (Advanced level)\*
- IELTS (taken at a registered centre. Please note that The Sheffield College is not a registered IELTS Centre). Tuition fees do not include IELTS examination test. (From pre-intermediate level).

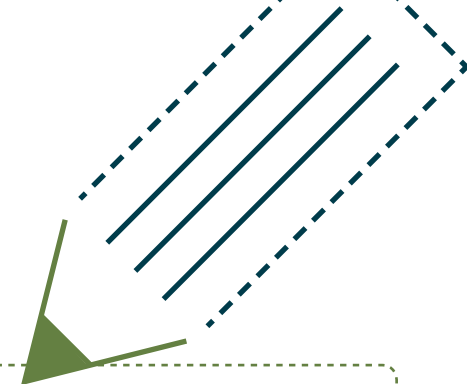
\*Subject to demand and level

**Minimum age to apply—**

16 years old

**Maximum class size**

— 21 students



Our **IELTS examination course** is taught by qualified and experienced teachers who will prepare those students who are planning to go to an English-speaking university or college.

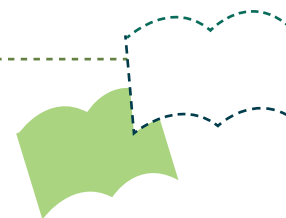
**You will:**

- Focus on developing exam strategies and techniques
- Be taught by a dedicated team of teachers
- Study alongside others who share the same goal as you
- Be expected to study outside of the classroom and complete all homework tasks
- Do practise tests under exam conditions and receive feedback on your performance

Our skills-based **Trinity and Cambridge examination course** is designed and taught by qualified and experienced teachers. It will prepare those students who want to further develop their core English skills and/or pass an internationally recognised exam.

**You will:**

- Progress to a good level of English in all areas including grammar, vocabulary, speaking, listening, pronunciation and writing
- Receive an ideal foundation before studying for IELTS
- Focus on developing exam strategies and techniques
- Be taught by a dedicated team of teachers
- Be expected to study outside of the classroom and complete all homework tasks
- Do practise tests under exam conditions and receive feedback on your performance



## English Language levels - what do they mean?

### Elementary

You will develop basic knowledge of the language, familiar everyday expressions and simple phrases. This course is equivalent to the Council of Europe Language Level A1.

### Pre-Intermediate

You will develop your skills to become familiar with frequently used expressions and conversation on routine matters. This course is equivalent to the Council of Europe Language Level A2.

### Intermediate

You will learn to understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. This course is equivalent to the Council of Europe Language Level B1.

### Upper-Intermediate

You will be able to understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in your field of specialisation. This course is equivalent to the Council of Europe Language Level B2.

### Advanced

You will be able to understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning. You will learn to express yourself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. You will be able to use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. This course is equivalent to the Council of Europe Language Level C1.



### Opportunities after studying International English

Students come to study in International English for very different reasons and on completing their course of study with us will go on to follow many different routes. Some will return to their home countries to continue their education or return to their careers.

Others will decide to stay in Sheffield, the UK or go to another country to take up employment or study at a new institution. A number of students each year will go on to further courses at The Sheffield College and some settle in Sheffield making their homes here and starting families.

# What do our students do after their course?

## Employment

- A recent student in our advanced group, Babacar from Senegal/France has just taken a job in Marketing in Portsmouth
- Carla from Spain went on to become a Pharmacist
- Michael from Poland went into Retail Management
- Marisol from Spain now works in Marketing

## Further Study

- Many of our students come to prepare for the IELTS exam so that they can go on to study at university both in this country and abroad
- Students go on to study PhDs, Masters, undergraduate degrees and pre-sessional courses
- Some of our students choose to stay on and study for a number of years at The Sheffield College on either academic or vocational courses

### Some recent examples:

- Boris studied International English for two years and now studies Level 3 Sport Sciences at The Sheffield College
- Giannis studied International English for a year and then went on to study catering. He has just completed a Level 3 qualification at The Sheffield College
- Lu-ying studied International English for one year and is going to study A Levels at The Sheffield College

