



2022-2023

RUNSHAW COLLEGE

# HORIZONS

Vocational High Performance Programme

# Runshaw Xtra

## Core Curriculum



Subject Academies



Enrichment Activities



Volunteering



Work Experience



Additional Qualifications

Guest Speakers and Lectures

Specialist Application Advice

UCAS Support

Additional University Visits

Bespoke Mock Interviews

## Additional Learning Support

- Pastoral Support
- Student Services



# Welcome

## to Runshaw's **Horizons** Programme

Runshaw's Vocational Horizons Programme offers a wide range of opportunities to complement a students' main qualification.

At Runshaw we pride ourselves on supporting all students to fulfil their potential and allow them to participate in a selection of activities which may be accessed during study periods, their Employability Day or Study Day.

We offer academies across a range of subjects designed to broaden students' experiences and further enhance their passion for their vocational area of study.

The variety of activities combined with a vast array of Information, advice and guidance in Student Services and Work Placements will allow all students to be prepared for their next steps; be it internal progression, University, Conservatoire or employment and Apprenticeships.



**Martin Rigby**  
Deputy Principal



**“Make the horizon  
your goal;  
it will always be  
ahead of you!”**

William Makepeace Thackeray



# Academies & Societies



**Runshaw's Horizons programme is quite unparalleled in the scope of provision across all aspects of the Vocational curriculum. Our individual subject Academies aim to stretch and challenge and enthuse the academic interests of our most able students in all subjects through an exceptional range of activities, including trips and visits, delivered by passionate teachers who are experts in their field.**

## PROGRESS MENTORS

All students have a Progress Mentor who acts as a progression coach through regular 1:1 support. All of our Progress Mentors are highly experienced in guiding students through their applications for prestigious universities and competitive Apprenticeships. Progress Mentors will keep students informed of key information about our Prestigious Universities and Apprenticeship Programme and offer their expertise with the application process, personal statement support and preparing for interviews. They will also provide students with their references.





## Allied Health Academy

Allied health professionals change lives for the better, every single day – it's one of the most rewarding careers out there.

Students receive at least £5,000 a year to help with their studies, and the benefits continue for NHS employees, including:

- One of the most competitive and supportive benefits packages in the country, including a generous pension and health service discounts.
- A minimum of 27 days holiday each year along with public holidays.

