



SCHOOL GUIDE

OFFICIALLY OUTSTANDING

EDUCATION LIAISON GUIDE 2026

WELCOME



We are very proud at Hugh Baird College of our specialist programme of activities designed to equip young people, teachers and advisers with relevant and up-to-date careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) on both Further Education and Higher Education opportunities.

The activities available aim to support and add value to the information, advice and guidance work being carried out every day in schools and colleges.

This guide provides an overview of the wide range of opportunities we offer, including assemblies and presentations (which can be delivered face to face or online), College tours and subject tasters.

The guide also contains information about the support we offer at Hugh Baird College as well as highlighting the exciting progression to Higher Education provided by our University Centre.

Our work with schools and colleges is designed to assist careers advisors and help students and their key influencers navigate their way through the, sometimes challenging, education landscape.

Our activities are delivered at Hugh Baird College, in schools/colleges, or virtually. They are designed to be interactive and enjoyable with lots of opportunities to meet with current students and academic staff.

We hope you find this information useful in your role and our team look forward to working with you and your students.

TO BOOK

Please contact: Alex Parry T: 0151 829 8108 E: educationliaison@hughbaird.ac.uk

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OFFICIALLY OUTSTANDING

1 OF ONLY 3 OUTSTANDING FE COLLEGES IN THE NORTH WEST.

Hugh Baird College achieved an outstanding rating from Ofsted following its November 2024 inspection, distinguishing itself as 1 of only 17 further education (FE) colleges in the country and 1 of only 3 in the North West to hold this prestigious accolade.

THE HEADLINES

The comprehensive evaluation by Ofsted inspectors took place from 26 to 29 November 2024 and resulted in the following grades.

Overall inspection grade	OUTSTANDING
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Education programmes for young people	Outstanding
Adult learning programmes	Outstanding
Provision for learners with high needs	Outstanding

THE OUTSTANDING OFSTED GRADE PLACES HUGH BAIRD COLLEGE IN THE TOP 10% OF FURTHER EDUCATION COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY.

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH OUTSTANDING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

"Students and apprentices are taught ambitious curriculums that give them the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in learning and life."

"Teachers use their passion for the subject and their extensive vocational expertise to make learning enjoyable and highly relevant to what students want to do next."

BUILDING SUCCESS WITH LIFE-ENHANCING EXPERIENCES

"Students and apprentices are very well prepared for what they want to do next. The vast majority achieve their qualifications, and an increasing number achieve high grades."

"Students with high needs thrive and do exceptionally well through caring, diligent and exceptional planning."

A NURTURING ENVIRONMENT FOR GROWTH AND ASPIRATIONS

"The College provides highly valuable opportunities for students to broaden their horizons and raise their aspirations."

"Leaders, managers, teachers and support staff have students' best interests at heart, they champion their achievements and prepare them for a positive future."

SHAPING SKILLED PROFESSIONALS

"The College makes a strong contribution to meeting skills needs."

"Leaders devise curriculums that are sufficiently agile to equip students and apprentices with the knowledge and skills they need for employment in emerging industries such as low carbon technologies."

HUGH BAIRD COLLEGE IS 1 OF ONLY 17 FURTHER EDUCATION COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY RATED OUTSTANDING BY OFSTED.

To read the full Ofsted report, scan the QR code



OUR CAMPUSES

We have five campuses across central locations in Merseyside. All are easy to get to by bus, train or car.

BALLIOL ROAD CAMPUS

This is where most of our vocational provision is located, as well as our Port Academy Liverpool building and University Centre. Here you will be taught in industry standard facilities to help you to prepare for your future career.

Subjects that are based here include:

Art and Design, Construction Trades and the Built Environment, Hospitality and Catering, and Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing.



Hugh Baird College, Balliol Road,
Bootle, L20 7EW

TRANSITIONS HUB

Located on Merton Road in Bootle, the Transitions Hub is a specialist campus designed to support young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) across the Liverpool City Region. It offers a supportive bridge for learners aged 16-25 who are working at Entry Level 2 and above, helping them prepare for adulthood, further education, or employment.



Transitions Hub,
Merton Road, Bootle, L20 7AT

SEFTON SIXTH FORM COLLEGE



Sefton Sixth Form College, located in Litherland, is where you'll discover our A-level provision. We have a separate guide for this campus which you can request/download at www.seftonsixth.ac.uk



Sefton Sixth Form College, Sterix Lane,
Litherland, L30 2DB

HEALTHCARE CAMPUS

Our Healthcare Campus houses the Health Training Hub and The Marina Dalglish Centre. The £6million campus is where the College's health and social care and healthcare science courses are delivered.



Hugh Baird Healthcare Campus,
Oriel Road, Bootle, L20 7AD

THORNTON COLLEGE

This is our specialist centre dedicated to providing a caring and supportive environment for young people with learning difficulties and/or physical disabilities in the Liverpool City Region.