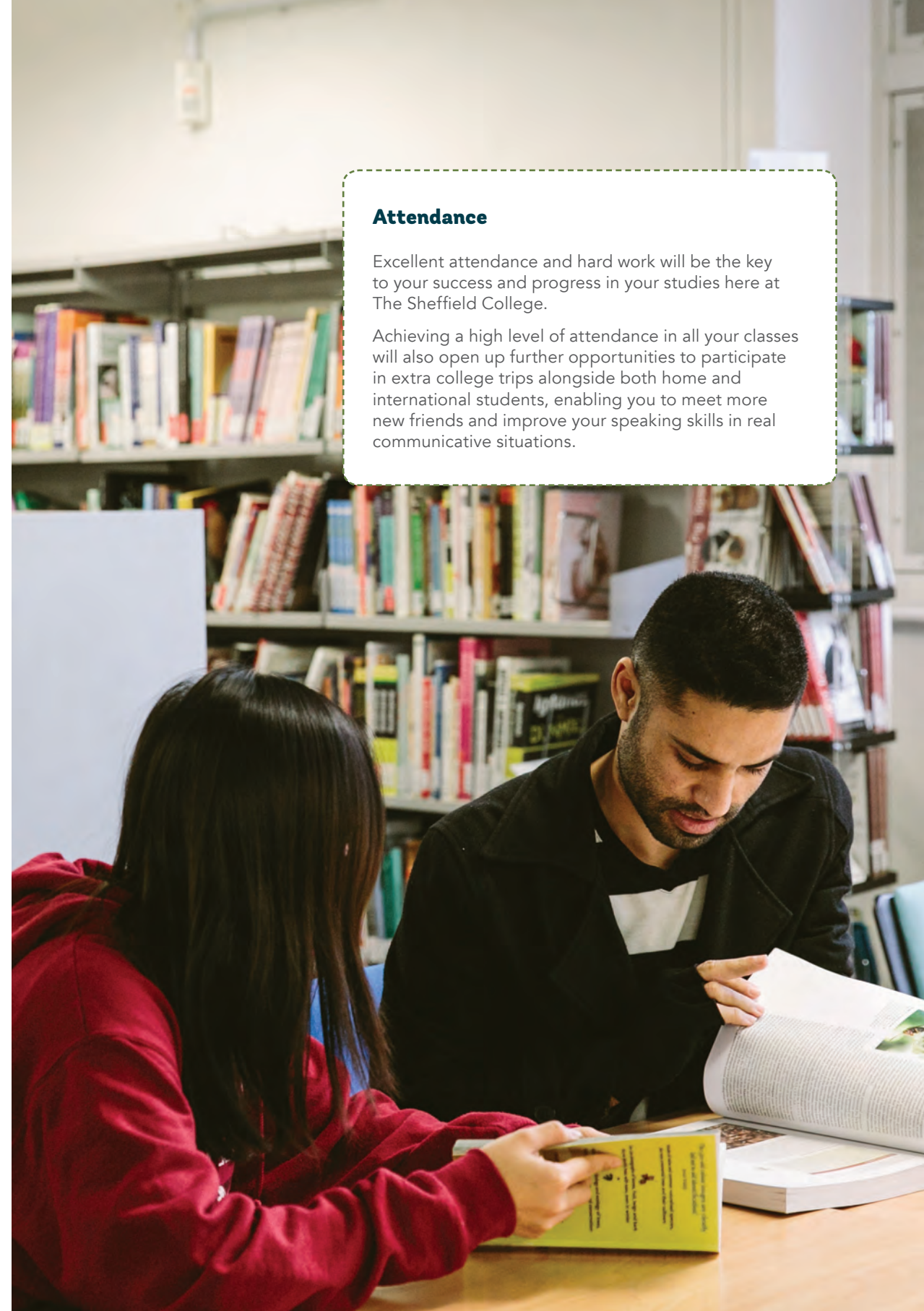
## Certification

When you leave college, you will receive a final report and an attendance certificate which includes your attendance and attainment level.