## Business Academies

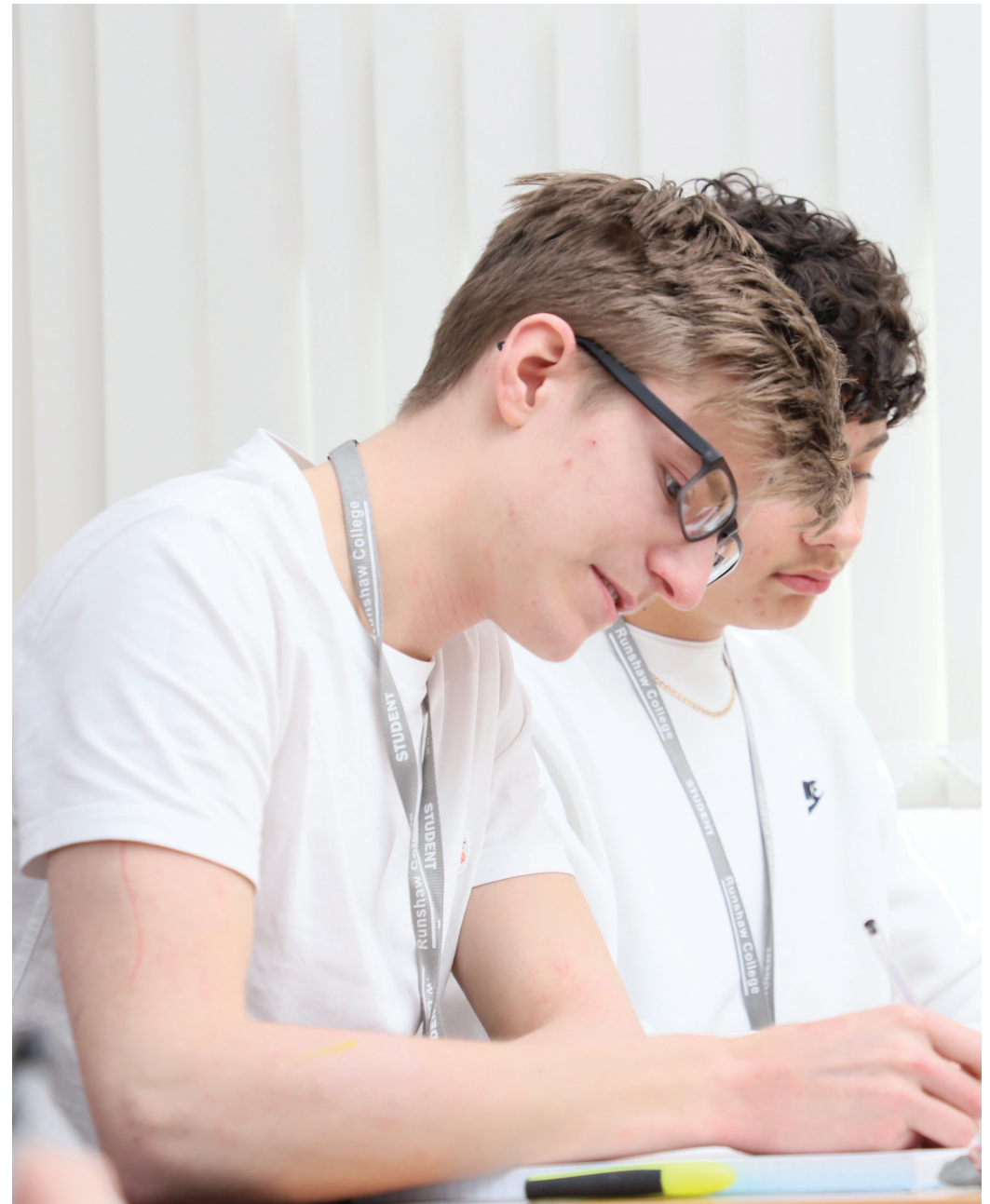
There are several, excellent Academies in the School of Business; one for Economics, Accounting and Business Studies. Through our Academies, we stretch and challenge students with an increased depth of subject knowledge to develop the advanced level analytical and evaluative skills necessary to perform at the highest academic level. Students enhance the key employability skills sought by employers including problem solving, decision making, collaborative working and interpersonal skills; skills essential for university success and working life. Many of our Academy students are inspired to study these subjects at prestigious universities and to secure employment with highly reputable, globally renowned businesses.

- A standard working week of 37.5 hours.
- Flexible working to help with work/life balance.

This society will help you gain transferable skills that will support your application to study an allied health degree. Over the course of the year we will explore different professions through a mixture of guest lectures, workshops and practical sessions as well as developing research and communication techniques.

To date, we have offered our students many extra-curricular opportunities such as 'Dragons' Den' and 'The Apprentice' simulations, Micro Tyco, Target 2.0, RES Young Economist of the Year, ICAEW Challenge, Young Enterprise, Extended Projects, fund raising for charities, Fair Trade activities and marketing with Performing Arts. Our teachers are highly experienced in offering mentoring, coaching and support for prestigious university applications and for our students seeking places on the highly sought after sponsored degrees and apprenticeships.

Feedback from our Business Academy students is always very positive in response to the opportunities we provide.



# Academies & Societies

## Criminology Society

Would you like to gain valuable hands on research experience that will REALLY make a difference?

The School of Public Services will help you develop important and transferable skills gained through valuable research experience that has, in the past been accepted by regional Police Forces.

Previous research has facilitated Runshaw College becoming a named organisation within Lancashire for the reporting of Hate Crime.

You will use real life research to help understand some of the major issues facing society and have an excellent addition to your CV.

