



RNIB College Loughborough

Choose us for your Further Education
(mainstream programme)



RNIB

**RNIB College
Loughborough**

At RNIB College Loughborough we offer specialist support to people with vision impairment, as well as those with other disabilities.

We're a small, friendly day and residential college where each staff member wants to empower you to achieve your full potential. We can help you to move on to your next step.

Our Further Education (FE) offers you opportunities to:

- develop your independence
- prepare for work, volunteering or training
- build your personal life skills
- learn about looking after yourself
- get out into the local community
- achieve a qualification at Loughborough College.

You can either learn through our enterprise-based programme or study for a mainstream course at Loughborough College, located next door.

This brochure is for if you would like to study a mainstream course.



Mainstream courses

We offer the opportunity to develop essential life skills at the RNIB College alongside a qualification through Loughborough College.

Loughborough College has a wide range of academic and vocational programmes available from Foundation Learning to A Levels and equivalent. Courses could include:

- GCSE Maths and English
- AS and A2 Level qualifications
- Vocational courses at Level 1, 2 and 3

Entry is based on your existing qualifications. To find out about the different options for you to choose from, go to their website www.loucoll.ac.uk and search their courses.

Personalised support for you

We personalise our support to suit your needs and abilities. You will have a dedicated personal tutor at RNIB College to support you with your studies and liaise with subject tutors. They also talk to you about your progress and agree your targets at regular meetings.

Specialist support we offer includes:

In class support

- note taking, a reader or a scribe

Out of class support

- transcribing and adapting materials
- support to and from lessons
- help to find work placements
- support in review meetings
- advocacy
- support with completing assignments
- braille lessons
- assistive technology lessons
- specialist training and advice to your lecturers.

Our literacy and numeracy teacher, IT tutor, braille tutor and mobility officer can give you specialist support in these areas if you need it.

Accessible materials

We will work with your course staff to ensure that handouts and learning materials are available on time and in an accessible format for you. This can include large print, braille, tactile diagrams, symbols and audio.

Additional learning opportunities

We can build additional activities around your mainstream course to make a full-time programme of study.

- Depending on your needs and interests, we can add:
- a work placement (see below)
- time in our College enterprises to support your mainstream course, or other skills you'd like to work on (see below)
- independent living skills training.

RNIB College enterprises

Our College enterprises are our student-led businesses where you can do meaningful jobs in real settings:

- Bell Bar café
- conference centre
- eBay shop
- arts centre
- craft studio
- shop
- college office.

Each enterprise is designed to enable you to develop a set of subject-specific skills. For example: food preparation, administration skills, retail and craft skills.

Work within our enterprises will give you opportunities to:

- be part of a team, including leading a group
- focus on tasks independently
- become more confident
- use your initiative
- develop your communication skills
- deal with new situations
- cope with change
- build assertiveness
- become more independent in the local community
- learn how to look at options and make choices.



Transition to higher education and employment

We can support you with what you want to do next as you finish at College. Our focus is to help you achieve your long-term goals and prepare for your future.

We'll tailor our support, advice and guidance according to your interests, abilities and aspirations. This might include careers advice and support in applying for jobs.

Work placements

Work placements are a great way to experience a different team environment. This might be at RNIB College or with a local external organisation.

The type of role and amount of time you spend on a work placement depends on your goals.

Work placements help to prepare you for employment, supported employment, voluntary work or community access.

Going to university

If you'd like to go to university and move into Higher Education, we can support you with:

- university visit days
- mobility and travel training
- help completing UCAS forms and other university paperwork.

A great environment to learn in

Our adapted facilities include tactile flooring, an easy to navigate layout, high contrast seating and door frames, and adjustable lighting. We also have personal care rooms with electric ceiling track hoists.

Our specialist resources ensure everyday tasks are accessible and that everyone can get involved. These include low vision resources, RNIB PenFriend audio devices, liquid level indicators, recordable talking objects and signage using symbols, large font, braille and braille technology.

Needs we support

- Vision impairment
- Learning difficulties and disabilities
- Autistic spectrum disorders (ASD)
- Physical disabilities
- Communication difficulties
- Mild hearing problems
- Additional healthcare needs, such as epilepsy
- Additional emotional and behavioural difficulties



Lauren's story

Lauren Stairs struggled at school, but her prospects changed when she came to live and study at RNIB College Loughborough.

Lauren says "It was because of the emotional support from staff, Learning Support Assistants, teachers, tutors, that I was able to move on from where I was, and think 'Do you know what? I can do it'."

"I like the fact that they promote independence, but with support if and when you need it, so you have the chance to develop. They are great because they teach you a load of different skills and prepare you for the real world."

Lauren qualified in Health and Social Care and continues her studies independently at university today. She hopes to specialise in working with children and young people who have been through abuse and trauma.

Interested? Apply today!

Contact us and arrange a visit, then complete and return our application form.



Call our Referrals and Admissions team on 01509 631220



Email us at enquiries@rnibcollege.ac.uk



Go to our website www.rnibcollege.ac.uk