## Attendance

Excellent attendance and hard work will be the key to your success and progress in your studies here at The Sheffield College.

Achieving a high level of attendance in all your classes will also open up further opportunities to participate in extra college trips alongside both home and international students, enabling you to meet more new friends and improve your speaking skills in real communicative situations.



# Activities

## Summer programme

Our summer programme varies from year to year and is dependent on students needs and demands. Previous summer programmes have included classes in the morning with activities outside college to discover what Sheffield and the surrounding area has to offer.

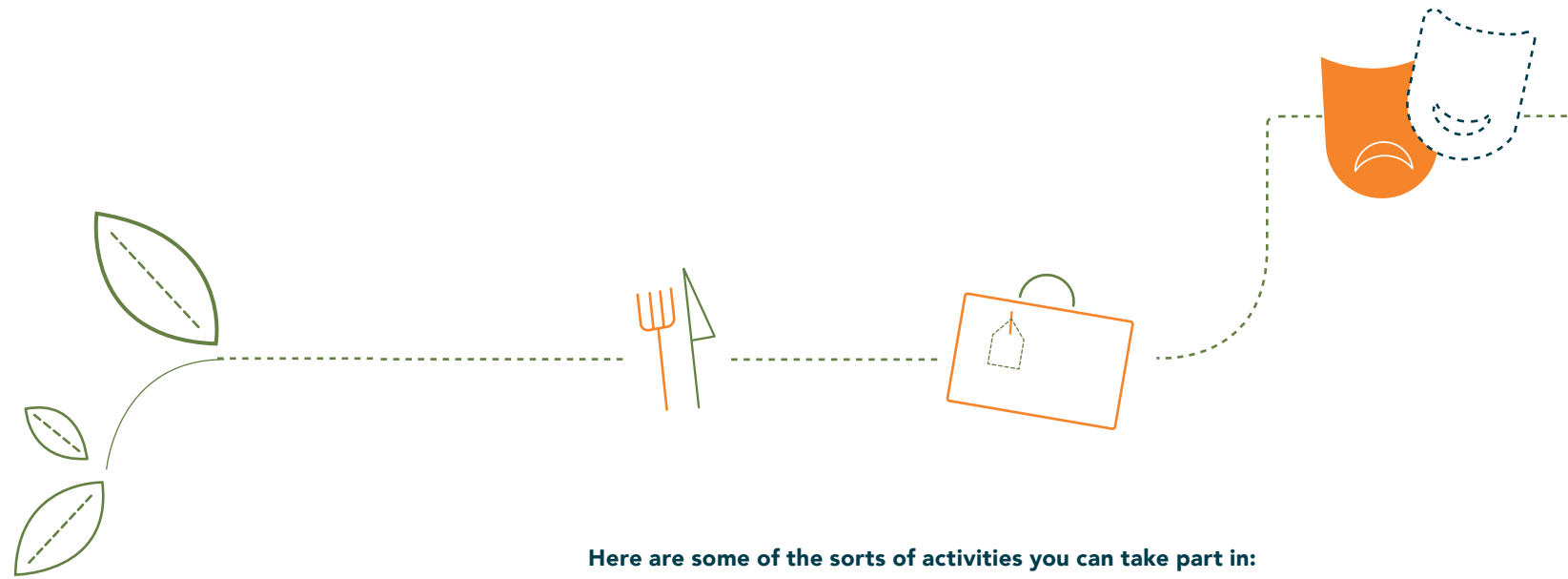
Activities include taking part in games, activities or picnics in local parks like Endcliffe Park and discovering Sheffield's history in some of our museums.

We also organise day trips to Castleton in the Peak District, Burbage and Longshaw, as well as bowling and cinema afternoons.

## Facilities and opportunities

As a student from The Sheffield College, you will have access to excellent computer access and library service and also a whole range of other activities. Why not get involved in sports, volunteering, peer mentoring, the Student Union, the college magazine or start your own business? Suggestions for new clubs and societies are always welcome!