## Environmental Society

Eco-Society is for students who are interested in protecting and preserving the environment, energy conservation or sustainability.

The aim is to empower and motivate students to drive change and improve environmental awareness in our college, local community and beyond. This will take place through lectures from guest speakers, workshops, practical activities and field trips.

Students will learn about issues affecting our local and global environment and work towards an accredited award whilst promoting the importance of environmental issues.

## Healthcare Academy

The Health Care Academy aims to help students develop and the necessary skills and knowledge for applying Allied Health Care professions. Sessions combine a range of hands on practical work, case study based learning, guest speakers and trips to experience health care in action. Students gain an insight in to careers such as midwifery, paramedics, nursing, radiography, speech and language therapy, biomedical sciences, social work whilst also developing first aid skills, basic British Sign Language, problem solving and many more skills essential to succeeding in this field.

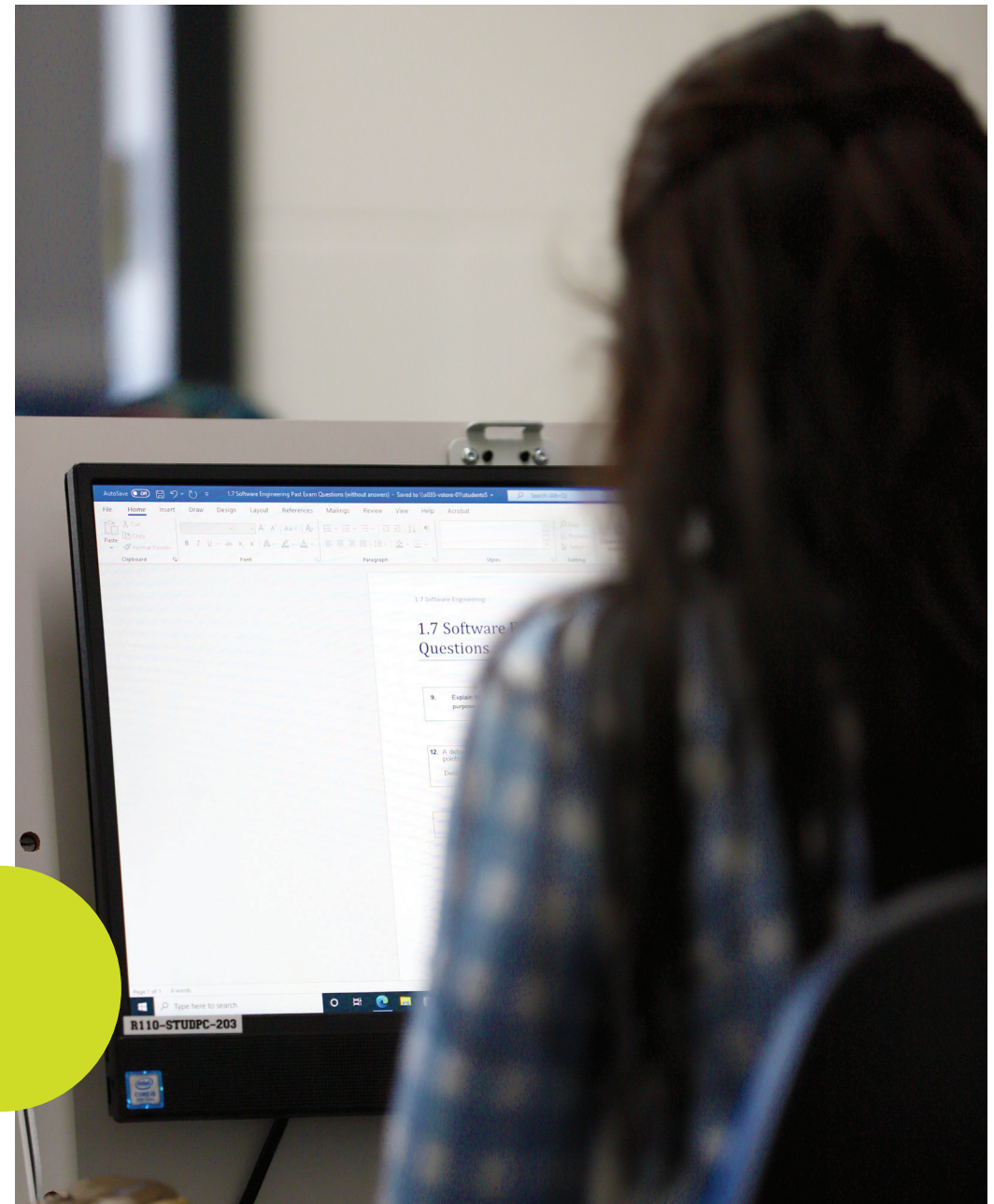




## IT & Computing Academy

The Future Coders Academy within the School of IT and Computing is available for any students who wish to build upon their existing programming skills or compliment their learning experience. As members of this Academy, students have the opportunity to create their own video game using an industry standard programming language as well as taking part in frequent algorithm based programming challenges throughout the year. These challenges not only put our students' programming ability to the test, but also provide them with a valued code bank to call upon in their future studies.

Future Coders gives students the chance to develop valuable employability skills such as: code reading, co-operation, project planning and working to a deadline; skills particularly essential for those wishing to pursue a career in software development. Developing these key skills gives our students the vital edge in university applications and employment in a highly competitive field.



# Academies & Societies

## Music Academy

Our Music Academy consists of weekly activities including concert band, jazz ensembles, brass ensemble, choir, folk group, big band, piano club, acoustic guitar ensemble and music theory classes, looking at both traditional and popular music theory. Prestigious institutions, such as The Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (LIPA) and the Royal Northern College of Music are asking for a high level of music theory which the Academy helps students to achieve. This extra music theory tuition also supports students with the academic demands of the Vocational curriculum.