We work closely with Sefton Special Educational Needs Schools to provide the best possible place for students who need extra help and support, using our specialist facilities, expert approach and caring attitude.



Thornton College, Edge Lane,
Thornton, Sefton, L23 4TF



Balliol Road Campus



Port Academy Liverpool Building



Healthcare Campus



Thornton College



Sefton Sixth Form College



Transitions Hub

TO BOOK

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STUDENT SERVICES



The Student Services Team are based in The POD in the Balliol Building. They are there to help all students and can give friendly advice on a number of things including:

- ✿ Careers guidance
- ✿ Course information
- ✿ Financial support
- ✿ Health advice
- ✿ Safeguarding
- ✿ Help applying to university
- ✿ Mental wellbeing
- ✿ Emotional support
- ✿ Transport information

Read more about all the support the Team can offer you online here:

www.hughbaird.ac.uk/student-support



FINANCE WALLET

Worries over money and finance shouldn't stop anyone from coming to college. Our Finance Wallet package is designed to assist those students who may find it more challenging to cover the costs associated with their education. Depending on their circumstances, we can help them use our Finance Wallet package to build and access personalised financial support tailored for them:

Travel

The Your Travel option helps them get to any of our campuses by using public transport, such as bus or train. If they don't live near a train or bus route, they may be able to receive a contribution towards their travel costs.

Meals

This option will provide them with money for the cost of their meals at our on-campus outlets during their study with us.

Kit

We collaborate closely with course departments to ensure they have access to everything they need, such as tools, equipment and uniforms. The Your Kit option usually covers 100% of the cost.

Childcare

If they are under 20, we have tailored support options available to assist them in managing childcare expenses.

How to Apply

Our Student Finance team will guide them through the application process. Funds are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to availability, terms, conditions and eligibility.

HOW WE CAN HELP SUPPORT THEIR STUDIES

We understand that coming to college can be a big financial commitment, but worries over money and finance shouldn't stop them from studying at college. We want to give them the support they need to achieve their goals and we have a number of packages to help:

We welcome learners with a wide range of special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and tailor the support offered to meet their individual needs, therefore, no support package looks the same.

Support packages are agreed between the student, the support staff and tutors and remain flexible during their studies. To give them an idea of the types of support available, this could include:

- ＊ Additional study skills tuition
- ＊ Assistive technology and assistive technology training
- ＊ Care support
- ＊ Exam access arrangements
- ＊ In-class support with an Academic Support Worker
- ＊ Specialist dyslexia tuition.

Please visit our website or scan the QR code below if they would like more information on what we can offer:

www.hughbaird.ac.uk/student-support

SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION



ACTIVITIES

We have a number of workshops and presentations that we can deliver in your school or college, or virtually. If you would like us to deliver one of these, or would like to arrange a one-to-one meeting to discuss how we can support you, please get in touch: educationliaison@hughbaird.ac.uk. You can also find further information on our webpage: www.hughbaird.ac.uk/school-liaison

An introduction to college life

GATSBY BENCHMARK 1 & 3

- ✿ Session length: 10-15 mins
- ✿ Can be delivered virtually: Yes
- ✿ Suitable for all year groups

The Introduction to College Life session offers students a taste of what life at Hugh Baird College is like, featuring an overview of the post-16 options, facilities, support and additional opportunities available to them. The 10-15 minute presentation covers topics such as; how you can study, courses available from September, trips and enrichment activities and Open Evening information. The College has a huge amount to offer students but not every group of students have the same interests or aspirations, so we will tailor our talks or presentations to suit any audience, age and can be delivered online or face to face.

TO BOOK

Please contact: Alex Parry
T: 0151 829 8108
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What are T-levels and where can they take me?

GATSBY BENCHMARK 1 & 3

- ✿ Session length: 30 mins
- ✿ Can be delivered virtually: Yes
- ✿ Suitable for groups of Y10 and Y11 students

This session focuses on introducing students to T-levels as well as informing them of the options available to them at the College. The sessions can be delivered by T-level leads to answer any questions students may have and help gain a better understanding if T-levels are right for them.

Discovering A-levels

GATSBY BENCHMARK 1 & 3

- ✿ Session length: 30 mins
- ✿ Can be delivered virtually: Yes
- ✿ Suitable for groups of Y10 and Y11 students

A-levels are highly valued by employers and universities, they can open up lots of doors to further study and careers.

The Discovering A-levels session provides an in-depth look into what studying A-levels could be like for your students, the subjects available, how they study and how to apply.