Getting involved and taking part will also improve your CV and increase the likelihood of your continued success on leaving the College.



### Here are some of the sorts of activities you can take part in:

- International parties, for example– The Welcome Event, Christmas, end-of-term and year celebrations
- Trips to UK cities, like, York, Liverpool, London and Oxford or the UK coast
- Historic places of interest– for example, Chatsworth House, Sheffield Town Hall and Sheffield City Hall
- Art galleries and museums
- Places of natural beauty– for example, Bakewell, Castleton, Matlock, Sheffield Parks and Botanical Gardens
- Sports and leisure– for example ice skating, indoor climbing and gym
- Funfairs and theme parks
- Shopping– for example, Street Market, The Farmer's Market, The International Food Market and The Vintage Market
- Theatre and cinema
- Music events and festivals
- Social outings– for example bowling, restaurants and countryside walks

### Social Programme Details

For more information about our social programme details and costs, please refer to our website:

[www.sheffcol.ac.uk/The-Sheffield-College-International/](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/The-Sheffield-College-International/)

## Case studies

### **Florian Dailly**

#### **English and Sport**

Florian didn't know what to do with his future – only that it would, in an ideal world, include football. He met a football manager in Paris, who recommended he came to The Sheffield College because of its strong sports programme.

Florian said:

**“Football is very important in my life, so I decided to come to The Sheffield College so that I can learn English and have football training. My English has improved, the people are very nice and the teachers are good.”**

### **Gregorio J Perez Benitez**

#### **International Foundation Diploma in Business, with additional English**

Gregorio is enjoying his time in Sheffield and his education at The Sheffield College.

“I really like the methods of teaching and the teachers here - their professionalism is amazing. I'm very happy here and I have met a lot of people from different countries throughout the world. At the College you will find a very good level of education, great facilities, friendly and confident teachers and a beautiful town. I enjoy the UK, its people and the beautiful places. My time here at college has been an experience that I will never forget.”

**“In the future I would like to have my own business because I want to work for myself.”**



## Case Studies

### Mariya Umeki

#### English as a Foreign Language

Mariya completed her course with The Sheffield College in 2012 but has returned on a number of occasions to visit the country and the friends she made here.

Mariya said: "I'm going to start my new studies in Japan, although I'm not sure what I want to do as a career in the future but I'm hoping to use my English abilities. The best part of being here was meeting new people from different cultures. While I was studying here, I had many foreign friends, and they're actually still good friends, so I could see them again in their countries."

**"The time I spent here is still one of the best years of my life. Also, it made me think about the future and gave me more choices with my improved English abilities."**

### Haruki Iwai

#### English and Hairdressing

Haruki's passion is hairdressing. He came from Japan to study English and hairdressing, which The Sheffield College were able to offer him. Haruki said: "I like the people here and the culture. I've made a lot of friends from different countries whilst I've been here. As part of my course I work shadow at West 1 Salon, a hair salon that is linked to The Sheffield College, where I learn new skills." Haruki added:

**"Enjoy yourself whilst you are here. Make sure you mix in with everyone. I would also advise you to travel around the UK whilst you are here."**

When Haruki completes his course at the College he is going to continue his English studies in Montreal, Canada and then hopes to work as a hairdresser in the USA.



# Apply now

Download our international application form:  
[www.sheffcol.ac.uk/Courses/Application-Forms](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/Courses/Application-Forms)

Select your application form under the section  
'International Students'. Or fill our online enquiry form:  
[www.sheffcol.ac.uk/international](http://www.sheffcol.ac.uk/international)

You can contact the International Team by:

**Post:**

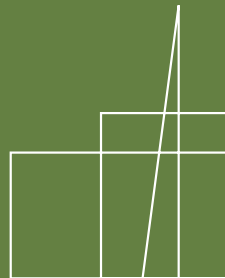
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The Sheffield  
College