The Academy allows for performance opportunities in a range of music genres including classical, jazz and folk, allowing students a broad range of musical experiences. In a supportive and enjoyable way it can take students out of their comfort zones to experience different types of music that they may not usually perform, for example big band will encourage a more classically trained brass player to improvise and learn about different modes and scales.

It supports the Vocational subject understanding by giving extra theory tuition and by allowing students to experience, in a practical way, some of the music studied. In the second year students study jazz works, which they can play in the jazz ensembles and in the first year students study Baroque choral repertoire, a chorus of which they sing in choir. This helps all students to gain a deeper understanding of the music, supporting the most talented towards achieving the very highest grades.

In addition to weekly activities the Academy runs trips through the year, enabling students to experience rehearsal of various ensembles and orchestral performances of the highest quality.

There are trips to higher education establishments and to orchestral concerts – helping to give students high aspirations – and we regularly arrange performance tours within and outside the UK.





## Performing Arts Academy

Recognising the importance of providing performance opportunities for students with a talent in the performing arts, we offer a range of activities that will stretch all students, regardless of ability.

For those who are interested in dance, we offer Extension12 – the Runshaw Dance Academy elite group. Extension12 has an international reputation for excellence, having competed in the Barcelona World Dance Grand Prix winning the Jazz and Modern prizes in recent years. Alongside Extension12, the Dance Academy offers a wide range of students the opportunity to develop technique in a variety of styles through workshops, performances and specialist classes.

For those more interested in acting, each year there is a range of shows for students to be involved in. We hold open auditions for some of these so that any student on any course may gain a role as an actor. Anyone who is more interested in working backstage, such as in lighting or set design, has the opportunity to be trained in the relevant area and then design and operate technical support for the shows. We regularly take one of our plays to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, giving students the experience of performing in front of a different public audience and the opportunity to sample the unique atmosphere at the festival.

The quality of the shows that we take to Edinburgh has been met with high acclaim. One review stated: “So stunningly good that, even among all the thousands of great shows on offer, I saw it twice in three days.”