Vocational pathways (including Apprenticeships)

GATSBY BENCHMARK 1 & 3

- ＊ Session length: 30 mins
- ＊ Can be delivered virtually: Yes
- ＊ Suitable for Y10 and Y11 students

Vocational qualifications are work-related qualifications that Hugh Baird College offers in a wide range of career areas. Vocational qualifications and Apprenticeships are designed to acquire knowledge and skills that meet recognised standards necessary to perform a particular job. Discover how Apprenticeships work and the difference between studying a Vocational pathway vs an Apprenticeship pathway. Courses at the College range from Level 1 to Level 3, meaning that there is an option available for everyone.

Choosing a Degree for you

GATSBY BENCHMARK 1, 7 & 8

- ＊ Session length: 30 mins
- ＊ Can be delivered virtually: Yes
- ＊ Suitable for Y12 and Y13 students

When considering Higher Education, students can become overwhelmed trying to decide what subject, course type and course provider is right for them. Our dedicated University/Student Support Team can guide you through what options are available and what qualifications students need to get onto the courses.

Staying local vs moving away

GATSBY BENCHMARK 7

- ＊ Session length: 30 mins
- ＊ Can be delivered virtually: Yes
- ＊ Suitable for groups of Y12 and Y13 students

Undergraduates are increasingly recognising the benefits of staying closer to home and continuing their education locally, making the best progression into their working lives without running up debts through accommodation and living costs.

In this session, we will cover the benefits of moving away to study vs the advantages of staying local and accessing some of the best degree qualifications in an affordable way, around existing family and work commitments.

In January 2018 the Government released a set of careers guidance benchmarks to ensure high quality and aspirational careers advice and guidance was available to all students. Our activities fall under the following Gatsby Benchmarks:

- ＊ A stable careers programme
- ＊ Learning from career and labour market information
- ＊ Addressing the needs of each pupil
- ＊ Linking curriculum learning to careers
- ＊ Encounters with employers and employees
- ＊ Experiences of workplaces
- ＊ Encounters with further and higher education
- ＊ Personal guidance

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Personal statement and university application workshop

GATSBY BENCHMARK 1, 3, 4, 7 & 8

- ✿ Session length: 30 mins
- ✿ Can be delivered virtually: Yes
- ✿ Suitable for groups of 10-50 Y13 students

This interactive workshop explains the process of UCAS and University applications alongside advice on writing a personal statement.

Workshop content includes:

- ✿ The importance of personal statements.
- ✿ Examples of what makes a good/bad personal statement.
- ✿ Participants will be given a framework for writing their own statement.
- ✿ Students will be able to understand the process of applying through UCAS, identify key strengths, skills and experiences to include in a personal statement and produce a suitable personal statement to support course choices and enable them to gain the place they want.

Subject Specific Tours

GATSBY BENCHMARK 3, 4 & 7

Some pupils know exactly what they want to do; the subject specific tours are designed to support them as they move towards progressing to College. The chance to visit the course areas and meet the tutors they will work with can offer pupils a great boost, showing them a glimpse of their future and motivating them to achieve their goals in school.

Full college tours

Tours of the whole of Hugh Baird College are great for pupils who are still undecided about their choices, or for those who are keen to get a clear idea of what a Further Education College looks and feels like.

Full college tours take in a wide variety of workshops, studios and other facilities, as well as Hugh Baird College's student services and communal areas. This is a great way to see the bigger picture and to help young people narrow down their options.

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OPEN EVENTS

Thank you for reading our school guide, we hope you found it a useful insight into our college and what we can offer you.

OPEN EVENTS 2025/26

Balliol Road Campus

At our All Subject Open Evenings, you can take a look around our facilities, chat with tutors about the courses that interest you and seek advice and guidance on your career plans, finance and support with our specialist teams.

＊ Thursday 2 October 2025, 5pm - 7pm	＊ Wednesday 4 March 2026, 5pm - 7pm
＊ Thursday 11 December 2025, 5pm - 7pm	＊ Thursday 30 April 2026, 5pm - 7pm

Sefton Sixth Form College

For A-levels, visit our dedicated campus on either of the below dates.

＊ Thursday 16 October 2026, 5pm - 7pm	＊ Thursday 12 February 2026, 5pm - 7pm
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School Leaver Enrolment Days

＊ Thursday 20 August 2026	＊ Friday 21 August 2026
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Year 10 Taster Days

- ＊ Tuesday 23 June 2026 (Hugh Baird College)
- ＊ Tuesday 30 June 2026 (Sefton Sixth Form College)
- ＊ Tuesday 7 July 2026 (Sefton Sixth Form College)
- ＊ Tuesday 14 July 2026 (Sefton Sixth Form College)

HOW TO FIND US

To help your journey to us go smoothly, you can find directions online: www.hughbaird.ac.uk/how-to-find-us to help you plan your travel in advance.



BALLIOL ROAD CAMPUS



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Balliol Road,
Bootle,
L20 7EW

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