The PA Academy also offers intensive audition preparation for those students applying to drama or dance schools. As a result, the percentage of students who gain a place at institutions such as Mountview, LAMDA and Central is, to our knowledge, the highest in the North West.



Runshaw's production of the musical "Legally Blonde"



# Academies & Societies

## Police Society

Our exciting Police Society runs weekly for students across all subjects. The Society is open to anyone that is interested in policing or wishing to join the police.

The Society provides knowledge on key legislation with the opportunity to gain practical skills via role plays covering lawful stop and searches and carrying out lawful arrests. You will learn how to communicate via a police radio and conduct person and vehicle check.

During your time in the Society you will investigate case studies to give you some background knowledge into the history of policing.

You will learn about the recruitment process and what will be expected of you, with the opportunity to practice the fitness test that you are required to pass upon entry into the police.

On occasion, there will be guest speakers from the police or those who have fallen victim to crime and other organisations that work alongside the police.





## Sports Academy

Runshaw continues to be the North West's number one college for its Sports Academy and sporting honours, a title we have held since 2000. The ethos of the Sports Academy is to achieve excellence in both academic performance and sporting achievement.

Our celebrated Academy is accessible to students across all Vocational courses as a daily, timetabled element of their study programme. Currently we have Academy teams in basketball, football (male and female), rugby union, rugby league and netball. Our Academy also caters for individual students' specialities in terms of physical conditioning: whatever their speciality is, we offer first class training in our purpose built gym.

The college has exceptional facilities that include a floodlit 3G pitch, two sports halls, a fitness suite and a competition standard grass pitch. Our teachers are highly qualified in Physical Education and possess a range of relevant coaching

qualifications, helping students towards regional and national representative honours. We offer the latest coaching techniques and advice to athletes in return for a weekly commitment that includes training sessions and competitive fixtures. Our Academy students have access to top level coaching in their sport from highly qualified coaches and make use of our outstanding facilities to keep in peak shape through fitness testing and psychometric assessment. We are very proud of our development programme which provides students with specialist skills, appraisals, personalised support and individual mentoring, leading to great success in their chosen sports.





# Above and beyond the curriculum



## Enrichment & Enhancement

### Progress Support

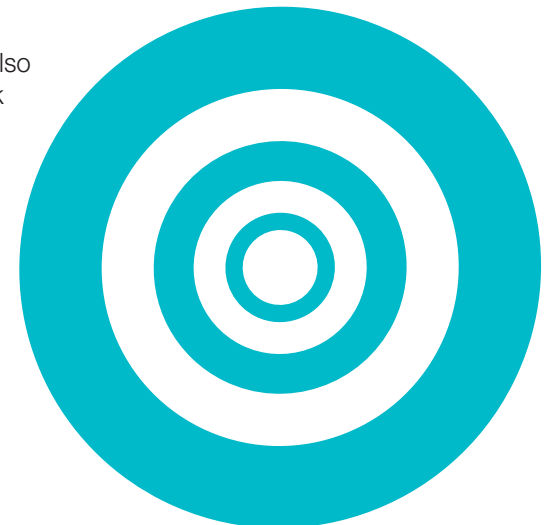
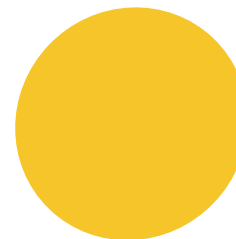
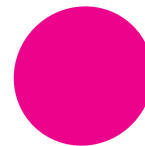
All students have a Progress Mentor who acts as a progression coach seeing students regularly for 1:1 support. All our mentors have experience to assist with applications for prestigious universities and competitive careers. The Progress Team will keep students informed with key information about our HE and Career Fairs and offer their expertise with the application process, personal statement support and preparing for interviews and apprenticeship admissions tasks.

### Duke of Edinburgh

We employ our own dedicated staff to offer the Duke of Edinburgh's Award at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. The D of E experience encourages students to help their communities, build their self-esteem, try new activities and become more physically active. Students achieving these awards demonstrate their commitment, initiative and excellent team-working skills; such valuable attributes will enhance their future applications for prestigious universities and careers.

### Work Experience

We have a dedicated Work Placement Unit within Student Services, which offers support and many opportunities for work experience for all students, taking into account their course commitments. We also support students who find their own work experience placements in their free time.





## Student Services

We have outstanding Student Services facilities, staffed continuously through the week by a highly qualified and experienced team. The service is accredited by Matrix to offer high-quality information, advice and guidance. Our Student Services team offers careers advice, as well as information about bursaries, finance, and many other matters relating to successful progression and key employability skills, such as our First Aid course. The team can also provide further information about **enrichment and volunteering opportunities** available, including taking on roles of responsibility as a Student Ambassador, a member of our Student Council or applying for the post of Student Governor. The team also includes Learning Resource Centres (Library and Study Zones), as well as multifaith facilities.



Children in Need

## Aspiring Teachers @ Runshaw

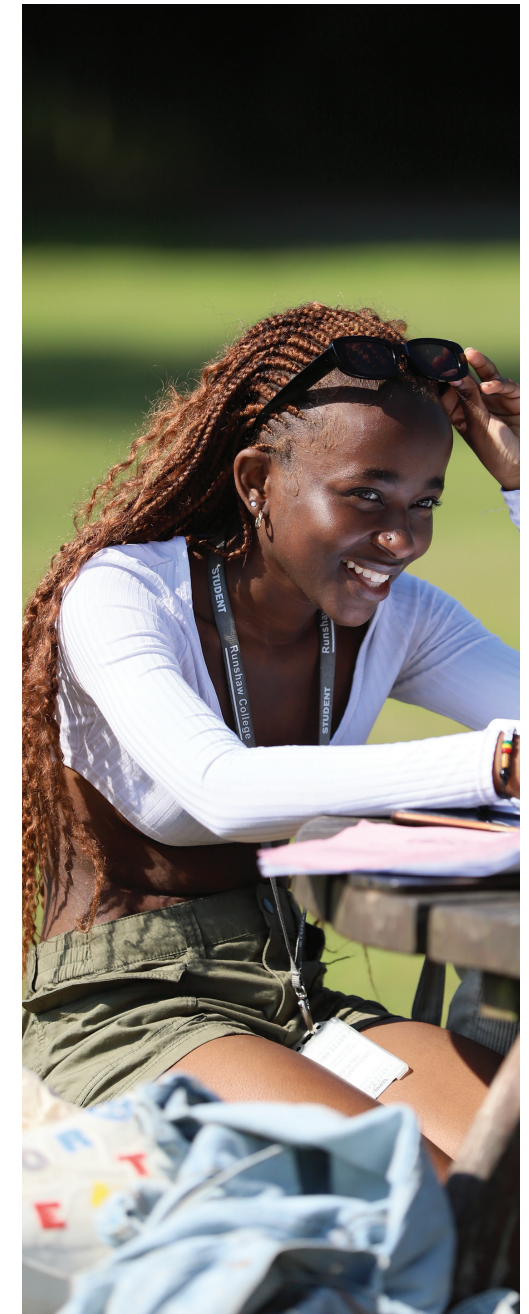
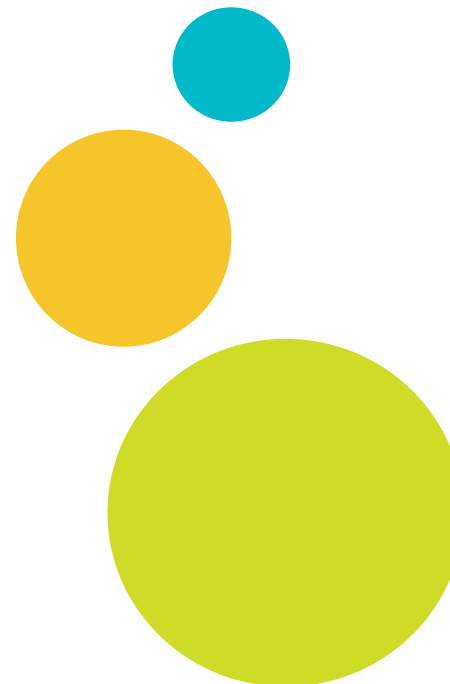
We are very proud of our 'Aspiring Teachers @ Runshaw' society.

'AT @ Runshaw' has been especially designed for 1st Year students who are keen to pursue a career in teaching. Sessions are delivered by a dynamic team of highly experienced teachers who are all passionate about teaching. We want to inspire and enthuse the next generation of teaching professionals through an exciting 6 week programme of taught sessions and work placement guidance that will boost students' preparation for a career in teaching.

The taught sessions take place on study days and include:

- Developing presentation and delivery skills
- Lesson planning
- Observation of lessons
- Mini-teaching
- Expert advice and guidance with applications and personal statements

Students are informed about the 'AT @ Runshaw' application process via their Progress Mentors.



# Where next?

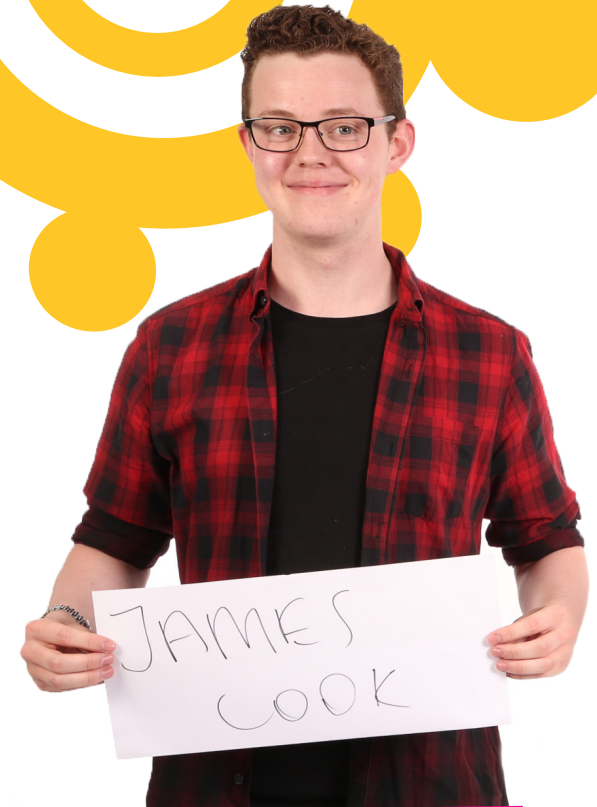
## Phoebe Kay

Course: BTEC Level 3  
in Engineering

Grades: D D D

Destination: British Aerospace

*"I would highly recommend Runshaw to a friend as it's a good college which really helps you grow as a person. All of the tutors are here to support you and help you get the grades you need."*



## James Cook

Course: BTEC Level 3 Creative  
Media Production

Grades: D D M

Destination: Edge Hill University

*"My favourite part of Runshaw was doing all of the practical work, making short films with friends."*



## Carla Rutherford

Course: PPP Level 3 Musical Theatre

Grades: D D D

Destination: Italia Conti

*"My favourite part of Runshaw has been the opportunities to perform, which has really helped me with my confidence."*





## Erin Tennent

Course: BTEC Level 3 in Applied Science

Grades: D\* D\* D\*

Destination: University of Central Lancashire

*"The teachers and progress mentors were really supportive. They really just want to look after you."*



## Grace Mumby

Course: Level 3 Media Production

Grades: D\* D\* D\*

Destination: BBC Apprenticeship

*"My favourite thing about Runshaw was the campus. I always knew from when I looked around that it was the place for me."*

## Oliver Ball

Course: BTEC Level 3 in Engineering

Grades: D\* D\* D

Destination: Lancaster University

*"You can really utilize the study zones across college during your free periods to get assignments done and take pressure off at home."*





“There is a sense of teacher and learner working together in the pursuit of excellence.”

Ofsted good practice visit to Runshaw